

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of Committee Meeting No.104 held on 3rd September 2003 at Sands,

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

1 Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Eve Kollmer & Mr M Rogers.

2 Minutes of Meeting No.103 were approved after two minor amendments. The manuscript of the minutes of meeting 102 has been found and deposited on file.

3 Matters Arising:

a) Mrs Dales has written to Rosemary Ronaasen expressing the Society's condolences and appreciation of Vivienne's services.

b)WSCC Waste Local Plan: WSCC has acknowledged receipt of our letter.

c) Warnham Court Farm WN/84/02: Mrs Dales has refrained from writing to Monkhouse & Co until HDC's conditions for granting planning consent have been advised. Also the Parish Council is writing to Monkhouse regarding the sale of the site and to secure a meeting with the purchasers to discuss details of e.g. road and footpath surfaces and other details.

4 Treasurer's Report Mr Brand reported that the Society's cash balance stands at £372.04p. With no further income or expenditure imminent Mr Brand was authorised to close the books for 1.10.02 - 30.9.03. and pass them to Mr R Boud for audit. Mr Brand reported progress made in applying for charitable status on behalf of the Society, and spelt out the onus on trustees of a successful application. Mrs Dales then circulated a paper outlining the process of obtaining benefit of Gift Aid in the event that our application was successful. The paper also summarized the pros and cons for the Society of becoming a charity. The issue was then debated. Mrs Dutton questioned the need for additional income given the Society's continuing solvency. Mr Newman questioned the onus being placed on the Treasurer and the Membership Secretary, the uncertain response from members and opined that it was just not worthwhile. The Committee voted unanimously to discontinue the application and thanked Mrs Dales and Mr Brand for their efforts.

5 Membership Mrs Dales reported that no new members have joined, since the last Committee meeting. The 21 unpaid units are to be sent a letter from Mr Rogers in the next

mailing asking for payment.

6 Planning :

- a) 41 Friday Street: car entry - no objection by Warnham Society**
- b) Maltmayes, Northlands Road - Internal restoration - no objection by WS**
- c) Swan Ken-family Room - no objection by WS**
- d) Lower Chickens - Approved by HDC.**
- e) Farebrothers - approved by HDC**

7 A24 Daux to Capel road improvement: The A24 Liaison has met WSCC team members and submitted comments and queries on the appraised routes. The Group is awaiting replies and hopes to hear shortly the proposals to be put forward for consultation by WSCC & Surrey CC.

8 Warnham Traffic Management : Implementation of the agreed proposals awaits funding which could emanate from a Section 106 agreement relating to the Warnham Court Farm development. Mr Purcell will be organising an exhibition of the proposals in the Village Hall (or Parish Room) on behalf of the joint working party (WPC & WS), so that residents can give their views.

9 AGM & Autumn Meeting Thursday 23rd October 2003. No one has been found to talk on the designation of the South Downs as a National Park. Options are being explored with Mr John Hamer and the Shamley Green Historical Society.

10 Committee Structure and Recruitment:

Mr Purcell, Mr Brand, Mrs Thornton, Mr Rogers, Mrs Dales, Mr Elliott & Mrs Kollmer, seven in total, are willing to stand for election at the AGM. **Mrs Dutton & Mr Newman** are retiring from the Committee, and not seeking re-election. The position of Mr Parker - Smith was not known. The constitutional requirement is for the committee to consist of 8 - 12 members, with the power to co-opt.

Discussion took place within the context of a paper prepared by Mrs Dales and circulated at the Committee meeting. With **Mr Brand** reaching the constitutional 5 year time limit on his service as Treasurer it was agreed to put a special resolution to the AGM to allow him to continue in office for a period of one year if so elected by the committee. Mr Brand said that he would be happy to continue for another year.

Mr Elliott stated that if reappointed to the Committee he would be willing to continue to

take minutes at Committee meetings, but he would be unwilling to take on other committee duties of substance.

Mrs Dales is debarred from continuing as Chairman, having served five years. In any event she wishes to stand down. Discussion revealed that no other committee member to be seeking the Chairman role, at this time, a position which could present the Society with considerable difficulties after the AGM.

The proposal to have a separate post of Secretary did not reach a conclusion. The mood of the meeting was to determine the structure and to make appointments after the AGM.

The meeting was reminded that the Society is the owner of much material for which there has to be a physical home. (Reports, consultation documents, records of meetings and activities, County and District Plans etc..)

11 Recruiting for the Committee To increase the Committee strength to at least eight, and preferably 12, members undertook to nominate Society members to encourage them to stand for election at the AGM. Historically, personal contact has been the best recruiting method.

12 Correspondence: Mrs Dales reported receipt of a letter from Mrs Barrow of Horsham, requesting help in ascertaining certain facts relating to her family history. A reply had been sent.

13 AOB

a) Mrs Dales & Mrs Thornton will represent the Society at the NWSFAS meeting on Monday 8th September

b) Mr Elliott pointed out the poor condition of various finger posts, road and village signs

c) Mrs Dutton reported damage being done by children in the Garden of Remembrance in the Churchyard. She explained that if the hedge was reduced in height the miscreants would be exposed to public view and thus deterred. The PCC will be approached.

d) Mr Purcell explained Marches Road residents' desire for a 40 mph speed limit can only be implemented if their settlement is designated as a hamlet. The name suggested by Mrs Dutton was "Marches Hamlet".

e) Youths are camping in woods adjacent to Tillett's Lane and starting fires which could get out of control.

f) The question of Tesco routing a bus through Warnham is still under discussion.

g) The Queen & Prince Phillip will be visiting Horsham on 24th October to open the Black

Horse Way development

14 Date of next Meeting: MONDAY 6th OCTOBER, 7.30 pm at Sands (Coffee at 7.15)