

**THE WARNHAM SOCIETY**

REGISTERED WITH THE CIVIC TRUST

CHAIRMAN and Correspondence SECRETARY Mrs. Margaret Dales

Sands, Warnham, Horsham, RH1 2 3SQ

Telephone and Fax. 01403 254 843

18th September 1999

Dear Member,

Enclosed are the agenda and papers for the Autumn Meeting and Annual General Meeting .

if you wish to nominate a potential Committee member, please contact me , preferably having ascertained the nominee's willingness to stand.

A few members have failed to respond to the Membership Secretary's reminders for payment of their subscriptions. If you think that this might apply to you, perhaps you could

see Robert Courtier on 14th October. Alternatively put £3 (£2 for single membership) through his letterbox at 11 Friday Street. Subscriptions for 1999–2000 can be paid at the

Autumn Meeting.

We hope to meet you on 14th October.

Yours Sincerely

Margaret Dales, Chairman.

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**Annual General Meeting to be held at the Warnham Village Hall  
on Thursday 14th October 1999 at 8pm**

**AGENDA**

- 1 Introductions and apologies for absence.
- 2 Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 1st October 1998, and discussion of any matters arising. (minutes are enclosed).
- 3 Receipt and approval of the Accounts from 1st October 1998 to 30th September 1999. (Copies of the audited accounts will be available at the A.G.M.).
- 4 Election of a Committee to serve for one year. The Constitution specifies that the Committee shall consist of not less than eight and not more than twelve members.
- 5 Report by the Committee on the past year and matters arising from this report, a copy of which is enclosed.
- 6 Discussion on any other matters that members may wish to raise,

**THE WARNHAM SOCIETY**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1.4TH OCTOBER 1999**  
**Report by the Committee**

A number of activities have been pursued during the year, some of these with clear results and others still to be resolved.

### **Meetings**

There have been five Committee meetings and two open meetings.

#### **Autumn Meeting 1st October 1998.**

This was a joint meeting with the Warnham Historical Society, and preceded the Annual General Meeting of the Warnham Society.

The speakers were John Hamer, Chairman of the Warnham Historical Society, and Michael Hodgson, Chairman of the Warnham Parish council. The topic was 'Warnham - Past, Present and Future'. Mr. Hamer showed the development, growth and employment history of Warnham. Mr. Hodgson developed the theme of relatively recent changes in employment, population and housing, posing the question of 'Who manages Warnham?' and stressing the need to take a pro-active role in the future plans for the village. Bob Collyer wrote an account of this meeting as a leader in the December 1998 issue of the Warnham Warbler.

#### **Spring Meeting 11th March 1999.**

Derek Giles, the Water Strategy Manager of Southern Water Services spoke on the various methods of obtaining water and their relevance to this area. It appears that even a greatly enlarged population could be supplied, but the cost of the methods to ensure such a supply could be very high.

### **A24 improvement and traffic calming**

The restructuring of the A24 from Capel to the Great Daux roundabout is still "on hold" with no starting date in the foreseeable future. Prompted by a constructive letter from Warnham Parish Council, the West Sussex Highways Department is installing some speed restrictions on this stretch of road, and reviewing the extent of double white lines on the carriageway.

A letter was sent from the Society to Warnham Parish Council offering to discuss low cost traffic calming measures within the village. We hope that we shall be able to report on the impending installation of such a scheme when we issue our next Annual Report

### **Speed limits around Warnham**

Apart from the action being taken on the A24, there has been no action by the West Sussex

Highways Department on speed limits within the Parish. In view of the increase in the number of vehicles using the village and its approach lanes as through-ways, the control of speed seems to be a constructive way of reducing the risk of accidents, not only between vehicles, but also to pedestrians, cyclists and horse-riders.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England is campaigning for measures to maintain the safety and amenity value of rural lanes. We support their action.

### **Membership of other organisations.**

The Society continues to be affiliated to the Civic Trust, and to the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign (G.A.C.C.). We have recently joined the Council for the Protection of Rural England (C.P.R.E.) feeling that the issues on which it acts and gives information are relevant to the issues faced in Warnham. In order to have a forum through which to convey our opinions, and to afford stronger representation on issues of concern, we are applying to join the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies.

