

## THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of Committee Meeting No.103 held on Thursday 31 July 2003 at Sands,

**Present: Mrs M Dales (Chairman); Mr G Brand (Treasurer); Mrs S Dutton, Mr G. Elliott; Mrs E. Kollmer; Mr R Newman; Mr R. Purcell; Mr M. Rogers, Mrs O Thornton**

**Obituary: Committee members registered their deep sadness at the recent death of Vivienne Ronaasen who served on the Committee for nine years. Mrs Dales has expressed her condolences to Vivienne's sister and will write expressing the Society's condolences and appreciation of her services**

**1 Apologies** for absence were received from Mr S. Parker-Smith

**2 Minutes of Meeting No.102 :Mrs Dales reported that she had lost the minutes prepared by Mr Elliott, so no minutes were available to members, for which she apologised.**

**3 Matters Arising:**

**a) Airport Development in South east England:** Mrs Dales reported that she had written a brief letter to the Dept. of Transport in response to the National Consultation Document (2nd edition February 2003) summarising the Committee's view, partly aimed at keeping the Society within the consultation process.

**b)WSSC Waste Local Plan :** Mrs Dales reported that she had written a short letter to the County Planning Officer outlining the Society's concerns relating to proposals affecting the Warnham area. The Society should remain within the consultation process.

**c) Warnham Court Farm WN/84/02:** Mrs Dales reported that members of the Warnham Society & Warnham Parish Council ( Roger Purcell & Margaret Dales & Mick Hodgson), had met Tony Stevens (HDC Director of Planning)Clare Upton-Brown (Area North Planning Officer) & Sally Horner (Chairman of HDC Development, North, Planning Committee) to discuss the process which dealt with the WS & WPC submissions. The meeting satisfactorily clarified the process by which HDC had reached its recommendation to approve the planning application. Mr Elliott expressed concern that the Planning Department's officers' - briefing

report to the newly elected committee failed to present a response to the written objections “ (extract from the letter by Roger Purcell to WSCT 13.6.03). He was concerned that this represented a failure of process design or conformance. Apparently objections had been considered by the officers, and rejected, but without explanation to the Planning committee who considered the application.

Given the owner’s intention to sell the site, the Committee agreed that this could provide an opportunity to seek a discussion with the new owners and perhaps influence their development plans for mutual benefit. Accordingly Mrs Dales undertook to write to Monkhouse & Co (the selling agent).

**d) HDC response to WSCC Waste Local Plan:** Mr Purcell reported that HDC had sent a final and formal response to the Plan, which he commended to the Committee, to whom it will be circulated.

**4 Treasurer’s Report** Mr Brand reported that the Society’s cash balance stands at £372. On charitable status, he reported that the Society could be disbarred from acceptance due to its level of annual income (Less than £1000). However, the Charity Commissioners can make an exception at their discretion. After discussion it was agreed that Mrs Dale & Mr Brand would meet to submit an application which, if successful, would need to be put to members at the AGM for their decision. A grant of charitable status would require us to amend the Society’s constitution.

**5 Membership** Mr Rogers reported that 21 of the 91 units of membership have yet to pay their subscriptions. It was agreed that personalised reminders would be included in a planned newsletter to be prepared by Mrs Dales and sent to members prior to the AGM.

**6 Planning : Mr Rogers reported on the following planning applications:**

**a) Farebrothers:** The Society has requested that the re-glazing programme should be implemented on a ‘like for like basis to maintain the building’s visual integrity.

**b) Lower Chickens:** The society has sought assurance that the projected development is scheduled for private use. We had also objected to a planned additional access to the A24

**c) Ruckmans Farm :** No objection is being offered by the Society to convert two unlisted barns into dwellings.

**d) Storage building on Warnham Cricket field:** It was agreed that Mr Rogers should lodge objections to this proposal on its inappropriate construction materials and suggest a less obtrusive location.

**e) Tickfold Farm: No objection raised to the planning application.**

**7 A24 Daux to Capel road improvement:** Mr Purcell reported on intensive survey work being undertaken by WSCC. The expected outcome is that the Autumn public consultation will offer a preferred route and options for consideration. The liaison group is due to meet Mr David Hall shortly to receive and discuss a progress report. Mr Purcell advised that commercial sensitivity required specific route information to remain confidential.

**8 Warnham Traffic Management:** Mr Purcell reported that the 20mph core and the 30mph inner ring met the criteria for acceptance by the authorities. The 40mph outer ring falls short, but the police and WSCC transport section have agreed that it could proceed on a trial basis. Implementation awaits the availability of funds, which are targeted at locations with recorded accidents. The development of Warnham Court Farm should yield funds under a Section 106 agreement.

Two specific issues noted were:

the on-going saga of vehicles gaining access along the lanes to the Sands Farm Equestrian Centre, and other properties, for which there is no ideal solution.

the desire of residents of Marches Road residents to secure some local restraint on traffic speeds.

**9 AGM & Autumn Meeting Thursday 23rd October 2003,** after consideration of Committee members' suggestions it was agreed that the designation of the South Downs as a national park would be a suitable subject. Mr Purcell undertook to approach Mr R Overton to identify a speaker who could present an even-handed view of the issues. The availability of a Mr P Harris would also be pursued.

**10 Committee Structure and Recruitment :** It was agreed that Mrs Dales would contact various nominees to meet the urgent need to increase the number of Committee members. It was noted that one or more Officers are close to exceeding their permitted maximum term of office. The issue needs to be addressed.

**11 Correspondence :** Documents received and copies of letters written since the last meeting will be circulated.

## **12 AOB**

Mr Purcell reported that WPC is considering setting up its own website and is deciding whether to pursue any of the following:

- a parish plan, -a parish design statement, -participation in a fact finding appraisal

**Mrs Dutton** reported a lamp post outside the butcher's shop which needs attention to remedy a tilt.

**Mrs Kollmer** reported that a motor vehicle had been reversed into her house in Church Street, causing material damage, but no personal injury

**Mr Elliott** reported the apparent theft of a road sign at the bottom of Knob Hill. The Secretary of the Parish Council has undertaken to secure a replacement. Mrs Thornton reported a similar loss from the former Granny's Lane.

**13. Date of next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 3rd SEPT. 8PM AT SANDS (Coffee at 7.45)**