

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Nineteenth Meeting of the Committee held at Little Broomhall on 9th July 1987

PRESENT: Mr G. P. McMullen (Chairman)
Mrs R Ashton
Mrs R. R. McLaughlin
Mr R. E. Melhuish
Mr R C Overton (Secretary)
Mr R H Purcell
Mr M V S Smith
Mrs O. G. Thornton
Mrs J M Walker

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr Bensted-Smith, Mr. Board and Mr Courtier.

2 Minutes of the last meeting held on 30th April

The minutes were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

With regard to item 6(1), the outline planning application for Stanford's Yard, the Secretary reported that the developers, Courtyard Historic Properties Ltd, had not replied to Mr Purcell's Letter of 7th May. It was agreed to consider making representations at the detailed stage.

3 Treasurer's Report

Mrs Walker reported that the current balance stood at £402.23. This was after payment for the first lot of two litter bins. Reviewing the position regarding payment of subscriptions she said that 34 remained unpaid to date. The names were then gone through and it was agreed which member of the committee should tackle each defaulter informally.

4 Best Kept Village Competition

Mrs Thornton reported that the decision of the judges was now awaited.

5 Traffic in Warnham

Mr Purcell said that, as invited by the Area Engineer, he had written to him on 23rd June to summarise the points made at the public meeting on 21st May. The Area Engineer (Mr P E Noakes) had acknowledged this letter on 6th July and had promised "A full reply as soon as

possible".

The Secretary was requested to send a copy of the letter of 23rd June to the Clerk to the Parish Council.

one idea which had been well received at the meeting on the 21st May was that of informal warning signs at the principal entrances to the village eg "Please drive carefully through Warnham". The Chairman said that he would raise this at the Parish Council.

6 Planning Matters

The Chairman reported that he had been approached by the Chairman of the Rowhook Amenity Society with a request for the Warnham Society to support them in objecting to an appeal by Berkeley Homes Ltd against planning refusal to build two houses with garages on the north side of Rowhook Hill. The objection was supported by the Warnham Parish Council and was in his view well founded and he had therefore acceded to the Rowhook Society's request and had written accordingly to the Department of the Environment. The Committee ratified and confirmed this action.

The Parish Council had been invited by the District Council to make proposals for the enhancement (as distinct from extension) of the Conservation Area of the village. It was agreed that it would be appropriate for the Society to submit its own proposals and there was discussion of the points which it would be desirable to make. Mr Melhuish offered to deal, in consultation with the Planning Sub-committee, the letter to be signed by the Secretary

7 The Ex-Gregson estate

All members had a copy of Mr. McMullen's letter of 5th May to the trustees of the Lucas Trust and of Mr. Lucas's reply dated 11th May. It was agreed that no further action was appropriate at the present time.

8 Annual General Meeting – Thursday 22nd October

The changed date as above was agreed. With regard to the form of the meeting it was felt that it would be a good idea to concentrate on one or two of the principal topics which had engaged the Committee's attention during the year, e.g. the Ex-Gregson estate, conservation area, traffic. The Secretary undertook to produce a draft Information Report at the next committee meeting and it was agreed that this approach could be further discussed in the light of that report. All arrangements for that meeting could be settled then, but it was agreed meanwhile to have a cheese and wine session after the meeting on a contribution basis.

9 Any other business

(1) The footpath between Church Street and the School (The Twitten)

Mr. Purcell raised this subject again (see minutes of 5th March). He suggested that either the footpath could be incorporated into the grounds of the Sussex Oak (and therefore be maintained by the brewery) or the Society might assist in landscaping it with a view to easier maintenance. Either way it seemed necessary to establish the ownership.

(2) The Chairmanship and the Secretaryship

Mr McMullen said that business commitments involving late homecomings were making it difficult for him to continue in office much longer. Mr. Overton pointed out that he would have been Secretary for three years by April 1988 and should retire then (if not replaced before) under the terms of the Constitution. It was agreed to consider both these matters at the next meeting.

10 Date of the next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Thursday, 24th September.