

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 29 October 2010
REPORT of the COMMITTEE for 2009–10

SILVER JUBILEE

The past year marked an important milestone in the history of the Society, being the 25th anniversary of its formation in 1985. We have endeavoured to celebrate this in a fitting manner and much of our effort during the past year has been directed to this end. Key activities were the preparation and publication of a Footpath Map covering the parish and surrounding area and setting out a number of interesting walks. Copies of the map have been distributed to households in the village and it is available in the pubs and shop. The Jubilee Year was also marked by the preparation of 'The Warnham Society 1985-2019, A Brief History', intended to chart the principal activities of the Society from its foundation to the present. However, our key event during the year was our Spring Meeting with the theme Warnham - Past and Present, attended by some 150 members and visitors and described in the September edition of The Warbler (pp 8-9). Our thanks are due to all who contributed to the success of these initiatives.

MEETINGS

There have been 10 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; 16 October 2009

The formal business of the AGM is recorded in the minutes accompanying this report. Following the AGM, Mr Brian Slyfield gave a lively and informative talk entitled 'Heroes and Villains- an evening of local stories and rare books'.

Spring Meeting; 10 June 2010

As noted above, our key Jubilee event was an informal evening based on a number of exhibits depicting Warnham - Past and Present. The imagination and effort involved was impressive and the event was greeted as a great success.

MEMBERSHIP

As ever, our members are the strength of our Society and provide the support and backing for our work. We are pleased to note that our membership has risen to 92 during the past

year. Nevertheless, we will continue to enlist 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 mindful of the need to manage our expenditure in the light of continually increasing costs and to encourage new members to enhance our income. Our funds benefited from a one-off contribution of some £93 during the year as a result of the winding up of the NW Sussex branch of the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

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

We are pleased to support the planned improvements to the Village Hall and a member of our committee is an elected member of its Management Committee.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The Society continues to be 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. We have continued to respond to HDC regarding planned developments to the West of Horsham, particularly in the light of potential impact to Warnham. 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.

NATURE CONSERVATION PROJECT

Warnham is fortunate to provide habitats for a number of rare butterfly species. We are pleased to note that the establishment of a nature reserve in two fields adjacent to Tilletts Lane has received enthusiastic support from a number of our members. We regard this as an important development, particularly as an educational facility.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are pleased to note that Jeremy Thompson has joined the committee during the year. We also note with regret that Roger Purcell has decided to leave the committee after a total span of 25 years. Roger's contribution and enthusiasm have been invaluable and have contributed greatly to the standing and credibility that The Society enjoys today. On your behalf, we wish to thank Roger for his efforts and to thank Joy for her hospitality in accommodating countless committee meetings!

Our ability to support the projects outlined above depends on your active participation and the committee continues to require additional members. If you are interested in joining the committee we will be pleased to answer any questions or to receive your nomination this evening.

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 2010

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS 1ST OCTOBER 2008 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Balance brought forward
From Accounts at 30th September 2009

Cash	£	0.00	
At Bank		£1005.18	<u>£1005.18</u>

Income

Subscriptions	£310.00
Surplus from refreshments	£100.77
Donations	£ 18.00
Book Sales	£ 88.00
FoSAS Refund	£ 93.34

Total **£610.11**

Excess of Income
Over Expenditure **£ 27.23**

£582.88

Expenditure

Hire of village hall(AGM)	£ 52.50
Hire of village hall (spring)	£ 52.50
Admin costs	£209.88
FoSAS subscription	£ 25.00
FoSAS Insurance	£145.00
GACC Subscription	£ 10.00
CPRE Subscription	£ 32.00
Purchase of Books	£ 56.00

Total **£582.88**

Funds carried forward £1005.18
Plus excess for year £ 27.23

Cash	£	0.00
At Bank		£1032.41

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Signed *A. George Brand* Date *4/10/2010*
A. George Brand (Hon. Treasurer)

Signed *R.J. Boud* Date *13/10/2010*
R.J. Boud A.C.I.B. (Hon. Auditor)

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting held in the Village Hall on Friday 29th October 2010.

36 members of the Society and the guest speaker, Mr Tom Cole of the Woodland Trust, were welcomed by Mr King who chaired the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence: Mr and Mrs Elliot, Mr and Mrs Hamer, Mr and Mrs Knight and Mr and Mrs Cox.

2. The minutes of the 25th AGM were approved: proposed by Olive Thornton and seconded by Sue Thomas

3. Matters arising from the minutes: None.

4. Committee's Report on Activities of the Society in 2009-10: Mr King said that this year's report focussed on the Activities that had been arranged for the Jubilee celebrations of the society, particularly the Spring Meeting held on 10th June 2010. This was based on a number of exhibits depicting the theme of "Warnham past and present".

Mr King thanked all involved in the preparation of this meeting and expressed pleasure that there had been about 150 visitors to it.

5. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Annual Accounts: Mr Brand reported that there is a healthy credit this year mainly due to a couple of boosts to the funds; namely the sale of Molly Gregson's books and a refund from the North West Sussex branch of the FoSAS as this has now become defunct. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Margaret Dales and seconded by Beryl Davis.

6. Mr Boud was thanked for auditing the accounts.

7. Election of the Members of the Committee: Mr Purcell has decided to stand down now from the committee, and was given thanks for all the work he had done for it. All the remaining members have agreed to continue serving and were elected en bloc on a proposal by Janet Lee and seconded by Beryl Jarvis.

It was felt that the committee of the remaining seven members is small and volunteers were asked for from the audience. Mr Steve Lancaster put his name forward and indicated that he would like to sit in on the next committee meeting.

8. Election of the Hon. Auditor: Mr Boud expressed his willingness to continue for next year and was duly elected on a proposal by Mary Jasper and seconded by Betty Brand.

9. Any other business:

A) Ann Davis gave an introductory talk about the plans there are for the Warnham Village Fete to be held on the Village Green on June 11th 2011. There has been one committee meeting so far and they plan to publicize it by possible emails, notes in the Warbler, notices in the village shop. They are still looking for sponsors with the Parish Council indicating it is willing to help. They are scoping out possible activities and will welcome any support that can be given.

B) A presentation was made to Roger and Joy Purcell thanking him for all his efforts and contributions to the committee, and thanking her for the many refreshments she provided at committee meetings held at their house.

10. Closure of the AGM: Mr King closed the AGM and handed over to Mr Purcell who introduced Mr Tom Cole who gave a very interesting talk on trees in Sussex and other parts of the country and The Woodland Trust.