

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Committee held at Glebe End, Church Street on 22nd January 1987

Present: Mr G. P. McMullen (Chairman)
Mrs R Ashton
Mr R B Bensted-Smith
Mr P A Board
Mrs A E Cox
Mrs R. R. McLaughlin
Mr R. E. Melhuish
Mr R C Overton (Secretary)
Mr R H Purcell
Mr M. Smith
Mrs O G. Thornton
Mrs J M Walker

1 Apologies for absence

An apology was received from Mr Courtier.

2 Minutes of the last meeting held on 20th November 1986

It was noted that the name of Mr Board should have been included with those of Messrs Courtier, Melhuish and Smith as members of the Planning Sub-Committee (paragraph 3(3) of the Minutes). With this amendment the Minutes were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman. With regard to a new membership application form (Item 8) the draft was in hand with Mr Bensted-Smith and he would endeavour to produce for the next committee meeting as the new form would be required for the Spring Meeting.

The Secretary reported that in order for the society to join the Gatwick Airport Conservation Campaign and receive its publications (Item 11 of the Minutes) it was necessary to make a donation. It was agreed to send £10.

With regard to the long awaited litter bins (Item 12), the Secretary said that he had just spoken to the District Works Manager, who had stated that the two bins were now in store and would be put in position as soon as weather permitted.

3 Treasurer's Report

Mrs Walker reported that the balance stood at £462.01 of which £282 was set aside for litter bins.

She went on to refer to the inconvenience of having only a deposit account with no cheque facilities which hardly seemed justified by the small amount of interest earnable. It was agreed to convert this account at Barclay's Bank into a normal current account, cheques to be signed by any two of the following - Mr McMullen, Mr Overton, Mrs Walker, and Mrs Thornton. It was noted that these arrangements would necessitate a formal resolution in the form prescribed by the bank and to be attached to these minutes, and it was resolved accordingly. The necessary arrangements would be put in hand by the Treasurer.

The Secretary said that his expenses to date, unpaid while these matters were being resolved, now totalled £11.04. This was duly noted and he would be paid by cheque as soon as possible.

4 Spring Event

It was agreed that this should be in the form of an evening meeting like last year, and it then emerged in the course of telephone calls to Mr Arliss that the only feasible date for the village hall was Thursday 21st May which was duly agreed.

As for a theme for the evening, two ideas were mooted and the possibility of a combination of them. These were (1) a public meeting with the topic "What's wrong with Warnham?" and (2) a speaker on a set subject - Roger Purcell was asked if he would be prepared to speak on the Horsham Northern Bypass, and did not demur. It was agreed that it would be early enough to settle these matters at the next meeting of the Committee.

5 "Land for new housing – the next ten years"

This was the title of the consultation document published in December by the Horsham District Council as part of the North Horsham District Local Plan 1986-1996, and the Council had invited comments. Mr. Melhuish had discussed the Consultation document with members of the Planning Sub-Committee and produced for the Committee a draft set of comments which was generally acceptable to them. It was agreed that this should issue, with some modifications, under the Secretary's signature.

For the sake of brevity, an attempt has not been made to summarise these comments in these minutes but the letter to the Council is attached as an appendix.

6 Traffic in Warnham

There was no news of the "comprehensive report on Warnham" which was supposed to be "nearing completion" as long ago as 3rd November (letter from the County Surveyor to the Parish Council). Some momentum appeared to have been lost and though the initiative was supposed to be with the Parish Council Mr Purcell undertook to get in touch with the County and find out what

was happening.

7 Planning Sub-Committee

At Mr Melhuish's request the Committee agreed formally to reconstitute the Planning Sub-Committee and with the following membership: - Mr Board, Mr Courtier, Mr Melhuish, Mr Purcell and Mr Smith.

8 Planning application for change of use at Field Place Farm – agricultural buildings into builders' workshop, stores and office - W N 44/86

It was agreed to make formal representations against this planning application on the grounds, inter alia, that such a quasi-industrial use would be inappropriate in this rural setting. Mr Board would draft a suitable letter in consultation with Mr Melhuish and Mr. Overton and the last-named would sign.

9 County Council's "Superclean Prize" of £150

The Cheque had now been received though the County were suggesting a "token presentation" by Mrs Lockner "some time in the New Year". The Committee confirmed that the money should be spent on two further litter bins, one to go at Deerpark Gate and one opposite the Greets Inn.

10 Date of next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Thursday 5th March at Little Broomhall