

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of Special General Meeting held in the Village Hall on 18th October 1985, being also the first Annual General Meeting

PRESENT: About 55 members

CHAIRMAN: Mr. C. J. Williams

1 Minutes of the inaugural public meeting held on 29th March 1985

On a proposition of Mrs Lorna Parr, seconded by Mrs Olive Thornton the minutes were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

2 Statement of accounts for the period 29th March 1985 to 30th September 1985

All members present had a copy of these accounts. On a proposition of Mr Gerald McMullen, seconded by Mrs Olive Thornton, the accounts were approved, and there was no discussion arising.

3 Report of the Committee on the seven months' period to date

The Chairman took the meeting through the report paragraph by paragraph and amongst various comments which were made the following were salient:

Planning applications

Everyone present appeared to be happy about the stand taken by the Committee on the revised Field Place planning application and that representations against the planning application should be renewed now at the appeal stage.

Mr Robert Courtier enlarged on the report as it dealt with the setting up of the newly formed Planning Sub-committee of which he was chairman, and which was able to draw on the professional skills of an Architect/Planner (Mr Melhuish), a retired Architect (Mr. Michael Smith), a Transport Planning Engineer (Mr Roger Purcell), a biologist (Mr Patrick Board) and a Civil Engineer (Mr Courtier himself). It would be served by the Secretary (Mr. Overton) and would have contact with the local representative of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (Mrs Mary Bond). Initial meetings had suggested the desirability of a strategy with two thrusts - the monitoring of planning applications and the creation of a detailed structure plan for the village and surrounding district. He envisaged that the latter would cover five areas of interest - (1) planning (limits to building development, acceptable areas and sacrosanct spaces), (2) use of materials (promotion of local indigenous materials and textures compatible with existing buildings), (3) landscape (improvements to the environment, protection of habitats and use of screening), (4) traffic and parking and (5) infrastructure (roads, services, signs and "wirescape"). Mr Courtier had had an

opportunity to put the sub-committee's ideas to Mr Jones, the Director of Planning and Development, at the meeting called by the Council's Chairman on 20th September and Mr Jones had expressed his enthusiasm at the positive approach being taken by Warnham and was anxious for a meeting with the Committee which it was hoped to arrange shortly. Mr Courtier's intention was that the sub-committee would produce in due course detailed drawings and photo-studies for discussion at a future meeting of the Society.

The Horsham Northern Bypass

Mr Roger Purcell reaffirmed his offer to produce a detailed report for the Highway Authority on Warnham's traffic problems and this was welcomed by all present. Mrs Jean Burnham remarked that the Parish Council was itself much exercised to bring these problems to the attention of the authorities and would be greatly assisted by the production of such a report.

Best Kept Village Competition

The meeting congratulated Mrs Thornton on her leadership and personal efforts which had contributed conspicuously to the happy result of Warnham winning first prize (£150) in West Sussex County Council's "Superclean" Competition — litter pure and simple - which was judged simultaneously with the B.K.V.C. Mr McMullen said that the Parish Council had accepted the Society's suggestion for using the prize money to put seats around the cricket field and this was being pursued.

The Domesday Survey of Barns

Professor Dales supplemented his written report with some additional details. Thirty seven barns had been visited and recorded and there was one more to do. Six or seven were 15th century or older. Only about two of the barns visited were listed or scheduled buildings, and the job of the survey was merely to record and not to register for "listing". The results would eventually be accessible to the public. Professor Dales offered to prepare a breakdown in due course for the Society's record. All members present joined in thanking Professor Dales for what he had done and was doing.

Footpaths

Mr William Bousfield said that he hoped that the sub-committee would give equal consideration to bridleways in its safeguarding efforts.

Mr John Burnham proposed the adoption of the report, this was seconded by Mrs Rosemary Redmond, and was carried unanimously.

4 The Society's Constitution

Mrs Rosemary Ashton proposed that the Society adopt the draft constitution which had been distributed to all members, this was seconded by Mr John Burnham and was agreed unanimously.

5 Election of a new committee

The position with regard to nominations, as stated on the agenda was as follows:

<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
Mrs R Ashton	A E. Cox	O G. Thornton
R. Bensted-Smith	G P McMullen	R H Courtier
R Board	R. H Courtier	C. J. Williams
R H Courtier	O. G. Thornton	A. E. Cox
Mrs A. E. Cox	O. G. Thornton	R H Courtier
Mrs R. R. McLaughlen	L. P. Parr	O G. Thornton
G. P. McMullen	R H Courtier	L P Parr
R Melhuish	R H Courtier	R C Overton
R C Overton	O G. Thornton	C J Williams
H J Parr	C. J. Williams	R C Overton
Mrs L P Parr	R. R. McLaughlen	O G. Thornton
Mrs O G. Thornton	R H Courtier	A. E. Cox

The Chairman suggested that since there were 12 nominees for 12 vacancies it would be appropriate to elect the committee en bloc. This was agreed and on a proposal by Mr William Bousfield, seconded by Mrs Audrey Windsor-Aubrey, the nominees listed above were unanimously elected as the new committee.

6 Outgoing Chairman

Mr Courtier, speaking on behalf of the outgoing committee, thanked Mr John Williams for the valuable contribution he had made as the Society's first chairman and for having accepted the responsibility at a time when it would have otherwise been difficult for the Society to get started at all. Mr Williams for his part paid tribute to the support of the Committee and to the work done by Mr. Richard Overton as Hon Secretary and Mr Harry Parr as Hon Treasurer.

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The formal business of the meeting thus being concluded, there followed an informal and agreeable wine and cheese session .

WARNHAM SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

29.3.85 - 30.9.85

RECEIPTS

Subscriptions	135.00
Donation	-
Coffee Open Evening, less Expenses	1.59
Coffee Morning, less Expenses	-
Bank Deposit Interest	1.45
Sundry Income	-

	138.04

PAYMENTS

Hire of Village Hall	8.20
Postage and Stationery	24.64
Poster Prizes	5.00
Sussex Amenity Society Subscription	10.00
Sussex Federation Subscription	4.00
A.G.M. Expenses (net)	6.50
Audit Fee	-
Sundry Expenses	-

	58.34

Excess of Receipts over Payments

79.70

Add: Funds Brought Forward:
Bank - Deposit Account
Cash in Hand

Funds Carried Forward:
Bank - Deposit Account
Cash in Hand

64.51
15.19

-

79.70
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