

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 181st Meeting held at The Banks on Tuesday 28th January 2014.

Present Ms Davies; Mr Elliott; Mr Hamer (Chairman); Mr King; Mr Lancaster; Mr McLaughlin & Mr Thompson.

1. Apologies for Absence: Mrs Debenham -Taylor.
2. Minutes of last Meeting, 14 December 2013 No. 180, were approved.
3. Matters Arising: None.
4. Finance: Mr Thompson was appointed Treasurer. Mr Elliott & Mr Lancaster were named as additional cheque signatories. It was agreed that cheques would be authorised with one signature only. Mr Thompson is initiating those arrangements with HSBC with whom our balance stands at £ 1111.26.
5. Great War Commemoration Project: Mr Lancaster reported that information gathering is almost complete and we are in the process of transferring material to our editor for his attention. An exciting current development is the discovery of the minutes of a meeting relating to the establishment of the War Memorial, we will be investigating those minutes at Chichester.

Last week's feature on the project in the WSCT has produced additional information on Dorothy Salmon who is named on the Memorial but about whom we have little information. We remain in touch with BBC Radio 4 as a publicity opportunity. An interesting commentary on rural Memorials by Keith Grieves has come to light

Mr Hamer reported that the Parish Council has agreed to grant the Society £5000 to fund the expenses in producing the book, after considering an application by Mr Lancaster on behalf of the Society. The arrangements for making payments have to be finalised as is a possibility that, depending on book sales, the Council may waive its right to some repayment by the Society of its receipts.

Mr Hamer reported that the Council has agreed to fund the renovation of the War Memorial & the plaques carrying additional names at a cost of £ 6000, paid from the Hodgson Bequest, with the agreement of Mrs Hodgson and her family. The chosen contractor is J. Gumbrill, a long established Horsham firm. Mr Hamer has been appointed to serve on a three person sub-committee by the Council to oversee the work on its behalf. One issue is whether to have machine or hand cut lettering on the plaques. Mr Hamer reminded the Committee that the question of a rededication ceremony has yet to be determined.

Publication, marketing, storage and distribution of the book are the responsibility of the Committee. It should be available for distribution in early June making a launch in late June a possibility. Mr Hamer will contact Keith Greaves, a Great War authority (see above), to determine his interest and availability in speaking at the launch. Mr Elliott will check the availability of the village hall for 26 & 27 June.

Ms. Davies undertook to lead the marketing initiative, supported by the Committee, in

identifying possible sales outlets, publicity etc. to maximise sales and awareness. A budget of £ 100 has been assigned from the Society's funds.

6. It was agreed to hold a Spring Meeting on the subject of wells in Warnham. Ms Davies suggested that the meeting should be participative, with, say, there being a wall map allowing people to locate and speak about their own wells. Mr Hamer agreed to ask Rodney Dales if he would be willing to speak about the Harben water supply system. Mr King will approach Robert Jasper and Beryl Jarvis on possible input. Mr Elliott will check the hall availability on Thursday 15 & Friday 16 May. Ms Davies agreed to get a piece in the next two available issues of the Warbler, deadline for the March edition is 12 noon 15 February. Other logistics issues will be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Parish Council: Mr Hamer reported that traffic issues, the condition of verges and accessing the A24 from the Robin Hood roundabout were discussed.

8. Planning Matters: It was agreed to base any response to the West Sussex Local Plan after reviewing that of the Parish Council. Individual planning applications required no comment. It was noted that a possible development on land behind the Shelley Arms in Broadbridge Heath may warrant WPC attention even though it's outside the Warnham parish boundary.

9. Village Hall: Mr Hamer reported that the Parish Council will be releasing £ 50,000, as previously agreed, to finance the next phase of the hall's redevelopment. Mr King will agree the text of a letter with Mr Hamer to the Village Hall Committee seeking a place for the Society as a Representative Member on the Committee.

10. Correspondence & Communication: Mr Thompson was reappointed as Correspondence Secretary and put some material on circulation. It was agreed to remain a member of GACC and pay the annual subscription of £ 10. Other subs. will be renewed as they fall due.

11. Additional Meeting in 2014: It was agreed that Mr Hamer would explore the possibility of a Members' visit to The Tower of London.

12. Any Other Business: None

13. Next Meeting: Friday 7 March 2014 at 6 Friday St., 7.15 for 7.30pm. Mr Hamer was thanked for chairing this meeting and for his hospitality.

Minutes of Meeting No. 181 were agreed _____ Date: _____