

# THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 182nd Meeting held at 6 Friday Street on Friday 7th March 2014.

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

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr Hamer & Mr Thompson.
2. Minutes of Last Meeting, 28 January 2014, were approved.
3. Matters Arising: None.
4. Correspondence: Mr Lancaster reported that a lady who had been an evacuee in Warnham in WW2 had written up her reminiscences of her time in the village.
5. Finance & Membership: Mr Lancaster reported that most reminders to members whose subscriptions were outstanding went unanswered. He questioned whether this was the best way of financing the Society's activities: one option would be to charge everyone for entry to Society meetings. It was agreed that Mr King would discuss the issue with Mr Hamer and Mr Thompson and it would form an agenda item at the next meeting.
6. Spring Meeting: Mr Elliott confirmed that the village hall was booked for Friday 16th May. Ms Davies advised that the aim of the meeting was to identify as many of Warnham's wells as possible by encouraging well owners to attend the meeting and identify their wells, by, say, indicating them on a wall map. The meeting would be largely interactive, supported by some brief talks on specific items. A desired outcome would be an archive of wells for future reference and development, incorporating the names of contributors.  
It became apparent that there is a case for extending the scope of the meeting to incorporate other means of water supply to the village. To that end Mr King will identify features of the historic water supply to The Tower and associated properties.  
.Ms Davies will run a piece in the next Warbler. Members will be advised of the meeting by email, post and by leaflet drop as usual. The leaflet drop will be extended to most village properties. Posters will be put up in prominent places.  
Detailed logistics for the meeting will be decided at the next Committee meeting; Mrs Debenham-Taylor and Mr Elliott will supply wine, soft drinks and nibbles.  
Ms Davies will check the feasibility of taking a table at the Flower Show on Saturday 5 April.
7. Great War Commemoration Project: (Mr Lancaster):
  - refurbishment of the War Memorial and its surrounds will be undertaken by Gumbrill
  - Gumbrill will also supply the plaques with the additional names, machine cut, and fix them to the wall behind the memorial.
  - the works will be funded by the Parish Council drawing on a bequest of Mrs Hodgson and her family. Their generosity will be commemorated in an inset in the surrounding brickwork, supplied as a gift by Gumbrill.
  - the Parish Council has appointed three of its members to oversee the works.
  - Mrs Hodgson has written to the Vicar seeking his agreement to conduct a service of

dedication of the added names, preferably on Sunday 3 August 2014, just one day before the centenary of our declaration of war on Germany.

- all material for the book, Warnham and the Great War, is with the editor who has prepared a production schedule for delivery of 500 copies to Warnham in early June. The book will be in colour with features on village life and biographies of those who fell and three notable survivors. It will sell at cost, £10.

The Parish Council has generously agreed to fund the production of the book, expected to cost about £5000, Receipts from book sales are due to the Parish Council.

- the village hall is booked for Friday 27 June to launch the book. Ms Davies will be responsible for marketing the book from receipt, through storage, distribution, publicity, selling and cash receipts with support of Committee members.

- it was agreed that formal recognition of the work of the Project Team is covered in the text of the book.

- there is a need for the book to have an ISBN, an International Standard Book Number. They are issued in blocks of ten, Mr Lancaster will check whether Mr Hamer has any available from the Warnham Historical Society publications.

8. Parish Council ( Mr McLaughlin): Highlights from a recent meeting included:

- a letter to Gatcom on aircraft noise, see minute 9
- public meeting to be arranged on aircraft noise
- election to be held to fill vacancy on PC
- more parking to be created at the school & Tilletts Lane
- speed limit changes on School Hill
- £86K to be spent on drainage
- parish logo being developed
- new PCSO appointed

The full minutes can be read on the WPC website

9. Aircraft Noise: There have been changes in the flight paths of aircraft taking off from Gatwick resulting in many more flights over Warnham, as part of a "time separation departure trial" due to last 6 months from 10 February. The attendant increase in noise is upsetting many residents. A resolute protest campaign has been started including targeted email complaints to Gatwick, media involvement, protest to elected bodies and individual representatives, to which the Society is lending appropriate support.

These change has been introduced with no advance warning or consultation. The Parish Council has written to Gatcom seeking a meeting to explore uncertainties surrounding this trial which appears not to have been inaugurated in terms of previous agreements and good practice.

The Society supports the Parish Council's well reasoned letter to Gatcom and will supply information to those undertaking collective and individual protest. The Society recognises the potential adverse long-term consequences for the parish arising from changed aviation practices at Gatwick.

10. Village Hall:

- it was agreed to postpone discussion on securing the appointment of a Society Representative Member on the hall's Management Committee to the next meeting.
- Mr McLaughlin reported that the refurbishment work continues on Phase 2 of three which is fully funded by the Parish Council. Funding of the final phase is not yet in place, a public appeal for £30,000 has raised about £5,000. No completion dates are available yet.

11. Roads & Traffic: Nothing to report

12. Planning: Nothing to report

13. Village Walk: It was agreed to support a request from a Crawley group for a guided walk around the village. Mr Lancaster will approach Sue Overton to determine whether she would be willing to undertake this task.

14. Additional Meeting in 2012: Mr Hamer is exploring a possible visit to the Tower of London.

15. Any Other Business: None

16 Date & Venue of Next Meeting: Tuesday 15 April 2014 at Forest Grange Manor, Colgate. Mr King was thanked for chairing this meeting and Ms Davies for her hospitality. **If this date is unsuitable kindly advise Mr King.**

Minutes of Meeting No.182 were agreed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_