

# THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the 186th Meeting held at 6 Friday St. on Tuesday 26 August 2014.

Present: Ms Davies; Mr Elliott; Mr King; Mr Lancaster; Mr McLaughlin & Mr Thompson.

1. Apologies for Absence: Mrs Debenham-Taylor & Mr Hamer.
2. Minutes of Last Meeting, No.185, 7 August 2014 were approved.
3. Matters Arising: None
4. Correspondence: Items were put on circulation.
5. Finance: Mr Thompson reported that £1842.1 from book sales receipts has been repaid to the Parish Council, leaving £880 cash at bank.
6. Membership: Mr Lancaster advised that not enough people, registered as members, are paying their subscriptions to cover the Society's annual operating costs. Non-payers do not readily respond to reminders. One option for dealing with this untenable situation would be to discontinue paid membership and to charge everyone for entry to meetings and other events.  
The meeting discussed the matter at length, including raising subscriptions. and offering life membership; also recognising the need to consult members and to take account of the possible effect of any proposed changes on the Constitution. No consensus was achieved in defining one way forward. It was agreed that Mr King & Mr Lancaster would draw up two options, the status quo and "free membership", for consideration at the next meeting, with a view to making proposals to members at the AGM The two options would consider possible sub. increases and life membership.
7. Parish Council Matters: Mr McLaughlin reported there had been no meeting since our last committee meeting.
8. Planning; Nothing to report.
9. Gatwick Flight Path Trials: The Society's response to the consultation has been sent and will be recorded on the Society's website.
10. Village Hall: Mr McLaughlin advised that he has stood down from the Village Hall Committee. Work should be completed by early September.
11. Warnham and the Great War book sales, ( Mr Lancaster ): The following initiatives are in progress, others will be welcome:
  - copies to be on sale at future Society meetings
  - national publications from whom there has been no response to be contacted as to their intended actions, SL.
  - identify book awards for which the book could be entered, GE.
  - contact Brighton & Hove Museums as sales points, GE.
  - contact Brighton & Hove Libraries to purchase copies, SL

- contact the National Trust at corporate level to purchase copies, GE.
- determine response from local schools/colleges, SL and JH.

Fulsome tributes continue to be received from readers, which are gratifying and encouraging.

12. Kensington Palace Visit: To be considered at the next meeting.

13. AGM & Autumn Meeting: The village hall is booked for Friday 17 & 24 October. Mr King is working to secure a speaker from a local vineyard. As a back-up, or for a future meeting, Mr Lancaster will approach the Horsham Archaeological Group for a possible speaker.

The meeting will be publicised by email and letter to members, including a reminder that subscriptions are due, Ms Davies will display a notice in the October Warbler, deadline is 13 September, 12 days before our next meeting, so meeting arrangements need to be agreed beforehand. Poster arrangements need to be agreed

Documentation required includes Annual Accounts to 30 Sept 2014 and nomination of an Auditor for 2014-2015, JT., Chairmen's Annual Report, JH/BK and the Agenda, JH/BK. Provision of documents to Members will be agreed at our next meeting.

Ms Davies will circulate the actions required to secure a licence to sell or serve alcohol.

14. Any Other Business: It was agreed that Mr Lancaster would be the custodian of two Royal event programmes received as a gift.

15. Date & Venue of Next Meeting: **Thursday 25 September 2014 at 7.45 pm at 6 Friday St.** Mr Hamer to chair. Mr King was thanked for chairing the meeting and Ms Davies for her hospitality.

Minutes of Meeting No.186 were approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_