

## THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 148th Meeting held at Hawthorns on Wednesday 28th October 2009

Present: Mr Brand; Mrs Bridges; Mr Elliott; Mr King & Mr Purcell

Chairman of this Meeting: Mr King

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr Hamer
2. Mr King's proposed Agenda was approved
3. Minutes of Last Meeting, 16th September 2009, No.147
  - Minutes were approved
  - Matters Arising: None
  - Correspondence: See Minutes 9 & 12
4. Appointment of Officers: The current incumbents were confirmed in their positions. It was agreed that Mrs Bridges will invite Mr Thompson of Church St., Society Member, to the next Committee Meeting, Thursday 17th December 2009, as an observer with a view to his co-option to the Committee, subject to mutual agreement
5. Treasurer's Report: Mr Brand reported that £130 was taken at the AGM in subs. and donations. The bank balance stands at £1135.18. Mr Elliott reported that the donations for wine & juice at the AGM funded the wine gifts to Mr Slyfield & Mr Boud and the wine etc. served at the AGM
6. Membership Secretary's Report: Mrs Bridges reported that 6 single & 15 double memberships were paid at the AGM. It was agreed that Mr Purcell would write to those Members who paid their subs. last year but were not at the AGM reminding them that subs are now due. It was later agreed, see Minute 12, that the letters should feature the Society's scheduled Meetings for 2010, incorporating our Silver Jubilee
7. Nature Conservation Project ( Mr Purcell ): The landowner and the tenants have agreed terms allowing the use of the designated fields as a nature reserve. Mr Purcell is to meet Mr Bridges and his naturalist colleagues to determine further action and to agree heads of agreement for a Management Plan He has drafted a Memorandum of Understanding for the practical operation of the reserve which needs to be agreed between the landowner, the tenants and the Reserve's champion. Current thinking is that a body should be convened made up of Members of the Society and others wanting to support the project. This body could become affiliated to the Society yielding mutual benefit. Committee Members willing to serve should advise Mr Purcell. A memorable name is needed for this body
8. Planning Matters:
  - Signs Deterring HGVs: The work is on WSCC's lengthy job list and will be done in due course
  - Commercial Sponsorship of Roundabouts: The Committee was against this proposal as sponsors' signs could distract drivers' attention
  - HDC Core Strategy Review: It was agreed, after discussion, that a 5 point paper proposed by Mr Purcell should form our response to HDC, Mr King to action before the month end
  - Mr Purcell reported that Warnham's Conservation Area does not have an Article 4 Direction making it difficult to enforce planning requirements therein. WPC

has applied to HDC to receive this Direction. A decision is awaited from HDC's Planning Committee

- Waste Management: WSCC's Planning Committee has visited Biffa's Brookhurst Wood site, their planning application is due for decision shortly

- Recent Arrival of Travellers on land which they own at Northlands Corner.

Local residents are currently negotiating the purchase of this land from the owners

- The Society has objected to an application to retain a mobile home at Long Wells Vineyard on Marches Rd.

- Mr King will suggest to WPC that it should be proactive in taking steps to identify sites that risk unwanted occupation

- The Society will not object to the proposed redevelopment of premises at the former Animal Sanctuary in Mayes Lane

9. FoSAS NW Sussex Group: A communication from the Group raises a number of questions about its future operation, Mr King & Mr Elliott will respond.

10. Warnham Village Hall: Mr King will send the Joint Chairmen's letter on the Society's representation on the Village Hall Committee to its Chairman with copies to Mrs Farquhar & Mr Benham with a covering note

11. 25th Anniversary Projects: Mr King will contact Mr Pritchard-Jones regarding the possible republication of Ron Muggerridge's book. Members agreed to undertake local walks for inclusion in the proposed free guide

12. Society Meetings in 2010: It was agreed to continue with Spring & Autumn Meetings and to have a summer nature walk. Preferred meeting dates are 6/13 May and 14/21 October, Mr Purcell to arrange. The Spring meeting should be a 25 year celebration. Mrs Bridges undertook to arrange a Warnham themed evening for the Spring Meeting. It was agreed that Dr J Pennington who has offered arrange of talks should be advised by Mr Purcell that we shall retain her offer on file

13. Any Other Business:

- Mr Brand reported that a traffic accident quoted in the WSCT as happening about the Great Daux roundabout actually happened 300 yards south of The Dog and Duck on the A24

- Mr King & Mr Elliott reported on their attendance at a briefing by the Army Presentation Team at Christ's Hospital

- Mr Elliott reported the prevalence of EU financial support for public projects noticed on a recent visit to France

14. Date & Venue of Next Meeting: Thursday 17th December 2009 at 7 School Hill, 7.15 for 7.30, Mr Hamer to chair. Mr King was thanked for chairing this Meeting and Mr Elliott for his hospitality