

THE WARNHAM, SOCIETY

Minutes of the 137th Committee Meeting held at Hawthorns, Knob Hill on Thursday 17th April 2008

Present: Mrs Bridges, Mr Elliott, Mr Hamer, Mr King, Mr Purcell & Mrs Rees

Chairman of this Meeting. Mr King

1. Apologies for Absence. Mr Brand & Mr Knight

2. The Agenda proposed by Mr King was approved

3. Minutes of Meeting 136 were approved

- Matter Arising: Mr King agreed to advise Mr Hodgson that the Ancient Woodlands Survey is a matter for individual initiative so is not one for the Society.

- The Society has been invited to the AGM of the FSAS, Mr King will decide whether he will attend

4. Treasurer's Report. The bank balance stands at £373.72. Mrs Bridges will arrange the transfer of the WHS funds to the Society's account. Mrs Rees will determine the account options for the enhanced funds

5. Membership Secretary's Report. Mrs Bridges will contact selected WS & WHS Members, see Minute 5 of last Meeting

6. Annual Parish Meeting, 31st March 2008. Mr King initiated a discussion on the administration of the Warnham Village Hall. He established that the Scheme of 5th November 1971, effectively the constitution, stands unamended. An AGM of the Hall's Committee of Management has been scheduled for the 4th June 2008. The Committee was concerned that the chosen date allowed insufficient time to secure publicity in the Warbler to notify Hall users. Mr King will ask Gerry Benham to arrange a feature in May's Warbler before the copy closure date of 19th April. Mrs Rees will ask Bernie Butler to maximise publicity among Hall users. If sufficient publicity cannot be achieved the Committee's view is that the AGM should possibly be postponed. Mr King will speak to Mr Knight about standing for the Hall's Committee, representing The Warnham Society

7. Planning:

- PADC/08/0026. The Standards Board is conducting an enquiry into a complaint by one of the applicants alleging a failure by a WPC member, Mrs Dales, to declare an interest while the application was discussed at a WPC meeting. The inspector who interviewed Mrs Dales has spoken to Mr King by 'phone on the Society's modus operandi. It would appear that this event has been triggered by HDC incorrectly sending documents to Mrs Dales in the mistaken belief that she is an officer of the Society, these papers came to the attention of the Inspector. Mr King could not disclose the content of his discussions with the Inspector as they are confidential. He expects the Board to issue a report of its findings, he will advise the Committee as appropriate. Whilst the Committee supported Mr King's co-operation with the enquiry it saw no logic in the Society's involvement given that Mrs Dales stood down from the Committee in mid-2006

- HDC has acknowledged our response to the proposed changes at the Station Road bus depot

- A 2nd draft of the Parish Design Statement is being prepared for review by the PDS Steering Committee

- The finishing touches are due to be made soon to the traffic management road works in the village centre. WSCC will carry out a survey to determine the effect of the changes. Mr Purcell also reported the introduction of Highway Rangers by WSCC, their function being to undertake minor improvements to pavements & roadways etc

- HDC will declare on 1st May which option it has accepted for major roads within the West of Horsham Development

- WPC has written to WSCC expressing its concern at the traffic implications if BIFFA extend their ball-milling capacity beyond that currently approved

8. Warnham PO Closure: Mr King explained the difficulties he was experiencing in his

correspondence with the Chairman of Royal Mail. If he remains dissatisfied he was authorised to complain to the Information Commissioner

9. Spring Meeting: The following arrangements were agreed or noted, additional to those previously agreed: - Mr Purcell showed an eye-catching poster - Mr Elliott to advise Mr King on provider of hall keys - Mrs Bridges & Mrs Rees will staff a membership table - Mr Hamer will give the vote of thanks - Mr King will pay the speaker a £30 fee - ALL to assist with putting furniture out and away

10. Membership of Committee and Officer Appointments; Members were reminded of the need to secure candidates for co-option to the Committee. Mr Hamer was appointed Joint Chairman

11. Any Other Business: - Mr Elliott & Mr King will continue to determine the extent of any indemnity cover for legal action taken against us in our FSAS policy - Mr Purcell reported that the Website is being updated - Mr Purcell put recent correspondence on circulation

12. Date & Venue of Next Meeting. Thursday 12th June 2008 at 7 School Hill, 715 for 7.30pm, Mr Hamer to chair, provisionally. Mr King was thanked for chairing this meeting and Mr Elliott was thanked for his hospitality