### **Hospital Services**

We have written to the Chief Executive of the West Sussex Health Authority expressing our concern over the proposed removal of certain services from Crawley Hospital. We noted that the services would be moving further away from an area of increasing population.

### **Planning**

We have checked the list of planning applications made to Horsham District Council, and we have written comments to the Planning Department where we have felt it to be appropriate.

### **Housing**

As extensively reported in the West Sussex County Times, in June Horsham District Council held a two day meeting of the Local Plan Panel to whom developers had been invited to present their proposals for the development of sites within the Horsham District. This meeting was opened to invited representatives of Parish Councils, Amenity Societies and others. The Chairman of Warnham Parish Council and the Chairman of the Warnham Society attended all sessions. We responded fully with written statements, and elaborated and reinforced our comments verbally at another meeting of the Local Plan Panel held on 14th September. Although the Parish Council and the Society wrote separate responses, the contents were broadly in accord. To summarise very briefly, we opposed the proposals for development at Langhurst/Warnham Station, Broadbridge Heath, and Kingsfold. We gave qualified support for the development of the site at Warnham Court Farm, but only if this could produce some planning gain for the village as a whole.

We did also comment on the hope that the total number of houses for which the Horsham District was required to make provision might be reduced.

The Warnham Parish Council response included the papers presented by the Chairman of the

Council to members of the Warnham Society at the Autumn 1998 Meeting. We support the Parish Council in its action to make positive suggestions to the Horsham District Council Planners, as the new draft Development Strategy is drawn up.

### **Millennium**

The Proposal to instate a pond was rejected by the Parish Council as impracticable on the site on the edge of the village green.

The Society has written to the Warnham Historical Society suggesting the formation of an archive, recording life in the village in the year 2000. It is hoped that some enthusiastic co-ordinator for this project might be found.

### **Future meetings**

We always welcome suggestions for future topics, particularly if they come with the name of a good speaker! Please contact the Chairman (Telephone and fax 01403 254 843) with your ideas.

# THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

## ACCOUNTS 1st OCTOBER 1998 TO 30th SEPTEMBER 1999

Balance brought forward  
from Accounts at 30th September 1998

Cash           £   4.40  
At Bank       £ 441.20

**£445.60**

### **Income**

Subscriptions:-  
Cheques           £ 40.00  
Cash               £112.00  
Donations         £ 16.00  
Surplus from refreshments   £ 2.53  
Bank Interest (Gross)       £ 4.00  
(includes Aug. & Sept. 98)  
Other                        Nil

**TOTAL                   £174.53**

### **Expenditure**

Hire of village Hall           £ 12.50  
(½ share with Hist. Soc.)  
Hire of Hall (Spring Mtg)     £ 25.00  
A.G.M. Speakers expenses     £ 18.80  
Administrative costs         £ 37.14  
Subs. to other organisations:-  
Civic Trust                   £ 21.00  
G.A.C.C                       £ 10.00  
Council for the Protection  
Of Rural England             £ 17.50

**TOTAL                   £141.94**

Surplus of Income over Expenditure           £ 32.59

### **FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD**

Cash               £ 7.99  
At Bank           £470.20

**TOTAL                   £478.19**

Signed *A. George Brand* Date *4/10/99*  
A. George Brand (Hon. Treasurer)

Signed *R.J. Boud* Date *4/10/99*  
R.J. Boud A.C.I.B. (Hon. Auditor)

## The Warnham Society

Chairman and Correspondence Secretary. Mrs Margaret Dales

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14th October 1999

Mrs Dales, as Chairman, extended a warm welcome to Society members

**1. Apologies for Absence** were received from Mr. N. Horton, Brigadier & Mrs Hall Mr R. Purcell, Mr & Mrs Lee and Mr Boud.

**2. Minutes of the A.G.M. held on 1st October 1998** were approved as a correct record after the addition of Mr. R. Courtier's name to the list of Committee Members for 1998-1999. Acceptance was proposed by Mr. R. Newman and seconded by Miss V. Rónaasen. Discussion on Matters Arising was deferred until Item 5 on the Agenda.

