

# THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Committee  
held at Ramblers, Friday Street, Warnham on  
Tuesday 11th December 1990.

Present: Mr R. E. Melhuish ( Chairman)  
Sir James Dalrymple-Hay ( Secretary)  
Mr A. C. Brand  
Mr R. H. Courtier  
Mr R. H. Newman  
Mrs R. Ashton  
Mr R. H. Purcell  
Mrs O. G. Thornton  
Mr R. B. Bensted-Smith

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Mr McMullen, Mr Read and Mrs J. M. Walker.
2. Introduction of New Members. The chairman introduced Mr Brand who had been elected to the committee at the AGM. Mr Newman had subsequently stated his willingness to serve on the committee and was duly elected, nem con. Both were welcomed by the chairman.
3. Election of Officers. The chairman informed the committee that Mrs Walker was unable to serve a further term as treasurer owing to her other commitments. The following members were elected to serve as officers for a period of one year:  
Chairman : Mr Melhuish (re-elected)  
Secretary: Sir James Dalrymple-Hay (re-elected)  
Treasurer : Mr Newman.
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th September 1990.  
There being no comments, the minutes of the meeting of 13th September 1990 were approved as a correct record and were accordingly signed by the chairman.
5. Matters arising

(i) "Granny's Lane" and "Three Stile Lane". As there had been little response from the District Council it had been agreed at the last meeting that the Chairman would speak to Mrs Jean Burnham and ask her to take the matter up with the Council. He had not done so and Mrs Thornton said that she would do it.

(ii) The chairman reported that he had written to the District Planning Officer on the subject of the proposed houses adjoining Newmans Cottage, asking for the use of traditional materials and the improvement of the junction with Byfleets Lane with the construction of a lay-by.

(iii) The Secretary advised the meeting that he had not taken up the matter of the stile near the former Tilletts Barn as the farmer had recently died and he considered it inappropriate to write at that time. The committee approved the decision of the Secretary. In the event, however the stile had been dealt with. With regard to the stile near St Margaret's church, the Parish Council has been in touch with the County Council.

(iv) Village Bottle Bank: The Parish Council is not proceeding with the suggestion to provide one. (the Society had not been in favour in earlier discussion. )

#### 6. Treasurer's Report

Mrs Walker (absent) had informed the Chairman before the meeting that the bank balance stood at only £ 30-00 or thereabouts. Several members expressed their concern at this.

Mr Newman, the newly elected Treasurer, requested an audit prior to taking the books over. The Secretary said that he would contact Mrs Walker to arrange this, and that when the accounts are available he would arrange a meeting between Mrs Walker and Mr Newman.

#### 7. Membership and Subscriptions.

In the Treasurer's absence, discussion was necessarily limited. The committee were anxious to know how many members had not yet paid their subscriptions for the following year, and therefore the likely future income. It is hoped that this information will be available for the next meeting.

#### 8. AGM. held on 19th October 1990.

The general view of the committee was that the AGM had been a success and the subsequent discussion lively. There was comment on the failure to present audited accounts to the AGM.

There was discussion on a suggestion that future AGMs might be held in the smaller of the two rooms as an economy. The Secretary will find out the relative costs before the next

committee meeting.

9. Planning Matters.

The chairman informed the committee that there were no less than three separate applications before the District Council on the subject of the shop adjoining the Antique shop in Church Street. They were for alternative uses – including a hairdresser, tea room etc. The committee were in agreement that it was eminently desirable that the shop be put back into use and decided that no representations were to be made in this respect.

There was concern at what was happening to the field opposite Bearsden Pet Supplies, where a large new entrance was being constructed. The Chairman undertook to find out what planning permission had been granted, if any, and report back to the committee.

10. Any Other Business

(i) Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. A meeting has been arranged for a meeting of this Group at Billingshurst on Wednesday evening 13th February. The Chairman will be attending, and said that he would be pleased to hear from anybody else who wished to go.

(ii) Absence of Secretary. The secretary said that he would be away from the beginning of March to beginning of May 1991.

(iv) Village Appraisal. There was discussion on the proposal by the Parish Council to distribute a questionnaire to all houses to ascertain people's views regarding the needs of the village. This would be on the lines of that being carried out in Slinfold.

Mr Bensted Smith, who was familiar with the Slinfold initiative, was uneasy about the questions asked. He felt that many of the answers, if not treated strictly in confidence could be valuable to potential developers.

(v) Bulb Planting. It was reported that by the combined efforts of the Parish Council and the Warnham Society the village bulb planting had been satisfactorily completed.

(vi) Lay-Bys. It was noted with pleasure that the advice of the Society had been heeded in the construction of the lay by in Bell Road and on School Hill where granite setts had been used rather than the usual concrete kerbs.

(vii) Trees on the Green. The Secretary was asked to write to the Parish Council regarding the dead trees on the village green, opposite Kingshead Cottage.

11. Next Meeting.

The next meeting is to be held at Ramblers on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 8 pm.