

## THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 149th Meeting held at 7 School Hill on Thursday 10th December 2009

Present: Mr Brand; Mr Elliott; Mr Hamer; Mr King; Mr Knight & Mr Purcell  
- In attendance: Mr Jeremy Thompson, who was welcomed to the Meeting

Chairman of this Meeting: Mr Hamer, whose proposed Agenda was approved

1. Apologies for Absence: Mrs Bridges

2. Minutes of Meeting No. 148 held on 28th October 2009

- Minutes were approved
- Matters Arising: None

3. Correspondence: Mr Purcell put recently received documents on circulation

4. Treasurer's Report: Mr Brand reported that the bank balance stands at £ 1046.17. Mr Boud, our Honorary Auditor, has expressed his thanks for our gift of wine, a token of our appreciation of his valued service

5. Membership Secretary's Report: Mr Purcell reported on behalf of Mrs Bridges that they had mailed 30 members who had not renewed their subscriptions as yet. A remarkable 27 renewed, perhaps facilitated by the use of a reply slip? There are now 81 paid up Members. It was explained that the formal welcome of newcomers to the village is done by the Church whose representatives have been unwilling to provide names & addresses of newcomers

6. The Parish Council: The PC element of the Council Tax is not expected to increase for 2010-2011.

7. Village Hall ( Mr Knight ): The Planning Application for the Hall's redevelopment is on hold while the route of a sewer pipe is determined. Meanwhile the hall floors are being refurbished, as are the ladies' loos and the kitchen floor. Externally, improvements to lighting and the feasibility of CCTV cameras are being explored. The performance of the Committee's financial advisers is being reviewed. Otherwise, maintenance and cleaning are ongoing. The Committee expressed its satisfaction at the overall progress being made, including improved operational administration.

Mr King undertook to reopen our request to be recognised as a user group in consultation with Mr Knight

8. Broadbridge Heath Planning Application: Countryside Properties have submitted a Planning Application, PA, for a development west of the A 24. WPC has expressed its concerns which relate to traffic impact on the parish in the form of a thorough, detailed analysis by Mr Purcell. At its heart is a failure in the PA to address the impact of unwanted increased traffic flows in parish lanes and minor roads even though HDC's Master Plan mandates such a consideration. This concern will form the principal objection to the PA in the Society's submission to HDC prepared by the Joint Chairmen.

Mr Purcell explained how new road layouts and increased signalisation would impact on traffic flows and speeds, the A 24 would become more urbanised, inevitably

9. Long Wells Vineyard Planning Application: It was agreed that the Society would object to the revised application as it differs little from its predecessor. The letter will be written by Mr Hamer, Mr King having declared an interest which excluded his participation in deciding the Society's response

10. Nature Conservation Project ( Mr Purcell ): Good progress is being made on all fronts, characterised by enthusiastic participation. An article in a forthcoming Warbler will update a wider Warnham audience on progress and future plans, as well as offering opportunities to participate in the project. Grants from WPC and other bodies should suffice to meet essential costs

11. Footpath Map ( Mr Purcell ): Various walks within the Parish have been identified. Mr Hamer, Mr Purcell and Mr Elliott agreed to meet to identify relevant text for the map, advice to walkers, signage etc and the final format. Publication costs will be borne by WPC

12. Spring Meeting: The planned themed Warnham evening will be the main subject at our next meeting on 14th January, Mr Hamer will discuss the programme with Mrs Bridges prior to the meeting. Invitations to previous Committee Members will also be pursued. The planned date, 6th May, may clash with the General Election. Mr King will contact Mr Pritchard-Jones on the possible republication of Ron. Muggeridge's book. Mr Purcell reminded the meeting of the existence of lecturers with a portfolio of Sussex themed talks. The proposed summer nature walk needs to be kept on the agenda

13. Any Other Business: Mr King and Mr Elliott will respond to the FoSAS following questions over the future of its NW Sussex Group

14. Date & Venue of Next Meeting: Thursday 14th January 2010 at Hawthorns, 7.15 for 7.30, Mr King to chair, subject to Mrs Bridges' agreement to the proposed date. Mr Hamer was thanked for chairing the Meeting and Mr Purcell for his hospitality. Mr Thompson thanked the Committee for inviting him to the Meeting