

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY
24th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**24th October 2008 at Warnham village Hall at 8.00pm (Please note that refreshments
will be served from 7.30pm)**

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Approval of Minutes of 23rd AGM of the Warnham Society**
- 3. Matters arising from the Minutes**
- 4. Committee's Report on Activities of the Society in 2007-8**
- 5. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Annual Accounts**

The Report and Accounts will cover the year 1 Oct 2007 to 30 Sept 2008.

6. Hon. Auditor's Report

7. Election of Officers and Members of Committee (Maximum 12)

The Officers comprise. Joint Chairmen, Treasurer, Minute Secretary, Correspondence Secretary and Membership Secretary.

8. Election of Hon. Auditor

9. Any Other Business item 10(4) of the Constitution requires that advance notice shall be given for such business. Please advise either of the Joint Chairmen of any matter that you wish to be considered.

10. Closure of AGM

The formal proceedings will be followed by the Autumn Meeting, comprising a talk by Sam Bayley on 'Wild Warnham' followed by questions and discussion.

John Hamer

Brian King

Joint Chairmen, The Warnham Society.

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS 1ST OCTOBER 2007 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2008

Balance brought forward
From Accounts at 30th September 2007

Cash	£ 0.00		
At Bank	£309.13		<u>£309.13</u>

Income

Subscriptions:-	
Cheques	£ 113.00
Cash	£ 158.00
Surplus from refreshments	£ 23.83
Donations	£ 21.00
Hist. Soc.	£ 13.72

Total **£329.55**

Excess of Expenditure	<u>£112.12</u>
Over Income	

£441.67

Expenditure

Hire of village hall(AGM)	£ 35.00
Speaker Fee	£ 40.00
Hire of village hall (spring)	£ 35.00
Admin costs	£ 43.17
Donation. St.Catherine's	£ 25.00
Donation to Shipley Windmill	£ 30.00
FoSAS subscription	£ 25.00
FoSAS Insurance	£135.00
FoSAS NW Area Sub	£ 7.50
MSF Donation	£ 25.00
GACC Subscription	£ 10.00
CPRE Subscription	£ 31.00

Total **£441.67**

Cash	£ 0.00		
At Bank	£1112.13		
Less unrepresented Cheque £30.00	£ 30.00		

£1082.13

Funds carried Forward	£309.13		
Plus Transfer of Hist. Soc Funds	<u>£885.12</u>		
	£1194.25		
Less loss for year	<u>£ 112.12</u>		
	<u>£1082.13</u>		

Signed *Sarah T. V. Rees* Date *22/10/08*
Sarah T. V. Rees (Hon. Treasurer)

Signed *R.J. Boud* Date *22/10/08*
R.J. Boud A.C.I.B. (Hon. Auditor)

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 24 October 2008
REPORT of the COMMITTEE for 2007-8

MEETINGS

There have been 6 committee meetings and a special meeting of the committee to consider possible action to prevent the closure of Warnham post office. These meetings have been chaired alternately by the joint chairmen. We have also held two open meetings during the year.

Autumn Meeting and AGM; 16 November 2007

The formal business of the AGM is recorded in the minutes accompanying this report. The meeting marked the formal amalgamation of The Warnham Society and the Warnham Historical Society and it was agreed that the constitution of the Warnham Society should be revised to reflect the amalgamation. The situation regarding the threatened closure of Warnham post office was considered and it was agreed that the Society should oppose the closure and support such other action, as appropriate. Following the AGM, Mr Fred Asbury gave an informative and well illustrated talk on 'Sussex Churches'.

Spring Meeting; 9 May 2008

Our Spring Meeting took the form of an entertaining and informative talk by Mr Jim Woodward-Nutt on 'The Windmills of Sussex', followed by a lively series of questions and answers. This meeting was dedicated to the memory of Bill Bousfield, one of our Joint Chairmen, who died earlier in the year.

Both of our meetings were well attended by both members and visitors.

MEMBERSHIP

As ever, our members are the strength of our Society and provide the support and backing for our work. Membership has remained fairly stable with some 104 members and one Life member. We always welcome new members and recruitment will again be an important objective for the coming year!

FINANCE

The Society's financial position has benefited from amalgamation of funds from the former Historical Society, as shown in the accompanying accounts. However, we are concerned that expenditure continues to exceed income and we are mindful of the need to conserve

our capital. We therefore need to encourage new members or we will be draining funds in future years.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The Society continues to be affiliated to GACC, the Council for the Preservation of Rural England and the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. We keep informed of relevant issues through their publications and by attending meetings and respond accordingly.

We have continued to respond to Horsham District Council regarding the planned development west of Horsham. We have continued to review highway proposals in HDC's draft Land West of Horsham Master-Plan and have supported options to minimise traffic impact to Warnham.

