

BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting, held on Saturday 10th December 2011 at 10.00 a.m.
at the Holiday Inn, Milton Keynes, Bucks.

<u>Present:</u>	Dr Alasdair Glen (AG)	Chairman
	Dr Jim Gibbs (JG)	Vice-Chairman
	Mr David Kirkbright (DK)	Treasurer
	Mr Eddy Harris (EH)	Secretary
	Mr Tony Morris (TM)	Membership Secretary
	Mr Al Laius (AL)	Journal Editor
	Dr Colin Walker (CW)	Bradleya Editor
	Dr Tony Mace (AM)	Publications & Internet Officer
	Mr Barry Tibbetts (BT)	Shows Committee Representative
	Mr John Arnold (JA)	Legal Advisor
	Mrs Suzanne Mace (SM)	Committee
	Mrs Alice Vanden Bon (AVB)	Committee/Editorial Team
	Dr Roland Tebbenham (RT)	Committee
	Mr Bill Hildyard (BH)	Committee/Forum Moderator
	Mr Peter Arthurs	Invited as a specialist and to advise on item 11/31

FINAL VERSION

Dr Glen welcomed Mr Laius to the meeting as our new Journal Editor and paid tribute to his predecessor Mr Mottram who had significantly improved our journal's content. The Board's thanks were also recorded for both Mr Mottram's and Mr Quail's efforts in making it one of the world's best specialist journals and a letter of thanks would be sent to both expressing the Board's thanks (EH).

11/24 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Mr David Quail.

11/25 **MINUTES OF THE B.O.T. MEETINGS HELD ON 25TH JUNE 2011**
These were formally ratified and signed.

11/26 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

11/13/1 Keith Larkin Complaint (*Post Meeting update*) – Mr Quail had contacted Mr Larkin to apologise and explain our subsequent decision and had received replies. These had now been passed on to Mr Laius for information.

11/20 Better Promotion of Affiliated Society Membership – Dr Glen was now sounding out another possible volunteer to take on this task.

11/27 **ELECTRONIC DECISION MAKING**

1. Ratification of Ancillary Officers – This had been done in advance of the meeting, although there was a need to appoint somebody to administer the e-library, previously run by Mr Mottram. Mr Mottram had passed a copy of this to Brendan Burke who had said that whilst he was willing to partly administer this, he did not have the facilities or time to cover all aspects of the task and would not object if somebody else wished to take on the position. Mr Mottram would be contacted to establish what the position involved so that a proper job description could be compiled when seeking a volunteer (EH). All ratified Ancillary Officers would be as shown on the List of Officials.

2. Next Year's B.o.T Meeting Dates – It had been decided to revert to 4 meetings per year and after long negotiation on availability of Board members, these had been fixed as 25th February, 5th May, 1st September and 1st December.

11/28 **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Charity Commission – We had received a very unpleasant letter from this body regarding a couple of supposed missing items in our financial return. They had used an obsolete email address to ask for these, resulting in a letter threatening to withdraw our charitable status when no reply to the email was received. This had been corrected immediately and Mr Kirkbright had complained to them about the tone of their letter and the use of the wrong email address that had caused the problem.

2. Avonia News – A request had been received requesting exchange inclusion of logos in our relative publications. This was agreed (AM).

3. Awards – An application for an R.H.M.A. had been received but required a more detailed cv. This had been requested and Mr Harris would chase this in the next fortnight if nothing materialised. There should be more awards next year.

11/29 **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

1. **Vice-Chairman:**

a) Dr Gibbs reported no further branch closures although Scunthorpe branch's merger with Lincoln branch appeared imminent and the recent Zone Reps meeting had identified further branches that were not holding meetings, about which he was seeking further clarification. There was still a vacancy for the Zone 5 rep position and he was contacting that zone's branch secretaries to resolve this. The recent Zone Reps meeting held in conjunction with the Birmingham Autumn Show had resulted in 11 Zones being represented and covered topics such as improving communications, ex-situ conservation and the potential for improving zone geography. Next year's meeting would be held on 7th October, again in conjunction with that show.

