

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 118th Meeting of the Committee held at Sands on Thursday 21st July 2005
(replaces an earlier version)

Present. Mr Bousfield, Mr Brand, Mrs Dales, Mr Elliott, Mr King, Mr Purcell, Mrs Rees and Mrs Thornton.

Chairman for this meeting: Mr King.

1 Apologies for Absence. Mr Jones, Mr Knight and Mr Rogers. Mr King reported that Mr Rogers will not be seeking re-election to the Committee at the AGM so someone will be required to undertake his Membership role.

2. The agenda circulated by Mr King was approved.

3. Minutes of the 117th Meeting were approved after two amendments and signed by Mr King. Mr Elliott agreed to be custodian of the Society's key documents file which includes minutes of meetings and the Constitution.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 Gatwick Extension: Mr Purcell has received an acknowledgement to his letter to BAA concerning the second runway proposal.

4.2. Warnham Court Farmhouse: Mrs Thornton reported that a picket fence has been installed

4.3 Correspondence: Mrs Dales issued a file of documents from the CPRE for circulation within the Committee.

5. Treasurer's Report. Mrs Rees reported that the bank balance stands at £417.27.

6. Membership: Mrs Rees reported, on behalf of Mr Rogers, that one couple had paid their annual subscription. She expressed some concern at rising costs. After discussion the matter remained unresolved.

7. Planning Matters (Mr Purcell):

7.1 No. 5 Friday St.: HDC has placed a Tree Preservation Order on a sycamore tree which the property owner had sought to remove and to which the Parish Council had no objection.

7.2 Warnham Station: Network Rail intends to construct a light controlled surface pedestrian crossing at the level crossing, removing the need for pedestrians and

cyclists to use the underground passage.

7.3 No. 33 Church St. The Society's letter of objection to the construction of a hard stand, with access from Church St., has been acknowledged. HDC has yet to consider the application.

7.4 The Sussex Oak application to extend licensing hours:

- the raising of a petition by local residents who are against the proposal was noted
- as was a request by Mr Purcell for an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council
- and the outcome of an informal meeting of the landlords and some local residents
- taking the above into account and wanting to ensure reasonable tranquillity in the long term from any undue extended opening

the Committee authorised Mr Bousfield to write to the Licensing Authority making these points:

a. The Sussex Oak is a well run establishment with a good record in not causing public nuisance

b. However, it was agreed that the proposal, if implemented, could substantially reduce the present tranquillity, so it should be rejected.

Whatever the landlords' intention to make limited use of extended hours, no guarantee can be given on their more extensive use in future, by them or future owners.

c. The Society would support an application which maintained the existing hours, terms and conditions.

8. Parish Plan and Design Statement (Mr Purcell): The Steering Committee has prepared a draft statement and questionnaire, incorporating the Society's design input, with the help of an HDC specialist. Documents are due to be distributed to all Parish households in October, some prior simplification may be needed.

9. Traffic Management Scheme (Mr Purcell): WSCC's draft plan for roads having a 20 mph speed limit was displayed. Additional signage will be needed, to be offset by the removal of redundant signs. A limited form of pedestrian crossing in Church St. will be introduced. An exhibition in the Parish Room on 9th & 10th September will allow residents to comment. Committee members agreed to distribute leaflets publicising the event.

Mrs Dales will obtain a copy of "Streets For All" from English Heritage, which showcases good design in street furniture, road signs, etc., for circulation to the Committee.

10. A 24 (Mr Purcell):SERA is reviewing road priorities within the Region. WSCC has put major work on the A24 in abeyance. It was agreed that this item would be removed from future agendas until further notice.

11. Autumn Meeting and AGM (Mrs Dales).It is scheduled for Thursday 3rd November,subject to confirmation. After discussion it was agreed that:

- Mrs Dales would approach David Bridges to speak on a nature topic. If unavailable he may be able to name a contact at Warnham Nature Reserve to act as speaker
- Mr Bousfield would ask Jonathan Lucas if he would be willing to speak on deer management at a future meeting
- Logistic arrangements should be agreed at the next Committee meeting.

12. Any Other Business:

12.1 FSAS:The next Committee meeting of the NW Sussex branch is on Monday 5th September. A volunteer to attend will be sought at our next meeting

12.2 The Church St. telephone box is to be refurbished by BT

12.3 Warnham Lodge Farm, Mayes Lane. Low level wooden posts have been installed on the verge opposite the farm entrance, representing a hazard to motorists and are seemingly unauthorised. Mr Purcell will investigate.

13. Next Meeting: Thursday 18th August at Sands, 7.15 for 7.30.Mr Bousfield agreed to be Chairman, Mrs Dales was thanked for her continuing hospitality and Mr King for chairing the meeting.