

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 139th Committee Meeting held at The Tower, Warnham Lodge on Thursday 24th July 2008

Present. Mr Brand Mrs Bridges, Mr Elliott, Mr Hamer, Mr King, Mr Knight & Mr Purcell

Chairman of this Meeting. Mr Hamer

1. Apologies for Absence: Mrs Rees

2. The Agenda proposed by Mr King was approved

3. Minutes of Meeting 138

- the Minutes were approved with one amendment

- Matters Arising:

- a West of Horsham Development. HDC has produced an amended junction design for the Option 1 road layout which, if acceptable to WSCC, could be authorised by HDC, and not the expected Option 2. The WPC and the Society prefer Option 2 as its adoption would mean fewer adverse traffic consequences for the parish

- b. Warnham PO Closure. Mr King will write to Royal Mail seeking the response to a previous letter which the Information Commissioner states he should receive

- c. Correspondence. Mr Purcell reported that the County Local Committee has funds available to finance worthy small scale local projects, eg equipment for sports groups

4 Treasurer's Report. In Mrs Rees's absence the inclusion of The WHS funds in our account has yet to be confirmed. The GACC subscription has been renewed

5. Membership. The AGM mailing to Members will include a reminder that subscriptions are due in October and can be paid at the meeting. The recruitment of new members will remain on the agenda

6. Planning Matters (Mr Purcell):

- a. The WPC is pursuing with HDC its concern at the Conservation Officer's decision on the re-roofing of Knob Cottage and seeking clarification of its approach to planning applications within the Conservation Area

- b. Traffic Management. An audit group has examined the recent changes, some anomalies have been identified for attention. A local resident's concerns were also raised. WSCC are due to carry out an "after survey" in October WPC will continue to seek vehicle width restrictions being applied to more Parish roads to make them safer.

- c. Parish Design Statement. A draft is out for consultation

- d. Standards Board Investigation: HDC's Standards Committee will consider the report on 30th July 2008

7. Minerals & Waste Development Framework. WSCC's draft strategy was discussed at a recent

consultative meeting attended by Mr Purcell who concluded that the process was unsatisfactory and unlikely to yield useful outcomes. He suggested that we should await the publication of the updated Framework before re-engaging with this issue, the Committee agreed

8. Warnham Village Hall: Mr Knight presented a comprehensive review of developments since the AGM on 4th June which include:

- the composition of the new VH committee and its operation
- the establishment of 4 sub-committees covering Finance, Fundraising,

Maintenance and Building Development

- progressing proposals to physically upgrade the hall's structure
- - improving administration by for example, publishing minutes and circulating accounts in good time
- physical improvements made to the hall by committee members
- an induction course for new charity trustees
- the next committee meeting is in September
- the need to develop effective team-working in a changed organisation with a new and expanded membership

The Committee welcomed progress made to date. However, it would like to be advised on how WPC discharges its role as Custodian Trustee in line with paras. 4.1-4.3 of the Constitution.

9 Warnham Nature Conservation Project. Mr D. Bridges, a WS member, has identified two fields off Tilletts Lane hosting Dingy & Grizzled Skipper Butterflies, one or both of which could become nature reserves. The landowner, Mr J Lucas, is enthusiastic and the present lease(s) expires next year, so it's a timely moment if action is to be taken. There would be operating costs, as well as leasing costs, well beyond the resources of the Society. However, there are local and national funding sources, public & private, from whom help may be sought. The Committee expressed its support for the project and asked Mr Purcell to carry it forward with Mr Bridges.

10. Condition of WW2 War Memorial: WPC is arranging for it to be cleaned

11 Indemnity Insurance: The Committee wants to establish whether it is open to being sued for damages, e.g. by a disappointed planning applicant, in the course of carrying out its Constitutional remit, and what action may be necessary. Mr Elliott will speak to the FSAS, with whom we're insured, to determine whether any member society has been sued and what protection is afforded by our policy. The outcome of the Standards Board hearing, see 6.d above, will be reviewed for its possible operational effects & risks

12. AGM & Autumn Meeting, Friday 24th October 2008 in the Village Hall:

- Committee & Officers: Those present agreed to stand for re-election, Mrs Rees is not expected to seek re-election. In this event Mr Brand agreed to serve as Treasurer after the AGM. Mr Alan Ramsay will be asked if he's willing to be nominated for election to the Committee.

- Topic & Speaker. Mrs Bridges will invite Sam. Bayley of Warnham Nature Reserve to speak on parish flora & fauna, early confirmation welcome. Mr Purcell will speak to Paul Sturgess about a possible short presentation on the website

- Publicity & Logistics. Notification of Meeting in Sept. & Oct. Warblers (RP)

:Posters (RP)

:Annual Report (JH/BK)

:Audited Accounts (SR)

:Minutes of 2007 AGM (GE)

:AGM Agenda (JH / BK)

:Meeting Licensing Requirements for Serving Wine (RP)

:Co-ordinating Assembly of Documents for Distribution to Members with Meeting Notifications, Next Committee Meeting

:All to assist as needed

:Other Logistics - Next Committee Meeting

13.Any Other Business:

a. Mr Purcell reported that the PCC issues to new residents booklet, Welcome to Warnham, in which the Society is mentioned. The organiser has agreed to include a copy of the Parish Plan with future copies. Mr Purcell will endeavour to obtain details of recent recipients on an ongoing basis so they can be advised about the Society

b. Warnham Website. Mr Purcell sought assistance in expanding the website to include a bibliography of Warnham books, pamphlets etc., also photographs. Members undertook to help

c. It was agreed to take no action in respect of the fascia on the shopfront of the newly opened hairdresser for which planning permission had not been sought

14. Date & Venue of Next Meeting. Thursday 18th September 2008 at The Banks, Bailing Hill, Mr Hamer to chair. Mr Hamer was thanked for chairing this meeting and Mr King for his hospitality