We have continued to monitor the delayed development of strategy for waste management and have attended a presentation by WSCC. We will continue to review and comment as necessary.

CLOSURE OF WARNHAM POST OFFICE

In common with other organisations, the Society provided detailed arguments to the Post Office against the proposed closure in the context of the public consultation. Our attempts to obtain detailed reasons for the closure from Royal Mail plc have been met with a dismal and unhelpful response, despite intervention on our behalf by the Information Commissioner.

PARISH DESIGN STATEMENT

The Society has played a key role in developing a Parish Design Statement. The Design Statement is a sister document to the Parish Plan, published last year, and focuses on policies and guidelines intended to ensure the suitability of style and design for future construction in the village. The scope of the document covers extensions and alterations as well as new-build. The Design Statement is subject to review and approval by HDC as a Supplementary Planning Document and its publication is scheduled for the end of this year.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The initial phase of the parish-wide traffic plan initiated by the Society in 1985 has now been implemented, with a 20 mph zone in the village and construction of mini roundabouts at either end of Church Street. Surveys of traffic volumes and speeds have been made before and after implementation and detailed studies of these are being made. The Society is increasingly concerned at the speed and size of vehicles using the surrounding

roads and will continue to pursue measures to control and minimise the increasing impact of traffic flows throughout the parish.

PLANNING

We continue to monitor and review planning applications within the parish. There are about 40 applications per year and most are compatible with the environment of the parish and generally conform to planning policy established by HDC. The Society comments where it is felt by the Committee that an application does not accord with policy or would adversely affect the character or amenity of the parish. Although outside the parish boundary, we will continue to monitor proposals for development of land adjacent to the Warnham brickworks site because of its potential traffic impact on roads in the parish.

In the planning context, the Committee is aware of the need to ensure that conflicts of interest do not occur, especially as members of the Committee may also be Parish Councillors. It is therefore with regret that we note that complaints relating to a planning application have been made during the past year against two Parish councillors who are also members of the Society. These have been fully investigated by HDC who found no blame on the part of the Society in its objection to the application in question.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

As noted above, we were saddened by the sudden death of our Joint Chairman Bill Bousfield earlier in the year. Bill had been a staunch supporter of the Society for many years and his contribution and wit will be greatly missed. However, we are pleased that John Hamer has agreed to fill this post. Earlier in the year our Membership Secretary, Marion Stockley, resigned from the committee and her place has been taken by Elizabeth Bridges. We would like to thank Marion for her contribution and Elizabeth for agreeing to take over this post. We are also sorry to note that our Treasurer, Sarah Rees, is leaving the Committee at this AGM and we would like to thank her for her consistent effort over a number of years and George Brand who has agreed to take over as Treasurer. As well as new members, we also require additional members of the committee. Our ability to support the projects outlined above depends on our active participation. Please accept our thanks for your support and continue to help us to remain an active and thriving Society into the future.

The Committee

The Warnham Society

October 2008

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 24th Annual General Meeting held in the Village Hall on Friday 24th October 2008

44 members of the Society were welcomed by Mr King who chaired the meeting

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr & Mrs Knight, Mr & Mrs Brand, Mrs Lucas, Mrs Gibson, Mrs Jarvis, Mrs Rees & Mr & Mrs Dutton

2. The Minutes of the 23rd AGM were approved; proposed by Mrs Lee, seconded by Mrs Stockley

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes: None

4. The Committee's Report for 2007-2008. Mr King highlighted the Society's role in the following:

- opposing the closure of the Warnham Post Office
- developing the Parish Design Statement
- traffic management within the Parish
- the monitoring of planning applications

He emphasised the importance of our members and the need to maintain Committee numbers. He thanked everyone for their support in the past year including Mrs Rees who was standing down as Treasurer and Mrs Stockley who resigned during the year. Lastly, Mr King paid tribute to our late Joint Chairman who died earlier this year

5. Treasurer's Report and Approval of the Annual Accounts, 1. 10, 2007 - 30. 09. 2008: Mr King pointed out that, yet again, expenditure had exceeded income. The Committee will review its single largest expenditure item, the annual insurance premium to the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies designed to cover the Society against litigious claims. In the last resort, the Committee may have to raise subscriptions.

6. The Honorary Auditor. Mr Boud was thanked for auditing the accounts and for agreeing to continue as Honorary Auditor

7. Election of Committee Members: Seven serving members were elected en bloc on a proposal by Mrs Dales, seconded by Mrs Lee

8. Election of Honorary Auditor. Mr Boud was re-elected on a proposal by Mr Hamer, seconded by Mrs King

9. Any Other Business: None

10. Closure of AGM. Mr King closed the formal business of the AGM and handed over to Mr Hamer who introduced Sam. Bayley who gave a talk on "Wild Warnham" which was well received. A vote of thanks was given by Mr Hamer

John Hamer

Brian King

Joint Chairmen, The Warnham Society