

## THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

### Minutes of the Second Meeting of the Committee, held at Little Broomhall on Thursday, 23rd May, 1985

PRESENT: Mr. C. J. Williams (Chairman)  
Mr. R. H. Courtier  
Mrs. A. E. Cox  
Mrs. R. R. McLaughlin  
Mr. G. P. McMullen  
Mr. R. C. Overton (Secretary)  
Mr. H. J. Parr (Treasurer)  
Mrs. L. P. Parr  
Mrs. O. Thornton

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Brenda Dick

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mr. Bensted-Smith and Mrs. White.

#### 2. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 11th April

It was noted that the date of the third parish council meeting listed in paragraph 6(b) was (Monday) 15th July and not 15th June. With this amendment the minutes were agreed to be a true record and were signed by the Chairman

Arising out of paragraph 11 of the minutes, Mr. McMullen said that he had raised the subject of traffic through the village and the threat posed by the Horsham Northern Bypass at the meeting of the parish council on 15th April.

Arising out of paragraph 7 - proposed development at Field Place - the Secretary reported the correspondence since the Society made its representations on 17th April including a letter from Mrs. Dulcie Kup (a member of the Society) who disagreed with the Society's view that the development should be resisted. According to the West Sussex County Times, who had asked for his comments, she was not the only member of the Society of this opinion.

It was agreed to await the outcome of this planning application before considering the question of representations to the DoE on the previous appeal.

#### 3. Membership of the Society

The Secretary said that following the rather modest response to the publicity (and application form)

in the April edition of The Warbler, there were now 93 members of the Society, counting separately husbands and wives in a family membership.

#### 4. Honorary Treasurer's Report

Mr. Parr reported a balance of £95.14 with no major commitments. Some minor items of expenditure were dealt with and authorised.

#### 5. Monitoring of planning applications

Mr. Courtier said that as authorised at the last meeting, he had approached the 22 members of the Society who in their application forms had indicated "Planning" as a special interest and he had had a positive response from five who it seemed might be prepared to serve on a planning sub-committee and whose professional expertise in one field or another qualified them for this role. They were Mr. Michael Smith, Mr. Reginald Melhuish, Mr. Patrick Board, Mr. Roger Purcell and Captain Villiers who had also suggested a sixth, Mrs. Mary Bond. Mr. Courtier suggested that such a group might form a standing committee to monitor planning applications, the liaison between this and the main committee to be provided by himself (he was willing to act as chairman of the standing committee), any resultant representations to the planning authority etc. to be authorised by the main committee who would also keep the membership generally informed.

These arrangements were considered generally acceptable and Mr. Courtier was requested to put them into effect if the individuals mentioned were prepared to serve.

#### 6. The Chairmanship of the Committee

Mr. Williams said he thought it was appropriate if the retirement dates of the three officers of the Society (Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary) were staggered so as to provide continuity, and he proposed to put this in train by retiring as Chairman at the time of the meeting in October 1985. He thought it right that the committee should have advance warning of this intention.

#### 7. The Domesday Survey on Barns - Request by Warnham Historical Society that Warnham Society should take over

Capt. Villiers' letter of 11th April was noted, together with the questionnaire and other sample material provided by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings who were organising the survey. The question was whether the Society possessed any member or members who was/were sufficiently enthusiastic to want to carry out such a survey, which involved visiting every barn in the parish and noting down various particulars. Mrs. Thornton thought that Professor Rodney Dales (a newly joined member known to be interested in timber framed buildings) might be willing and she

undertook to speak to him. Failing that, the Secretary would write round other members.

#### 8. Liaison with Rowhook Society

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Brenda Dick who was the chairman of the Rowhook Society and had written to suggest that there might be some form of liaison between the two societies since part of Rowhook lay in Warnham Parish. Mrs. Dick said that one of their members, Mrs. Barbara Llewellyn, had now joined the Warnham Society. It was agreed that adequate liaison would be afforded if Mrs. Llewellyn received an invitation (as she would in the ordinary course of events) to attend any meeting of the Warnham Society that was called, and first of all the meeting on 18th October.

#### 9. Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies – A.G.M. on 29th May

After consulting the Chairman, the Secretary had obtained two tickets at £2.50 each including buffet supper. It turned out that no-one on the committee was free to attend except himself but Mrs. Dick knew of someone who might like to take the second ticket: she and the Secretary would liaise. It was agreed to take extra copies of the Federation's newsletter to enable it to be distributed to all committee members, at a cost of £4 per annum.

#### 10. Extraordinary General Meeting on Friday, 18th October

The Secretary and Mrs. Thornton had heard Mr. Desmond Gunner, Chairman of the Sussex Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, give an illustrated talk at the A.G.M. of the Rudgwick Society and had thought him excellent. It was agreed to ask Mr. Gunner if he would be prepared to talk for a maximum of 3/4 hour after the meeting on 18th October, and to enquire what his fee/expenses would be.

The Secretary was requested to produce for the next meeting of the committee, a draft notice for the meeting on 18th October dealing with the question of nominations to the committee, and also with the formal endorsement of the Society's constitution, which would be the two principal items of business.

#### 11. Commercial Vehicles permanently parked outside No. 29 Holland Way

Mrs. Parr asked if anything could be done to have these vehicles removed since they spoil the street scene and it was agreed to raise the matter with the parish council although it appeared that there was no legal infringement.

12. Best Kept Village Competition

Mrs. Thornton reported on progress and plans. It was agreed that it would be a good idea for the Society to offer a prize (£5) to the school, for the best poster with the title "Keep our Village Tidy"; Mrs. Parr volunteered to offer a small prize to the two runners up. Mrs. Thornton would speak to the headmaster and try to arrange.

13. Enforcement of the speed limit through the village

On a suggestion by Mr. Parr, Mr. McMullen agreed to raise at the parish council with a view to spot checks by the police.

14. Date of next meeting

This was fixed for 8 pm on Thursday, 4th July, same venue.