### **3. Receipt and Approval of the Audited Accounts for the Period 1st October 1998 to 30th September 1999.**

Mr A.G. Brand (Hon. Treasurer) explained the main features of the Accounts. Funds carried forward amounted to £478.19, Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Mr. R. Courtier, seconded by Mrs Dutton and carried by the meeting. The Chairman expressed the sincere thanks of the Society to Mr. Boud for auditing the accounts.

### **4. Election of the Committee**

Mrs Dales reported that after some years service Mr. Melhuish would be standing down, she thanked him for his services, especially in planning matters. The remaining members, on offering themselves for re-election, were nominated by Mr. Merryweather and seconded by Mrs Kup. Mr. R. Purcell, although absent had agreed to serve, he was nominated by Miss Rónaasen and seconded by Mrs. Kup. Both proposals were carried by the meeting.

Thus the Committee for 1999–2000 is:

Mr. A. G. Brand	Mrs. J. Burnham	Mr. R. Courtier
Mrs. M. Dales	Mrs S. Dutton	M. G. Elliott
Mr. R. Newman	Mr R. Purcell	Mr. M. Rogers
Miss. V. Rónaasen	Mrs. O. Thornton.	

### **5. Committee Report for 1998-1999**

A written report by the Committee, circulated prior to the meeting, was used by Mrs. Dales as the basis for her verbal report

#### **a. A24 improvements.**

She gave details of a letter recently sent to the Society by County Councillor Mr. N. Horton, in which he deplored the Government's unwillingness to contribute to the funding of a dualled A24 between Great Daux and Capel. He indicated it remains a top priority for W.S.C.C. members and

officers.

She confirmed the plans for the temporary closure of part of the A24 to allow work on Hunts Bridge over the railway line. She reported that work will be carried out on the A24 between Great Daux and Clarks Green roundabouts aimed at improving road safety.

#### **b. Membership of other Organisations**

In reporting our decision to join the C.P.R.E. Mrs. Dales expressed the Committee's desire to regain the rural aspects of our minor roads so that pedestrians, equestrians, cyclists and motorists can all use them in safety and comfort. Helen Burton M.P. is proposing a Bill under the House of Commons 10 minute rule on this matter

Mrs S Dutton, from the floor, expressed her concern about safety at the A24 end of Bell Road and suggested a roundabout would help. Mrs. Dales expressed similar concerns about the other exit from Bell Road. Mr. M. Hodgson was uncertain about the benefits of a roundabout on the A24, but he welcomed the widest possible expression of suggestions to the authorities.

It was agreed that Mrs. Dales would write to Mr. N. Horton expressing the The Society's continued concern and making specific suggestions for roundabouts at either end of Bell Road.

Mrs Dales explained the Committee's decision to rejoin the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. She reported other amenity societies concerns about the economic and non-elected status of the South East Economic Development Agency (SEEDA) and the response by the Federation.

#### **c. Housing**

Mrs Dales reported that a list of smaller development sites had been published recently. She expressed concern that the timing of the consultation could be too late to influence the outcome.

#### **d. Millenium**

Mrs Dales reported that the Warnham Historical Society had agreed to co-ordinate the Warnham contribution to the West Sussex C.C. "Big Archive" project. Elizabeth Bridges has agreed to act as Co-ordinator.

#### **e. Spring Meeting.**

Mrs Dales announced that the next meeting will be held on the 9th March 2000, the Fire Service is the planned subject.

#### **6. Members Questions.**

One Member expressed a wish for temporary speed on the A24 to become mandatory and for a 30m.p.h limit on the road between Broadbridge Heath and Warnham. Mrs Dales summarised the current position and advanced the view that a change in driving culture could help in reducing accidents.

The A.G.M. having been completed Mr. R. Newman, the Society's Vice-Chairman, introduced the evening's speaker, Mr Reg Melhuish, as a long-time Warnham resident, Society Member, artist and architect.

Mr Melhuish then gave his illustrated talk on "Buildings - The Warnham Heritage", followed by questions and hearty applause.

Mr Newman thanked the speaker and said he would be looking more carefully at buildings in future and appreciating their features more. He was sure we would all benefit from tonight's talk.

The meeting closed just before 10p.m.