

MINUTES of a Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 4 August 1981  
at Hellamy Cottage.

Mr. L. Ingham in the chair.

Apologies from Mr Campbell, Mr King and Mrs Loveland.

Minutes of meeting on 22 June 1981 approved.

### Matters arising

(a) Sutton Road. A meeting had taken place with Mr S. Morris of the Borough Engineer's Department on 3 July. The need for the bank to be cut back and a retaining wall erected was generally accepted, as was the current problem of finance facing the Borough Council. The feasibility of a high level footway being formed would be examined. In a letter dated 16 July, the Borough Engineer confirmed that the Sutton Rd. footway proposal had been included in a schedule of schemes submitted to the appropriate committee, although no prospect of any early start could be offered. Mrs Litochi said that there was a six- or seven-year delay already in commencing some schemes.

(b) The Mill. There was nothing of importance to report. Councillor Mrs Litochi promised to let the Chairman know when Mr Meach had signed an agreement under s. 52 of the J. and L.P. Act and the land by the Mill had been dedicated to the Council. Thereafter it would be appropriate

for the Society to formalise with the Council arrangements for the care of the land. It was provisionally agreed that the land might then be named "Prince of Wales Garden" in commemoration of the Royal Wedding.

(c) Proposed Flagpole. The Vicar and Churchwardens were not keen on a flagpole being erected on the Mission Hall. There could be difficulty over the actual erection and experience generally had shown that such things often became little used and new eyesores. It was agreed to drop this idea.

(d) Sevens Walks. This had taken place on 26 June and was via the White Horse to Oslington. Some 35 people, including a number from the Evangelical Chapel, had participated. The Chairman was considering another walk in September.

Treasurer's Report. Cash in hand was £107.04 and expenses since the last meeting were £12.67. Subscriptions were coming in reasonably well. It was agreed that the transfer of a sum to the legal fund would be considered in the New Year.

### Planning Matters

(i) The Hill - see earlier minutes.

- (ii) Land in Mission Hall Lane: Mr Townsend's appeal to the Department of the Environment had been rejected.
- (iii) Miss Thomas's Hiding School: the Chairman and Councilor Mrs Litchie had agreed a minor deviation in the actual siting of this building.

Autumn Activities. The Committee felt that a dance/social should be held before Christmas; music to be by records and/or tapes. The Chairman would ask Mrs Lowland to organise the evening, with help from other members as desired. It was also hoped to arrange a buffet morning during September.

Christmas (1981) Card. There was general agreement that a card should be produced for this Christmas, preferably in colour. The Chairman would contact Harold Shields initially.

Preston Village Hall. The Hall Committee had planned considerable improvements to the hall; while the work would be undertaken under a Manpower Services Commission scheme, the cost of the materials (about £5,000) had to be raised locally. The Hall Committee sought the assistance of the Society in selling books of raffle tickets, and this was whole-heartedly agreed. (Mrs Litchie represents the Society on the Hall Committee).

Membership of the Society. Mrs Dodge reported that the Salton Road Evangelical Chapel had enquired about membership of S.P.S. The Secretary was asked to inform the Chapel committee that there was no provision in our rules for "corporate" membership, but individuals from the village and Preston were welcome to join and, whether members or not, to participate in the Society's social activities, carol-singing, etc.

Relations with other societies. The Committee agreed that it would be good to resume contact with other village societies as occasion arose.

Future Activities. A talk on conservation by Mr. G. Poole or Mr. B. Oakford next Spring was envisaged, and consideration might be given to a visit to Lulworth castle next Summer; items to be further discussed.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 13 October at 1 Old Rincorabe Lane.

Thanks to Mrs Mrs Mercer for hospitality.

L. R. R. R.  
13 Oct 1961.