

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Twentieth Meeting of the Committee held at Ramblers, Friday Street on 24th September 1987

PRESENT: Mr. G. P. McMullen (Chairman)
Mrs R Ashton
Mr R B Bensted-Smith
Mr P A Board
Mrs A. E. Cox
Mrs R. R. McLaughlin
Mr. R. E. Melhuish
Mr R C Overton (Secretary)
Mr M V S Smith
Mrs O. G. Thornton
Mrs J M Walker

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr Courtier and Mr Purcell.

2 Minutes of the last meeting held on 9th July

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

Copies of the Society's proposals on the Conservation Area which had been submitted to the Horsham District Council on 7th September were distributed to members.

3 Treasurer's Report

Mrs Walker reported that out of the 31 defaulters noted at the last meeting, 19 had still not paid. These names were gone through and it was agreed to make a final effort at collection through individual committee members except in two or three cases where the member had indicated that he/she would not be renewing.

Mrs Walker also reported that funds in hand totalled £413.06 of which £128.80 was earmarked for litter bins (second series, still to be delivered).

Payment of £6.23 to the Secretary for reimbursement of expenses was authorised.

4 Traffic in Warnham

A draft letter to the County Engineer and Surveyor composed by Mr Purcell was tabled, the object

of which was to maintain the pressure and to compel a considered reply to the points made in the Society's letter of 23rd June which summarised the public meeting of 27th May. The draft also referred to the discussion in the Parish Council on 1st September at which the Area Engineer had been present but had not made any useful contribution.

5 Planning matters

The situation at the land adjoining Newmans Cottage and at Stanford's Yard was discussed.

6 State of the Committee after 22nd October

Mr McMullen confirmed that because of business commitments he would not be able to continue as Chairman after the Annual General Meeting. He had sounded out Mr Melhuish who would be prepared to take over if invited, which Mr Melhuish duly confirmed. This was warmly welcomed and although the Committee was not (of course) empowered to make the appointment now, it was agreed to make Mr Melhuish Deputy Chairman with immediate effect.

Mr Overton reminded the Committee that he would have completed his term as Secretary in March 1988 and in any event he would not be willing to continue after the following AGM. However, no member of the Committee felt able at this juncture to offer to take this job on and it was agreed that it would therefore be advisable to seek a replacement at the meeting on 22nd October.

Mrs Cox and Mrs McLaughlin signified that they would not be standing for re-election to the Committee. All other members were prepared to stand and were deemed to be duly nominated.

7 Annual General Meeting 22nd October

As agreed at the last meeting, the Secretary produced a draft Information Report and this was agreed (as the Committee's report on the year's activities) with some amendments notably the strengthening of the section on the Ends Place estate to reflect the Committee's continuing concern and the awakened interest in the village.

Since there were several items of general interest in the report it was agreed to invite members of the public to the meeting. As agreed at the last meeting, refreshments would be served afterwards – wine, coffee and cheese and biscuits – and contributions would be invited.

The Secretary said that he would be writing to all members at the end of September. It was agreed to put up posters nearer the date, which Mr Bensted-Smith kindly agreed to produce. The formal agenda would be produced at the meeting itself as would the Receipts and Payment Account for the year which Mrs Walker had in hand.

8 Any other business – "Granny's Lane"

This was the old name for the road which runs from Broadbridge Heath Road to Old Denne (now simply part of Byfleets Lane) and Mrs Thornton wanted to revert to the old usage. It was agreed to raise the matter at the AGM.

9 Date of the next meeting

It was agreed to meet again on Tuesday 10th November. Mrs Cox kindly offered Glebe End for the meeting if no other suitable venue were available.