- b) He had begun updating the Speakers List; asking current speakers to update their details and contacting secretaries to announce this was happening and recruit any possible new speakers. To date he had had 51 replies with 45 updating their details, 4 withdrawing and 2 new entries.
- c) He had recently been asked to investigate 2 complaints. The first, concerning possible misconduct at a branch A.G.M., had been withdrawn and apologies exchanged, the other, relating to possible procedural problems at a Zone A.G.M. committee meeting, was yet to be resolved.
2. **Membership Secretary:**
- a) Mr Morris reported that since June 2011 he had enrolled 106 new members, comprising 75 Full, 24 Senior, 5 Associate and 2 Junior, 15 of whom had also subscribed to Bradleya. Of these, 24 were from overseas and he had also reinstated 17 former members, 1 after an absence of 15 years. This compared with 89 for the same period last year. 42 of these had joined via PayPal. Following Mr Kirkbright's April renewal mailing, members were still responding as late as October.
- b) He wished to thank all who contributed to the new Welcome Pack; it was a credit to those involved and the Society as a whole. He had posted some 10 copies to date, both to home and overseas members.
- c) He intended to retire from full time employment at the end of March 2012 and asked that members use the contact details shown in the Officials List and not his work contact details.
3. **Treasurer:**
- a) Membership - Mr Kirkbright reported that membership for the full year to date compared with last year was: Full 1783 (-60), Senior 904 (+6), Junior 8 (-2), which when taken together, the Full and Senior members total was 56 down. Associate membership was 251 (-8) whilst because the Bradleya position was unclear at this time of year, no figures were given. 72 Full members had switched to Senior, 40 the other way and our overall membership fell 2.1%; a level only achieved once before in 11 years.
- b) Accounts – The 2010/11 accounts had been audited and the various Charity and Journal reports compiled. These showed a net surplus of £38,615 for the year and total Society assets of £321,656. He also provided explanations to questions raised from the advance circulation of the accounts to the Board. The accounts were then signed by the 3 delegated Trustees and adopted by all the Trustees (proposed EH and seconded JA).
- c) Card Payments – The use of PayPal in place of Barclaycard seemed to be working well and having now had 6 months of understanding some of the differences in approach, he had needed to change the way he recorded credit card payments to cope with this and the requirements of the auditors (to comply with the Charity Commission rules) to show gross takings, as PayPal only gave net charges. CactusWorld and the renewal form all made reference to subscription payment by PayPal, so the true test of our system's robustness would come over the next few weeks when renewals started to arrive. This would also test whether members have taken note to quote membership numbers if paying by direct bank transfer.
- d) Publication Sales – The *Echeveria* book had now broken even and he had agreed to buy back 100 copies of the *Stapeliad* book to supplement our very low stock. Pricing had been set to give a profit to both parties. The move to Charlesworth for Bradleya printing made significant savings and sales including back numbers had made a surplus for the first time in many years. He said that the new *Echinocereus* book sales had currently reached over £10,000 and there were some 150 copies of the *Lithops* book left, which should last another year.
- e) Accommodation Payments – It was agreed that these would remain unchanged from last year except that 25% of that allocated to the journal Editor was to be paid to Al Laius this year. As these were paid in arrears, it was also agreed that the deputy Editor position would be reviewed in a year's time.
4. **Shows Committee:**
- a) Judges Course – Mr Tibbetts reported that this had been very successful and had included several first timers, but attendance had not been sufficient to cover costs, resulting in a Society subsidy of £557.19. The judging tests resulted in 6 new judges; A.J.C.S. – Stuart Estell and Tony Roberts, A.J.C. – Norah Arnold, Tony Linton and Richard Marriott and A.J.S. – Al Laius. David Slade had also re-qualified for cacti after a break of a number of years. It had been agreed that there would not be a Course in 2012 due to the National Show occurring 2 weeks beforehand, thus not allowing sufficient time to manage and cope with both events.
- b) 2012 National Show – All arrangements for this were well in hand. The advance copy of the schedule had appeared in the September journal and the final schedule and entry form were currently being printed with a view to being available at the A.G.M. Class sponsorship was going very well with some 60% already allocated. We had also received requests for display space from 4 other Society groups to date. Mr Kirkbright said that due to an oversight it had been found that the current sales table price was incorrectly low due to the change in V.A.T. rate and income would be lower than expected. David Quail would contact Ann Swithinbank, but asked that somebody else look after her on the day and it was also suggested that Tim Entwistle (now Assistant Director of Kew) be invited to the show as well (**CW**). It was also said that any copy of the CD/DVD produced of the show and put in the Society slide library should be different/more comprehensive than the one sold to members.
- c) Website – All members of the Shows Committee had been tasked with looking at different aspects of what we wished to appear there, which would be reviewed at their next meeting on 29th January before final submission to Bill Hildyard.
5. **Conservation Committee:**
No report had been received from Dr Maddams.
6. **Research Committee:**
Mr Hill reported that Graham Charles, their chairman since the committee's formation had retired and been replaced from within the committee by Mr David Lambie. The committee's thanks were given for Mr Charles' leadership and hard work. The resulting vacancy had been filled by Dr Liz Rylott, a plant biochemist/biologist at York University. The committee had agreed to support the *Manfreda* project mentioned previously, but one concerning the study of *Echinopsis terscheckii* locations was rejected following committee comments about its overall validity and interest to our

