

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

25th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

16th October 2009 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 24th AGM of the Warnham Society

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

4. Committee's Report on Activities of the Society in 2008-9

5. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Annual Accounts

The Report and Accounts will cover the year 1 Oct 2008 to 30 Sept 2009.

6. Hon. Auditor's Report

7. Election of Members of Committee (Maximum 12)

Note that Officers, who comprise. Joint Chairmen, Treasurer, Minute Secretary, Correspondence Secretary and Membership Secretary, are appointed by the Committee at its first meeting after this AGM.

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 Brian Syfield of The Horsham Society on Heroes and Villains- an evening of rare books and local stories

John Hamer

THE WARNHAM, SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 16 October 2009
REPORT of the COMMITTEE for 2008-9

MEETINGS

There have been 6 committee meetings during the year. These meetings have been chaired alternately by the joint chairmen. We have also held two open meetings during the year.

Autumn Meeting and AGM; 24 October 2008

The formal business of the AGM is recorded in the minutes accompanying this report. In the course of a discussion of the Society's finances the chairman advised that membership subscriptions would need to increase from the 2009 AGM and that while the amount of the increase was being considered by the committee a rise to £6 for a couple and £4 for a single membership was most likely. He assured members that the committee would undertake a review of expenditures in the light of increasing costs. Following the AGM, Mr Sam Bayley gave a lively and informative talk on "Wild Warnham". Spring Meeting; 18 June 2009 Our Spring Meeting focussed on waste management, with the title "Rubbish Revisited". This took the form of a joint presentation by Phillip Russell (WSCC), Ian Joplin (HDC) and Mike Thair (Bissa) on waste collection, management and treatment in the light of pending developments. The presentations were followed by a lively panel discussion. 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. Regrettably, membership has fallen to 84, a reduction of some 25 since last year, with one Life member. This highlights the importance of attracting new members and recruitment will again be an important objective for the coming year

FINANCE

The Society's financial position is shown in the accompanying accounts. We are concerned that expenditure continues to exceed income and 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. We are also faced with increasing costs and the membership subscription will be increased for the coming year to £6 for a couple and £4 for a single

membership.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The Society continues to be affiliated to GACC and the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. We keep informed of relevant issues through their publications and by attending meetings as appropriate.

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.

WARNHAM VILLAGE HALL

We regard Warnham Village Hall as an important amenity and asset to the village. We are pleased to support the planned refurbishment and extension of the hall and a member of our committee has been elected to the Management Committee of the Village Hall.

PARISH DESIGN STATEMENT

The Society has played a key role in developing a Parish Design Statement. The Design Statement, a sister document to the Parish Plan published in 2007, 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, which has been approved by HDC and accepted as a Supplementary Planning Document, was published earlier this year.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Following the implementation of the traffic management scheme in the village, 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. This will be of particular importance in the context of planned developments at the Brookhurst Wood waste treatment facility.

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 and at Brookhurst Wood because of their 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.

SILVER JUBILEE

The Society was founded in 1985 and 2010 will mark its Silver Jubilee. The Committee is determined that this important should not pass without due celebration and a number of possible initiatives is being considered

NATURE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Warnham is fortunate to provide habitats for a number of rare butterfly species. A scheme is being considered to establish a nature reserve in two fields, which would be dedicated to that purpose as an educational facility. The possible role of the Society in maintaining the reserve is being considered, especially in the light of our approaching Jubilee.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership of the Committee has remained stable during the year. However, as well as new members, we also require additional members of the committee and we would welcome nominations, either in advance or at the AGM. Our ability to support the projects outlined above depends on your 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 2009

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS 1ST OCTOBER 2008 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Balance brought forward
From Accounts at 30th September 2008

Cash	£ 0.00	
At Bank	£1082.13 ✓	<u>£1082.13</u>

Income

Subscriptions	£221.00
Surplus from refreshments	£ 34.59
Donations	£ 25.30

Total **£280.89**

Excess of Expenditure
Over Income **£ 76.95**

£357.84

Expenditure

Hire of village hall(AGM)	£ 35.00
Hire of village hall (spring)	£ 52.50
Admin costs	£ 63.34
FoSAS subscription	£ 25.00
FoSAS Insurance	£140.00
GACC Subscription	£ 10.00
CPRE Subscription	£ 32.00

Total **£357.84**

Funds carried forward £1082.13

Cash	£ 0.00
At Bank	£1005.18

£1005.18

Less loss for year **£ 76.95**

£1005.18

Signed *A. George Brand* Date.....
A. George Brand (Hon. Treasurer)

Signed *R.J. Boud* Date *09/10/09*
R.J. Boud A.C.I.B. (Hon. Auditor)

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting held in the Village Hall on Friday 16th October 2009

35 Members of the Society and the guest speaker, Mr Brian Slyfield of The Horsham Society, were welcomed by Mr King who chaired the meeting

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr & Mrs Knight, Mrs Lee, Mr & Mrs Smallwood, Mr & Mrs Redmond, Mrs Lucas Mrs Thornton & Mr & Mrs Boud

2. The Minutes of the 24th AGM were approved: proposed by Mr Purcell, seconded by Mrs Stockley

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes: None

4. The Committee's Report for 2008-2009. At Mr King's request Mr Purcell gave an update on the planned Nature Conservation Project off Tilletts Lane and the Society's possible role as a sponsor. Mr King highlighted the Society's key role in developing the Parish Design Statement and the celebration of the Society's Silver Jubilee in 2010. He expressed concern about the drop in membership. He thanked Members and the Committee for their efforts and support during the past year

5. Treasurer's Report & Approval of Annual Accounts: Mr Brand reported a loss for a second successive year, though less than the previous year. The Committee had reluctantly agreed to raise subscriptions from this Oct. 1st 2009, efforts will continue to reverse the fall in membership. Mr Purcell proposed the adoption of the accounts, seconded by Mr Read

6. Mr Boud was thanked for auditing the accounts

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

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

9. Any Other Business: None

10. Closure of the AGM. Mr King closed the AGM and handed over to Mr Hamer who introduced Mr Brian Slyfield who spoke on "Heroes & Villains" - an evening of rare books and local stories