

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 150th Meeting held at Hawthorns, Knob Hill on Wednesday 27th January 2010

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

Chairman of this Meeting: Mr King

Mr King welcomed Mr Thompson to the Meeting as a Committee Member

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr Hamer & Mr Knight
2. The Agenda proposed by Mr King was approved, the main focus being the Spring Meeting
3. Minutes of Meeting No. 149 held on 10th December 2009
 - Minutes were approved
 - Matter Arising: Nature Conservation Project. Mr Purcell reported that there were plenty of volunteers to serve on the independent trust who will manage the project
 - Correspondence: None
4. Treasurer's Report: Mr Brand reported that the bank balance stands at £1184.37, a cheque for £6 has yet to be banked
5. Membership Secretary's Report: Mrs Bridges reported that there are 83 paid up Members, comprising 15 singles & 34 doubles
6. Planning Matters:
 - Biffa Planning Application for 2 industrial units (Mr Purcell): Discussion led to the identification of important shortcomings in the proposal. Although the site is not in the Parish its operations and location will affect Warnham residents. It was agreed that Mr Purcell would prepare a letter of objection for Mr King to sign and forward to HDC by 8th February 2010
 - HDC Core Strategy Review (Mr Purcell): HDC has just published a summary of the comments received in response to its consultation exercise, further analysis is awaited
 - The Long Wells Planning Application lies with HDC
7. FoSAS: The future of the NW Sussex Group (Mr Elliott): The Treasurer of the Group has asked its Members, of whom we are one, to comment on its future, given Members' low level of interest and participation. Mr King & Mr Elliott believe that it should be wound up and its funds disbursed among its Members; the Group is fully autonomous so its future is in its own hands. The Committee agreed that these proposals should be conveyed to the Group's Treasurer by Mr King with a view to them being circulated to its Members. The Group's demise would not affect our relationship with the Federation, nor would it prevent Member societies operating jointly in future
8. Warnham Village Hall: Nothing of significance to report
9. Silver Jubilee Footpath Map (Mr Purcell): Six circular walks within the Parish have been identified, as has the text to be printed on the map. The typesetter will be asked to prepare copy ready for printing, the timescale is not within our control in

terms of having it ready for the Spring Meeting. Printing costs will be borne by WPC

10. Silver Jubilee Spring Meeting: This will take place on Thursday 20th May 2010 in the Village Hall. The AGM & Autumn Meeting will now take place on Friday 15th October 2010 in the Village Hall. Mrs Bridges proposed a pattern for the Meeting, namely it should:

- reflect changes in the Parish over the last 25 years
- feature key events and people in Warnham's history
- feature static displays of books, photos, artefacts etc, supported, as necessary, by short presentations. Displays would be fronted by their exhibitors
- take place in a relaxed atmosphere to promote interaction, enquiry and pleasure
- secure, perhaps, new Members for the Society
- draw on the important archives of the Warnham Historical Society

Subsequent discussion unearthed a plethora of ideas, to be explored with possible contributors before our next Meeting on Wed. 17th Feb., including:

- the Harben family, BK
- the Tithe Map, RP
- the WHS archives, EB
- Horsham Museum, EB
- Allan Ramsay et al., EB
- David Bridges, EB
- Parish Plan & Design Statement, RP
- the possible republication of Ron. Muggeridge's book, BK

11. Any Other Business: Mr Purcell reported that WPC wants to identify blocked ditches within the Parish with a view to having them cleared. He asked Members to identify any needing attention

12. Date & Venue of Next Meeting: Wednesday 17th February 2010 at 7 School Hill, subject to Mr Hamer's availability, 7.15 for 7.30, Mr Hamer to chair. The meeting will focus on planning the Spring Meeting. Mr King was thanked for chairing the Meeting and Mr Elliott for his hospitality