members. Similarly the project concerning support for a study of the hardy cacti at the northern limit of **Cactaceae** distribution, focusing mainly on the **Opuntioids** of Canada, was withdrawn due to supplementary funding for the project not materialising. The student had recently re-applied with an amended proposal for a visit to Canada which would form part of the Kew diploma requirement. This was being considered by the committee.

Following their January decision not to fund a proposed visit to Namibia, there had been some reaction via email and the Forum on lack of feedback, culminating in questioning the academic qualifications and competence of the committee and even the B.C.S.S. organisation and whether the Charity Commissioners would be happy, despite factual corrections and explanations being supplied but ignored. It was therefore asked that future complaints be referred to the Board. No further correspondence had since been received.

Mr Arnold had kindly volunteered to contact Mr Hildyard about the Conservation and Research committee websites.

7. **Advertising/Journal Production Officer:**

- a) **Advertising** – Mr Quail reported that the 4th quarter advertising income was £2,499, another increase, making the total for the year £461 higher than last year. However, it was too early to assess if this was a permanent trend. Advertising rates would remain unchanged for 2012.
- b) **Journal Production** – He said Crowes Complete Print of Norwich were producing the December journal. The firm was currently in the process of a merger and would become Swallowtail Print Ltd. It was proposed to again share the 2012 journal printing between our 2 printers (Charlesworth – March and September, Swallowtail – June and December). Philip Blackman had laid out the B.C.S.S. News with minimal guidance and work was currently in progress to resolve some Mac/PC font compatibility problems to enable him to undertake main journal article layout. Mr Quail had managed the December journal compilation and arrangements were in hand with Mrs Vanden Bon to plan responsibilities for next year.
- c) **Welcome Pack** – Both versions of this had now been issued and appeared to have been well received. The general marketing version would be monitored and managed closely next year to ensure that it achieved its object of increasing our membership via the special offer enrolment form included with it. To this end, special arrangements would be made to ensure that adequate supplies were made available for sale at major shows and events where large numbers of the general public attended. Appropriate controls over these supplies would be put in place and a list of suitable venues where their use would be effective was compiled at this meeting.
- d) **2012 National Show Schedule** – The full colour version had been laid out by Philip Blackman and this, together with the entry form, was currently being printed by Charlesworth for delivery week commencing 5th December.
- e) **Development of the New Members Only area of the B.C.S.S. website** – Access to the file server had been given to Mr Hildyard so that he can download appropriate PDFs for inclusion in this new area. He said the currently agreed policy of not publishing electronically any journal information less than 2 years old might need to be reviewed for this purpose.

8. **Bradleya Editor:**

Dr Walker reported that Bradleya 29 was printed and published on 22nd September by Charlesworth (their first issue) and the layout work was done by Mrs Vanden Bon. It was the second largest issue at 189 pages and he expressed thanks for the speedy and hard work of Mrs Vanden Bon. Work on Bradleya 30 had already started and he was aiming for a publication date of around July/August as per previous years. Known content to date was 3 papers (already refereed) with another 8 potential ones which he listed. Following comments on a recently submitted conservation based paper, Mr Arnold stressed whilst every effort was made ensure that projects receiving conservation grants were regularly chased, there was no method of ensuring that the required reports were compiled and sent for inclusion in our publications. Some recipients supplied suitable reports without problems whilst many others did not.

