

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 128th Meeting of the Committee held at 7 School Hill on Thursday 14th December 2006

Present: Mr Bousfield, Mr Brand, Mr Elliott, Mr Jones, Mr King, Mr Knight, Mr Purcell, Mrs Rees and Mrs Stockley

Chairman for this Meeting: Mr King

1. Apologies for Absence: None
2. The Agenda proposed by Mr King was accepted
3. The Minutes of the 127th Meeting were approved
4. Appointment of Officers: The following were appointed:

Joint Chairmen: Mr Bousfield and Mr King

Correspondence Secretary Mr Purcell

Treasurer: Mrs Rees

Membership: Mr Jones

Minutes: Mr Elliott

Attendees at FSAS meetings. Mr Bousfield and Mr Elliott

5. Treasurer's Report (Mrs Rees): The bank balance at 19th November was £570.73. The Mandate for adding Mr Elliott as a signatory will be completed by the designated Officers, authorised by the Committee's assent to the resolutions in paras. 5.1-5.4 of HSBC's Mandate form

6. Membership (Mr Jones): Mr Jones agreed to approach the person who prepares the "Welcome Pack" for newcomers to the Parish with a view to including an invitation to join the Society.

Life Membership: The Constitution makes no provision for the granting of life membership, either by purchase or in recognition of service. Also, there are other paragraphs which warrant review. Mr Brand advised that the Constitution was available from him on-line. Mr Jones agreed to carry out a review and circulate it to members for comment. It was recognised that any amendments would require the approval of Society members at a General Meeting (Para 14)

7. Updating of Web Site: It was agreed that Mr Jones would review the Society's field on the village web site and recommend how the Society could use it to best advantage

8. Planning Matters:

8.1 LDF (Mr Purcell). The Inspectors' Report is due in early 2007. If HDC's Core Strategy is approved it will be the first in the country to have done so. Meanwhile, master planning is proceeding on the housing development at Broadbridge Heath. Mr Purcell reported on his attendance at a meeting on traffic management proposals for the development which he believes will result in increased rat running through Warnham. While his concerns have been noted he is not convinced they will materially affect the final plan which foresees the A24 as an arterial road with lights controlled access. The next major milestone will be a public consultation in 2008

8.2 West Sussex Minerals & Waste Development Framework (Mr Purcell): BIFFA are planning major technical installations on their waste processing site at Warnham. The Committee agreed that they did not represent an unacceptable visual or aural intrusion. However, they were concerned about the volume of lorry traffic to and from the site, including the proposed warehouse, estimated at 1000 vehicles per day. Mr Purcell will write to HDC expressing our misgivings. A new Waste Plan is due shortly from WSCC.

8.3 The brick wall on a Friday St. property (previous minute 64) is being considered by HDC

8.4 Electric power lines are being replaced around the village with single lines to reduce damage by tree branches, they are also more aesthetically pleasing

9. Parish Plan and Design Statement (Mr Purcell):A copy of a draft colour version of the Plan was circulated to general approval. HDC are likely to give their approval making it available for distribution within the Parish in the Spring, when the Parish Plan Steering Group will disband. The next phase,the preparation of the Parish Design Statement will then begin, led by the Society as previously agreed

10.Traffic Management Scheme (Mr Purcell):Work on the detailed design is proceeding

11. The Spring Meeting (Mr King):Mr Hamer has agreed that this will be a joint meeting with the Warnham Historical Society (WHS) on a cost-sharing basis. Mr Bousfield agreed to secure publicity in April's Warbler. With the Hall and speaker booked and the date fixed, logistical details will be determined at a later meeting

12. Possible Amalgamation with Warnham Historical Society There was general agreement that a merger could bring benefits to both Societies. It was felt that any threatened dilution of our efforts could be overcome in practice. The Horsham Society was cited as operating successfully as an amenity and historical society. Mr King agreed to carry the matter forward with Mr Hamer. He hopes to obtain a copy of the WHS's Constitution for Mr Jones to include in his review, see Minute 6 above

13.Any Other Business:

13.1 Mr Purcell reported that WPC are working with Sussex police to introduce within Warnham the use of portable vehicle speed detection devices by volunteers, Mrs Rees and Mrs Stockley agreed to volunteer

13.2 Mr Bousfield circulated a letter from Mrs Dales expressing her deepest thanks for the gift presented at the AGM. Mr Brand circulated charming photos of the presentation,there was general regret that the WSCT had not published the photo and text provided by Mr King. Mr Lucas advised that he had enjoyed giving the talk to the Autumn Meeting and was grateful for the gift of wine from the Society. The Meeting was adjudged a success in terms of attendance and audience response

14. Date and Venue of Next Meeting:Thursday 15th February 2007at The Tower, Northlands Rd.,7.15 for 7.30, Mr Bousfield will chair. Mr Purcell was thanked for his hospitality, Mrs Stockley for the wine and Mr King for chairing the meeting