

# THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 174th Meeting, Special, held at Five Gables on Thursday 22nd November 2012.

Present: Mrs Debenham-Taylor; Mr Elliott; Mr King; Mr Lancaster; Miss Lee & Mr Thompson. In attendance, Mr Purcell, to facilitate a discussion on roads & traffic.

1. Apology for Absence: Mr Hamer.

2. Current Traffic Issues, Mr Purcell: He observed that achieving change in roads & traffic matters usually takes a long time and that the money for large schemes is in short supply in the current economic climate. However, some schemes require developers to provide funds that can be used for public benefit.

A new arrangement allows parish councils to proceed with some works, normally done by WSCC, providing they pay for them. Examples include:

- a. Moving a road sign to improve drivers' visibility.
- b. Installation of a vehicle activated speed sign.
- c. Clarifying text on 30 mph signs
- d. Erecting Unsuitable for HGV signs at Mayes Lane.

The above is complemented by larger initiatives, including:

a. Working on a plan to realign & enhance the footpath round the church linking up with and providing a cycle route to Horsham. Objections are expected, if the Warnham Society continues to support this long-standing initiative it may wish to do so positively.

The Parish Council is willing to fund half of the expected £50,000 cost.

b. Following local consultation, action is being taken to improve safety at the dangerous junction of Bell Rd., the A 24 & Station Rd.

c. A Consultation Report of July 2012 from the Parish Council to WSCC has been well received. The report shows strong support for measures to minimise drivers cutting through Warnham with the planned closure of the BBH Bypass. Funding of any adopted measures would come from the sum allocated for road modifications associated with the BBH development.

3. Other Traffic Concerns: Mr King welcomed current initiatives but voiced the Society's desire for a more comprehensive approach to traffic management. Mr Purcell reminded the meeting that the Society's traffic plan had resulted in the implementation of 20 & 30 mph speed restrictions, but not the proposed 40mph limits. There are problems in gaining agreement to 40mph limits. However, the Society could resurrect existing plans and examine their possible development in consultation with the Parish Council. Other risk areas were identified,

Mr King outlined the driving hazards on Northlands Rd. and the risk of it becoming a cut through if the Strood Lane changes achieve their desired effect. A package of measures may be needed for Northlands Rd. including, for example, priority arrows. Again, the Society would need to develop a case taking account of prevailing conditions.

4. Conclusion: Mr Purcell was thanked for his comprehensive survey of current traffic management issues and the constraints within which they are developed. The Society is now in a better position to chart its own way forward.

5. The Spring Meeting: Mr Elliott agreed to secure provisional bookings of the Village Hall for Thursday 9th & 16th and Friday 10th & 17th May 2013. Securing a suitable speaker is a priority.

6. The current officers agreed to continue to serve for 2012-2013. A Membership Secretary remains to be appointed. Mr Elliott will present a gift and card to Mrs Bridges to thank her for her service as a Committee Member.

7. Next Meeting: It was agreed that Mr King would arrange the next meeting. Mrs Lee & Miss Lee were thanked for their hospitality.

Minutes of Meeting No. 174 were agreed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_