9. **Journal Editor:**

Mr Laius reported that the handover from Mr Mottram had been smooth thanks to the helpfulness shown by Mr Mottram in showing him and Peter Berresford (Deputy Editor) the ropes. He had also assured him that he would be available to assist as long as required, which was much appreciated. He had also received much assistance and guidance from Mr Quail and Mrs Vanden Bon. He said that there was enough material for the March issue and some to spare, although there was not much forthcoming. However, he had been proactive in contacting people around the world, advising them of the change of editor and had been promised articles for the future; indeed there were at least 3 articles which were almost complete and only requiring finishing touches, so he was not worried for the future. He had met many people in his travels and asked them what they wanted in future journals. This combined with the information from the Futures survey, supplied by Dr Tebbenham, had resulted in a perceived need to change the journal content by introducing some new features over a period of time. Refreshing the journal content periodically was often a positive step, but not all at once. He was particularly keen to introduce more items on cultivation techniques; a 'Plant of the Month' item featuring 1 cactus and 1 succulent would hopefully encourage more members to grow new plants not tried before. He said the emphasis would be on variety so that all members will have something to read about in every issue. The March issue would contain a new description in English; as allowed next year under the I.C.N. rules.

10. **Publications/Internet Officer:**

- a) **Internet** – Dr Mace reported that the revision of the branch and zone websites was now more or less complete with only a very few branches not having one and these were those on the borderline of existence. A number of branches with their own personal hosting had now moved within the Society 'umbrella'. PayPal payment of membership was now well established and most on-line memberships came via this route. This had meant that several people were able to process credit cards on behalf of the Society, rather than routing these via the Membership Secretary and it also improved security. He had recently decided to register in the U.K. most of the 121 domain names he looked after, for although this was only slightly more expensive to do, it avoided the multiple problems using U.S.A. registrars. He was currently trying to assist a working group that was attempting to redo the C.S.S.A. website from scratch, but progress was slow. He observed that the C.S.S.A. site currently attracted more on-line members than we did, most of which were from the U.S.A. but a lot were European in origin and not members of the B.C.S.S. He had great hopes that the new Information Packs would turn round

our slow decline in membership next year. However he sounded a note of caution in that the Cactus-Mall server usage had declined sharply over the last few weeks and might be an indication of a decline in interest. There was normally a decline at this time of year, but it could be an indicator of the current worldwide economic problems. It was said that Graham Charles' second issue of his on-line journal had had fewer downloads than the first issue and that our Society advert. could be more eye-catching. Mr Quail would be asked if this could be improved (EH).

- b) Publications – It was reported that much activity had again taken place since the last meeting. Bradleya 29 was published further into the Autumn than usual and he had recently received all the new Information Pack leaflets and plastic wallets. All agreed free copies had been mailed out and some additional copies sold. He had also placed some for sale on eBay as a trial, but this had yet to produce results. The pre-publication order forms for the new *Echinocereus* book went out with the September journal and a steady stream of retail and wholesale orders were being received. Stocks had now been received and he intended to upload an on-line order form for it on the B.C.S.S. website. We had bought back 100 copies of the *Stapeliad* book from John Pilbeam to supplement the low stock held. He also only had 11 copies of the 2008 National Show CD left and a low stock of the *Rosularia* booklet, so would omit these from future advertising. It was suggested that a coloured leaflet/order form promoting our publications be produced for use at major show events.

