

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Third Meeting of the Committee, held at Little Broomhall on Thursday 4th July 1985

PRESENT: Mr. C. J. Williams (Chairman)
Mr. R. Bensted-Smith
Mrs. R. R. McLaughlen
Mr. G. P. McMullen
Mr. R. C. Overton (secretary)
Mr. H. J. Parr (Treasurer)
Mrs. L. P. Parr
Mrs. O. Thornton
Mrs. P. M. White

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr. Courtier and Mrs. Cox

2. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 23rd May.

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

Mr. Parr enquired whether there had been any progress on item 13, enforcement of the speed limit through the village and Mr. McMullen said he would raise with PC Harper.

3. Hon. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Parr said he had received no further subscriptions and the balance of funds stood at £88.25.

The Secretary reported net expenditure of £1.89 for which reimbursement was now authorised.

Mr. Bensted-Smith suggested that the lack of new members showed the necessity to attract recruits by keeping the society in the public eye, and the Secretary was to aim at putting something into every edition of The Warbler.

4. The Best-Kept Village Competition

Mrs. Thornton and Mrs. Parr reported on the position to date. The judges had paid one visit and would be coming again. The prizes for the posters had been presented -- in the end it was the Brownies and Cub Scouts who had co-operated instead of the school. There had been a good attendance and effort at the combined clear-up on 1st July. All this would be publicised in the next edition of The Warbler.

5. Planning Matters

(a) The sub-Committee

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Courtier in which he apologised for his absence this evening because of an important late commitment at work and went on to explain that he had called a first meeting of the planning sub-committee for 9th July.

(b) The Field Place planning application

Referring to the publicity given by the County Times to the alleged differences of opinion within the Society (see item 2 of the last minutes) Mr. Bensted-Smith said he thought the County Times should be pressed to state its source or sources since if it were true that there was a body of opinion in favour of this planning application it was important that the committee should know this. At this point in the proceedings Mrs. White said that she personally was in favour of this revised planning application, having changed her mind since the meeting on 11th April when (she accepted) it had been unanimously agreed to oppose it. She felt, with Mrs. Dulcie Kup and others whom she did not feel free to name, that the Committee had not sufficiently taken into account the needs of elderly people and that other suitable sites for a life-care scheme in the vicinity would prove to be hard to find. Mrs. Parr said she feared that other Warnham residents shared the views of Mrs. White and Mrs. Kup.

The Secretary said that he had learned from the District Planning Office that the application was now on appeal and there was to be a local public enquiry at the beginning of September (Note: this now turns out to be the beginning of December), and meanwhile the Society would be given a further opportunity of making representations. It was agreed to publicise this in the next edition of The Warbler and in view of the remarks made above, to invite readers to state their views on the planning application.

(c) Planning application for a dwelling and new vehicular access at Burcombe Cottage, Durfold Hill

The Secretary said that he had noticed this planning application in the weekly list at the public library. He would pass the information on to Mr. Courtier.

6. The Chairmanship

Two names were mentioned and it was agreed that Mr. Bensted-Smith would approach one and if he drew blank Mrs. Thornton would approach the other.

7. Extraordinary General Meeting of 18th October 1985

The secretary tabled a draft letter to all members to issue in September dealing with the question

of nominations to the committee and other matters. Some amendments were made and it was agreed that he would produce a revised draft at the next meeting of the committee. Some points in the constitution (which would be for approval at the meeting) were also discussed and it was agreed there was room for amendments: the secretary would come to the next meeting of the committee with a revised draft constitution.

The secretary reported that Mr. Desmond Gunner was not available to give a talk on 15th October. It was agreed to abandon the idea of a talk and instead to have a cheese and wine session on a payment basis after the formal meeting.

8. Domesday Survey on Barns

Mrs. Thornton reported that Professor Rodney Dales had agreed to take this on with whatever help might be forthcoming from other members of the society. It was agreed that the secretary would give him the necessary material and would also include a note in the next issue of *The Warbler* inviting assistance for Professor Dales.

9. Informal Planning Meeting at Chichester on Friday 13th September

The Secretary reported the above which had been laid on by the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. It was agreed to include a note in the next edition of *The Warbler* and also to draw Mr. Courtier's attention to this meeting in case it was of interest to him or his sub-committee.

10. "Victorian" letter box at corner of Mayes Lane and Northlands Road

Mrs. Thornton reported that this was in serious need of restoration. It was agreed to tackle the G.P.O.

11. Mrs. Winifred Cross, a Freemans Road

Mrs. Thornton reported the sad death of Mrs. Cross who was a member of the Society.

12. Superfluous telegraph pole opposite Court Cottage

It was agreed to make some enquiries with a view to its removal

13. Date of next meeting

This was fixed for 8pm on Thursday, 29th August, same venue