

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 180th Meeting held at Hawthorns on Tuesday 10 December 2013

Present: Mrs Davies; Mrs Debenham -Taylor; Mr Elliott; Mr Hamer (Chairman); Mr King ; Mr Lancaster & Mr McLaughlin.

Mr Hamer welcomed Mrs Davies & Mr McLaughlin to their first Committee meeting after their election at the AGM

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr Thompson.
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting: 17 September 2013, No. 179, they were approved.
3. Matters Arising: AGM & Autumn Meeting review, see Minute 5
4. Appointment of Officers following the Committee's election at the AGM: The following appointments were made:
 - Joint Chairmen: Mr Hamer & Mr King
 - Web master & Membership Secretary: Mr Lancaster
 - Minutes Secretary: Mr Elliott
 - Treasurer & Correspondence Secretary: Mr Hamer will discuss with Mr Thompson his wishes regarding those two appointments.
5. Review of AGM & Autumn Meeting: The logistics went well, except there was an unexpected need for an extension lead. The numbers attending were below average, possibly affected by the meeting being less well publicised than usual. While members can remain in touch through the website. the Committee recognises that the Spring and Autumn Meetings are our two main occasions for direct contact with our members. We must plan accordingly.
6. Finance & Membership: Mr Lancaster reported that there are 91 members though not all have paid their subscriptions for the coming year, reminders are being issued. A Santander bank account of the Warnham Historical Society remains open with a zero balance, Mr Hamer will have it closed. Mr Elliott reported that the HSBC bank balance stands £ 1040.26 on 19 Nov. 2013.
7. Correspondence: Mr King referred to **Proposed Modifications to the Submission West Sussex Waste Local Plan**. It was agreed that the WPC response covered our concerns so no separate response was required.
8. Parish Council: Mr Hamer reported on selected items from last week's meeting, the minutes for which may be seen on the WPC website.
 - representations were made by residents about flooding issues
 - winter maintenance of designated parish roads has been delegated to WPC which has developed a suitable response plan
 - work is proceeding to refurbish the War Memorial and to provide plaques carrying the 17 added names, as recommended by the Society and approved by the Parish Council, the custodian of the memorial. Funding opportunities have been identified and are well in

hand.

- the long proposed cycle track from Bell Road skirting the deer park is meeting objections. Its completion would provide a dedicated cycle route between Warnham and Horsham.
- a tree survey in public places revealed a surprising number in poor condition.
- the speed indicator device continues to operate and provide useful data.

9. Village Hall: The refurbishment programme has been modified to take account of ground work findings allowing improved facilities. The appeal for funds to complete the planned works remains open. An imminent meeting of the Village Hall Committee should provide an update on the project and its funding.

Responding to a letter to the Society from Mr Mc Laughlin it was agreed that Mr Hamer and Mr King would send a letter to the hall Committee requesting a place as a Representative Member on the Committee for The Warnham Society as a regular user of the Hall as provided for under the Hall's Constitution.

10 Roads and Traffic: Mr Hamer reported WPC would be meeting others to discuss local traffic management issues relating to residential and industrial development.

The continuing concern about verges in Tilletts Lane is likely to be met with extended lay-bys rather than reinstatement of grass.

A damaged signpost at the junction of Northlands Rd. and Mayes Lane is to be replaced.

11. Planning: Mr Hamer reported that the Parish Council has objected to two planning applications which are not thought to meet current planning criteria.

12. Great War Commemoration Project: The proposed book is on schedule for its planned publication in late Spring. The likely editor is proposing a book of National Trust Handbook size. To progress the request to the Parish Council for funding support Mr Hamer recommended that the Society through Mr Lancaster should make a formal submission of its case. This would include a statement of the proposal and the amount of financial support needed to see it through to printing and the delivery of copies to the Society. The proposal would point out that the many hundreds of man hours going into the book's preparation are given without charge or expense claims. The Society is willing to commit £100 ie 10 % of its funds to secure publication. It foresees the balance as a grant and loan, some or all of the latter to be repaid from sales. All within the context of extensive national commemorations from next year.

13. Spring Meeting: It was agreed that, if at all possible, the Spring Meeting should be the launch pad for our book, the aim being to maximise exposure and secure sales. Mr Hamer will explore with Farlington School its location for the book launch. Other marketing opportunities need to be identified and developed, including those with schools and colleges.

14. Field Walks: Mr Lancaster reported that the usual field is not accessible as it's fully planted.

15. Any Other Business: At Mrs Davies's suggestion Mr King undertook to move heavier weight items up the Agenda.

16. Next Meeting: Tuesday 28th January 2014 at The Banks, Bailing Hill, 7.15 for

&.30pm. Mr Hamer was thanked for chairing the meeting and Mr Elliott for his hospitality.

Minutes of Meeting No.180 were approved:_____

Date:_____