11. Update on the Society Future Projects:

- a) Slide Library – Dr Tebbenham reported on progress to date. He had produced a set of borrowing rules and a scale of charges to cover the digital slide library and these were agreed by this meeting. These would be issued in the next Speakers List. A review of current progress showed 8 ready for use, 11 ready for final programme file-build, 12 currently being scanned/correlated and 18 not yet started. There were 5 sets which it was felt needed to be scrapped due to poor, irrecoverable quality. He had produced a list of all these programmes which was reviewed by the committee and agreed. There was also discussion on the most effective media/programme to use for the digital programmes and the need to retain the original slide sets for branches without access to digital equipment. Branches would be asked to provide feedback on digital programmes borrowed via an included questionnaire, in an effort to improve them and he asked this committee for ideas on what should be included in this by 30th January 2012 (**all Committee**). It was also said that a copy of the Gordon Rowley 'Cactotherapy' and Peter Arthurs' Hampshire Memorial lecture presentation would be added to the library. Arrangements might also be made to exchange programmes with the C.S.S.A. and thanks were given to Victoria Burton, Peter Arthurs, David Greenaway, Jim Gibbs and Mike Stansbie for their on-going work in the digitising process.
- b) Society Promotion – Further correspondence with Dr Keeling on initial progress with his teenage pupils' preferences towards cacti and succulents showed these to be for the more 'showy' ones, such as smaller plants in flower, deserts in flower and white banded *Haworthias*. Large plants were disliked. They also enjoyed looking at and repotting *Lithops*. He was quite willing to continue the exercise on a wider range of images to establish favoured images for use in publicity material. He had been made aware of the work being undertaken by Sheila Cude to enhance our Junior website and asked if he would help, but to date had yet to agree, although he might be encouraged to advise on the curriculum used for secondary school students. No progress had been made on obtaining other volunteers to undertake projects.
- c) Branch Promotional CD – He said that this was waiting a decision by this committee, but Peter Arthurs, who was still present, agreed to review the available material. (*Post meeting update – all items have been uploaded to the server*).

12. Forum/Website:

Mr Hildyard reported that the Forum was running smoothly, despite recent problems with certain members. There had been a request for a Forum badge which he wished permission to proceed with, subject to agreeing cost/viability with Mr Kirkbright. Forum members were willing to pay up to £3 for this badge. He said that on the website front, Sheila Cude had nearly completed revamping the Junior section and had supplied him with several 'Plant of the Month' features ready to start in January. Work on the main site was on-going. Some Board members had supplied the requested content from the list provided, others had asked questions about what was requested and some had not replied, but hopefully were getting on with it. He still intended a launch date of 1st January. He expressed disappointment that only 3 Board members had expressed an opinion on whether our accounts should appear on the website. He also said that a Forum member had volunteered to provide an item on growing Cacti and Succulents outdoors for the website and another new member wanted to help with the website.

11/30 FUTURE SOCIETY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

It was generally agreed that the Society hold another one in 2014. Mr Harris had received information on the new Gilbert Murray Centre which had replaced the venue used for the last one and Mr Morris agreed to visit the site and get more information on this prior to making a decision on venue. He would also ask among the Leicester branch committee for Convention volunteers. We urgently needed a new organising committee as most of the previous group wished to retire, but 3 members of this board (Messrs Arnold and Laius and Dr Tebbenham) were willing to volunteer and David Minnion would be asked if he wished to join it again. Several of the previous committee were willing to offer advice at the first meeting and help with the prior administration and it was possible Graham Charles might be persuaded to seek overseas speakers from among his contacts. We needed to think of who might also be willing to volunteer (**all Committee**).

11/31 ON-LINE JOURNAL MATTERS

1. Initial Planning – With the rise in the number of on-line publications available currently and the validity/acceptance of on-line new plant descriptions as from the 1st January 2012, it had been agreed that we needed to review our options to provide an on-line version of Bradleya and CactusWorld. There were many things to consider, such as members preferences, security of on-line publication, etc. Messrs Kirkbright and Quail had addressed the first issue by compiling a short questionnaire asking members what they required and their reaction if we went down that route, this to be included with the December journal. Messrs Kirkbright and Quail had also compiled a paper covering the various issues and a suggested plan of action which had been circulated to the Board members for comment and also given to Mr Arthurs for comment, as he had experience in this field. It had then been reissued to the Board just prior to this meeting with all comments included and Mr Arthurs invited to attend the meeting for this item. Thanks were recorded for their work in

producing these.

