

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 141st Committee Meeting held at 7 School Hill on Wednesday 12th November 2008

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

Chairman of this Meeting. Mr King

1. Apologies for Absence. Mr Knight

2. The Agenda proposed by Mr King was agreed, with one addition

3. Election of Officers, 2008 - 2009:

- Joint Chairmen. Mr Hamer & Mr King
- Treasurer: Mr Brand
- Membership Secretary. Mrs Bridges
- Correspondence Secretary: Mr Purcell
- Minute Secretary. Mr Elliott

A card signed by Committee members will be sent to Mrs Rees thanking her for her services as Treasurer and to the Committee, GE

Mr Purcell agreed to replace Mrs Rees as a cheque signatory. RP

4. Minutes of Meeting No. 140, 18th Sept. 2008

- they were approved and signed by Mr King
- Matter Arising. Mr Purcell reported that the meeting, mentioned in Minute 10, on the Housing Needs Survey did not take place
- Correspondence. Mr Purcell put some items on circulation

5. Treasurer's Report: Mr Brand reviewed expenditure issues in the 2007/8 accounts, including the loss on the year. Cash at bank stands at £ 1174.69. Mr King initiated a discussion on possible ways of reducing or avoiding future losses, its conclusions/observations were as follows:

- a Payments to the FoSAS amount to £ 167.50, of which £ 135 is for insurance. Mr Elliott is to report back on his correspondence with our insurers aimed at giving a better understanding of the cover provided and its relevance to our needs. Renewal due 01.04.2009
- b. Village Hall hire fees may rise, Mr Knight will advise
- c. The benefits to the Society of the CPRE Sub. were challenged, to be resolved at next meeting
- d. Continuation of the GACC Sub was agreed
- e. Increase in Members Subs. The need to break even, given our cash balance, was questioned but not resolved. This issue was linked with the benefits derived from Society membership, in essence two meetings per year and the less obvious endeavours of the Committee. The possibility of a third public meeting was mooted, see Minute 12

6. Membership Secretary's Report. Mrs Bridges reported 8 single and 17 double renewals at the AGM.

Members who have given email details and have not paid will receive an electronic reminder

7. Planning Matters (Mr Purcell): a Traffic Management. WSCC has issued data arising from its survey of traffic speeds and volumes following the recent changes in the village centre. Analysis is incomplete, disappointingly speeds are little changed but peak time volumes are down 25%. The problems of using SID were discussed, as were the means of deterring the unnecessary use of lanes by HGVs.

Increasing the use of Width Restrictions is unlikely to happen because of its low priority on the WSCC work list, in spite of the best efforts of WPC

b. West of Horsham Development. HDC has adopted the Option 1 road layout, which is less favourable to Warnham and is not preferred by the developer. The impact, if any of the increasing economic turmoil has yet to be seen

c. Mr J. Lucas wants to extend the area of his land devoted to deer, consequently a footpath between Warnham and the old A24 would need to be re-aligned. He is consulting WPC. The Committee agreed in principle to the proposal. Mr Purcell suggested that the rerouted path could be upgraded to a cycle track so meeting an objective in the Parish Plan, see p. 17. An entry from Bell Rd. was likely to be needed. The Committee endorsed this suggestion

d. The Parish Design Statement. The PDS has been approved by HDC's SPAG, the Cabinet will consider it on 20th November. If approved, it will achieve the status of a Supplementary Planning Document from 1st December 2008. The Steering Committee wants to have it printed in colour to match the Parish Plan, which may present a challenge. The Steering Committee has to finalise selective distribution and publicity within the parish so that anyone interested can readily access a copy

8. Standards Board Investigation: A draft letter to the Chief Executives of the Standards Board and HDC was tabled by Mr King. In it he expressed the serious concerns felt by the Committee in respect of two issues, the lack of natural justice accorded to Mr Purcell and the failures of the Investigating Officer. Various amendments were agreed which Mr King will circulate in a revised draft for comment/approval.

Mr Elliott reported that the FoSAS had written to the Standards Board and HDC regarding issues raised by the Investigation, a copy of HDC's response is being sought, the Board has not yet replied

9. Minerals & Waste Development Framework. Mr King reported that WSCC will continue to keep us informed

10. Warnham Village Hall: Mr King gave a progress report on behalf of Mr Knight outlining recent developments. Mr Purcell tabled a drawing showing proposed structural changes to the Hall, an initiative welcomed by the Committee. However, there were questions raised about some of the proposed changes. The Committee hoped that a survey of users' needs would result in an agreed written specification leading to design options for further discussion. Mr Purcell will communicate our observations to Mr Knight.

11 Warnham Nature Conservation Project. Awaiting a response from Mr Lucas

12. Meetings in 2009. It was agreed that Mr Purcell would reserve the Village Hall for two Thurs/Fri evenings in May & October. Ideas for a subject /speaker will be welcome at the next meeting. The question of a third meeting remains on the table. Mr Elliott advised that the Society was inaugurated at a public meeting on 29th March 1985, The first Committee meeting was held on the 11th April 1985 (in attendance Mr R. H. Purcell). Our Silver Jubilee in 2010 may warrant a special celebration

13. Any Other Business: None

14. Date & Venue of Next Meeting. Thursday 8th January 2009 at The Tower, Northlands Rd., 7.15 for 7.30, Mr Hamer to chair. Mr King was thanked for chairing the meeting and Mr Purcell for his hospitality