

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 124th Meeting of the Committee held at 7 School Hill on 11 May 2006

Present:- Mr. Bousfield, Mrs. Dales, Mr. King, Mr. Knight, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Rees, Mrs. Stockley

Chairman for this meeting - Mr. King

1. Apologies:

Apologies for absence:- received from Mr. Elliott and Mr. Jones

2. Agenda:

The Agenda for this meeting presented by Mr. King was agreed with a few minor amendments.

3. Minutes of the 1234 Meeting of the Committee:

(i) Minutes were approved and signed

(ii) Matters arising: Mr. King had written to the WSCC on the Waste Local Plan (now West Sussex Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF)) and received a formal reply outlining the Council's planned programme of future consultation and activity.

4. Treasurer's report:

(i) Mrs. Rees reported that £490-35p. had been banked and that a further £28 had subsequently been received.

(ii) Insurance – It was agreed that Mrs. Rees will pay the annual insurance fee to the Sussex Amenity Society; Mr Elliott holds relevant documents.

5. Membership:

Mr Jones had informed Mrs. Dales that membership currently stood at 38 joint, 14 individual and 1 life member – only slightly down on last year but with a few more expected. Mr Jones had commented that the Society's website could be more informative in order to attract new members. Mrs Dales suggested that an advert be placed in the Warbler in order to encourage new membership especially in light of Phase 2 of the Parish Action Plan requiring volunteers to implement some if the recommendation that will involve the Society.

6. Planning:

(i) Mr Purcell reported on his attendance at the West Horsham Development workshop on 6 May. HDC had understandably anticipated ultimate agreement to the scheme by hiring

EDOR (international planning consultants) and other specialist consultants to prepare a scheme for 2000 new dwellings at BBH.(Wickhurst Lane). Likely density planned at 40 per hectare (18 per acre). Flood levels areas are excluded so approx. 25 % of overall site area will not be used for housing. The professionalism of the initial planning including landscaping, walkways etc. was impressive. Social housing is likely to predominate with new access from the A24. This tentative masterplan will be exhibited on 22 May but will be subject to the outcome of the Inspector's Inquiry in 2006 and to a public inquiry in 2007. Two private developers will each be financing and building 1000 homes; HDC will act as project manager.

(ii)

Mr. King raised the current status of SCC's plan for incinerator at Capel (Clockhouse brickworks); no firm information - a public enquiry is likely.

(iii)

WSSC's waste local plan is now shelved, being replaced by MWDF (see 3(ii) above). Consultation likely to commence in November '06.

(iv)

Visit to Portsmouth Incinerator Plant (MERF). A paper was presented by Mr. Bousfield and Mrs. Stockley following their visit on 29 March. Plant was highly efficient, but major concern was the necessity for a very high volume of extremely large vehicles to and from the site virtually every day of the year. Clearly this would create pollution and noise nuisance if such a plant were constructed near Warnham.

(v) Current Planning Applications:

(a) Satellite dish in Friday Street – application rejected.

(b) Cider Mill Farm – proposed new entrance in Threestyles Road. After discussion, no justification for objecting to application at this time.

(c) The buying out and reselling on by WSSC of housing property in Warnham possibly blighted by the long term saga of realignment of the A24 was discussed.

(d) Landfill site at Langhurst Wood - Biffa has applied for a slower programme of "fill-rate" as less waste was now being received!

(e) Kingsfold and Sands Farm mobile telephone masts – applications still outstanding at both sites.

(f) Orchard House Care Home – some modifications proposed to increase nursing facilities.

7. Parish Plan: –

Mrs Dales and Mr. Purcell reported that the PC had approved the final Plan (P.P.) submitted by the Steering Group. HDC's approval will be required prior to wide circulation of a presentation document across the parish in the Autumn. WS will now be responsible for production of the Design Statement and will then be able to monitor future planning applications more effectively to ensure that they adhere to the Design Statement. W.S. is identified in the P.P. as being co-responsible for the implementation of some of the designated issues Members' support will be required to assist in undertaking these various tasks. Some funding may be available.

8. Traffic Management:-

(i) The agreed village 20mph scheme awaits finance released from sale of all Wyvern units before implementation by WSCC.

(ii) Support by PC of new Safe Driver/Safe Lanes scheme will hopefully stand parish in good stead for future introduction of 40mph limits in outlying areas – BBH Road and Marches Road being cited as prime examples of roads which would benefit from 40 mph speed limits.

9. West Sussex Design Commission:

Mrs. Stockley reported on a meeting, poorly attended, held in Horsham on 20 April at which John Kilfold, Commission Chairman, spelled out the benefits to the community of good architectural and planning design. Worthy aspirations but the Commission appears to have little clout over the competing commercial, financial and political organisations inevitably involved.

10. Spring Meeting on 6 May:

"Birds, Butterflies and Bluebells" In spite of some rain, an informative walk was much enjoyed across Warnham's by-ways led by David Bridges. Tea at the Tower was kindly provided by Mr. and Mrs. King. It was agreed that the Treasurer would arrange to donate £30 from the WS to Mr. Bridges' Butterfly Conservation charity.

11. Autumn Meeting:

Mr. Bousfield will confirm that Mr. Jonathan Lucas is booked to give a talk for approx. 40 minutes after the AGM on 2 November (7.30 for 8pm start.).

12. AOB:

(i) Mrs. Stockley attended a meeting in Horsham held by Sussex police. Local crime

statistics updates were presented. C.I. Alan Chambers praised the value of Police Community Service Officers–Warnham’s PCSO Hammond also covers Rudgwick, Slinfold, BBH and Itchingfield.

(ii) Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. - AGM was on 10 May; next meeting to be on 3 July (n.b. corrected date). Mr. Bousfield or Mr. Elliott may be able to attend and will liaise with Mrs. Dales on details.

(iii) Gatwick-It was agreed that the Treasurer would pay the annual subscription to GACC, now due.

(iv) The PC has given permission for a small family-style funfair to be held on the Village Green – summer date to be fixed.

(v) Evidently both Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed had “invaded” the village - to be eradicated if at all possible. Photographs should be put in the Warbler to help in identification.

13. Date of next meeting:

7.15 for 7.30pm., Monday, 24 July at the Towers, Northwood Road at the kind invitation of Mr. King.

Mr. King was thanked for chairing the meeting and Mr. Purcell was thanked for his kind hospitality.