2. Initial Discussion – This covered the various aspects of the problems involved, points raised during this being the current lack of suitable portable media to fully access what might be offered, the effect on hardcopy and old journal issue sales and costs and keeping members informed. It was said that we should start with a simple system which could then be modified in the light of experience gained and that initially, applying this to Bradleya was more important than to CactusWorld. Following on from this, Dr Walker outlined what he saw as to how this could be achieved with Bradleya. Individual new descriptions would be published on–line as PDFs once they were available, but the complete Bradleya would only be available as a published hardcopy version. Once the hardcopy had been published, a list of all the contained articles would then be put on–line, from which subscribers could download electronic versions of these articles. This would enable subscribers to obtain the publication as individual on–line articles from a published list and/or a published hardcopy as at present. It would also enable suitably dated on–line descriptions of new species/genera to be published as allowed from 1st January next year and if a sequential pagination was adopted for these papers, there would be no conflict with the final hardcopy pagination. There was a query whether an I.S.S.N. or I.S.B.N. needed to be included in any new on–line descriptions, but was felt this would not be a problem as these descriptions would include an I.S.S.N., which did not change, and the hardcopy publication the I.S.B.N. and would thus validate them. It was said that there would still be constraints on the final amount of material accepted per edition of Bradleya. The remaining problems concerned controlling access to the on–line publications and the mechanics of setting up, controlling and monitoring such a system. Dr Mace said there would not be a problem with server space. It was also said that all such on–line PDFs must be available indefinitely, but that access to any back issues should be limited to those who had paid (or pay) for those issues. It was suggested and agreed that access to the first 7 issues of Bradleya would be made available free, as it might encourage a bigger take up of earlier issues. We would use the same on–line process as was intended for our future editions and it was said that whilst we were bounded to issue these on–line in PDF form, this was not true for CactusWorld. However, we should use Bradleya to test any system we developed before we committed to doing the same for CactusWorld. This was agreed. It was said that there were some 5% of our membership who were unattached and these might benefit from electronic publications and that it would be possible to provide associate membership access to inserts normally posted to them.
3. System Development – Mr Arthurs said that with the way that software packages were progressing, it was necessary to start now in designing the system we wanted and that our current membership database might need changing. Mr Kirkbright said that he could provide a list of past membership and facilities paid for, which was said should be useful. Messrs Arthurs and Hildyard and Dr Mace volunteered to form a small team to investigate what was required and develop a software package which would achieve our objectives. This should be sufficient, but additional members and software modules might be needed/purchased. He suggested a time frame of some 6 months to achieve and test this. It would be at that point that we would need to let members know of its availability (say via the June journal).
4. Internet Piracy – Mr Arthurs said that this was impossible to control and that the best way to limit this was to publish individual articles on–line so that people would have to download these rather than a complete journal. Publishing them as web pages did present access problems, so was not the route to go. Issuing back number in DVD form could lead to piracy but on past experience it was normal for the majority of sales of these to occur in the first few months and then almost cease, so this should not be a major problem to our marketing. Making these searchable would also help. It was agreed that we try to make the first 20 volumes of the journal available on CD/DVD.

11/32 FUTURE PUBLICATIONS

Dr Mace said that stocks of the *Echinocereus* book had arrived and thanks were expressed for Mr & Mrs Vanden Bon's work in getting the layout work completed on time. Mr Kirkbright said there had been a slight glitch in that no spare dust jackets were ordered in case of possible damage (see also minute 11/29/3(d)). Dr Mace also said that progress on the two possible publications mentioned previously had now been abandoned. It was felt that we needed a breathing space as the amount of spare room in the Mace's storage shed was currently under pressure due to the recent influx of publications. Whilst Dr & Mrs Mace were willing to continue, it also meant that it would be difficult to find somebody with a suitable alternative site. Dr Walker said that the *Aloe* book had been nominated for an award by the Garden Media Guild as one of 4 finalists and all authors had received a certificate stating this. We would arrange for this to appear on our website and in CactusWorld. However, it was noted that we were not acknowledged as joint publishers with Kew on the nomination, only Kew Publishing appeared. Garden Media Guild would be contacted to correct this mistake (**DK**). It was estimated that an initial return of some £7,000 would be due next March from current sales.

11/33 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Trustees – Due to the requirements of the Charities Commission these had risen from the original 4 to a current 14 with a possible increase of up to 18. It was asked if this could be reduced, but after much discussion it was felt that all those currently identified contributed significantly to these meetings and that we should not reduce this number. It was agreed that in future, requests for nominations for annual Trustees be included in the December journal A.G.M. notice.
2. Prominent Deceased Members – It was suggested that we compile an annual list of these with details of length of membership for inclusion in the journal.
3. Ventnor Botanic Gardens – It was suggested that Society links be established with this Garden.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 5.10pm.

NEXT MEETING: 25th February 2012 at the Holiday Inn, London Road, Newport Pagnell, MK16 0JA (just off junction 14 of M1). It would start at 11a.m. and light refreshments would be served at 1p.m.