

## THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the thirty-seventh meeting of the Committee  
held at Ramblers, Friday Street, Warnham on  
Tuesday 15th May 1991.

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

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies from Mr McMullen, Mr Read and Mr Brand. Mrs J. M. Walker was not present.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 1991.

Owing to an error in the numbering of the two previous committee meetings it was agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting should be corrected to read "thirty sixth" and the earlier minutes corrected accordingly.

There being no other comment, the minutes of the meeting of 19th February 1991 were approved as a correct record and were signed by the chairman.

3. Matters arising

(i) GRANNY'S LANE. Mrs Thornton had visited the HDC and the chairman had subsequently received a letter to the effect that, as Mr Pritchard-Jones of Field Place had objected to the renaming, costs would be involved and that no further action would therefore be taken. The chairman had replied pointing out that the wishes of a society representing over one hundred residents should not be ignored, and requesting an estimate of the costs that might be incurred in order that the matter might be pursued.

(ii) SHOP ADJOINING ANTIQUE SHOP, CHURCH STREET. Work to comply with the HDC order to make the building safe had been commenced but had ceased. Our information is that the freeholder has become bankrupt. It was agreed that as the Parish Council are aware of the situation and taking steps to deal with the problem, no action was appropriate at this stage.

(iii). FIELD OPPOSITE BEARSDEN PET SUPPLIES. It is understood (via the owner) that the planning permission for a new access has been revoked. This is to be investigated

further.

(iv) ENDS PLACE. HDC have given planning permission for the revised scheme.

(v) ORCHARD HOUSE. Planning permission has been given for the small office building, subject to a condition tying its use to the present owner, as recommended at the last meeting.

(vi) VILLAGE APPRAISAL. This has been completed and a 60% response has been reported.

#### 4. Treasurers Report.

The committee were given a statement of accounts to 31st March 1991 prepared by Mr Purcell and signed by him and by the outgoing treasurer, Mrs Walker. Mr Newman agreed to take over the accounts with this document as the basis.

There was discussion on the unsatisfactory service from the present bankers (Barclays) and it was proposed by Mr Courtier that the account at that bank be closed and transferred to a selected building society. This was seconded by Mr Purcell and carried, nem. con. Mr Newman to make further enquiries and recommend a suitable society to the chairman who, it was agreed, should take Chairman's Action in opening a new account.

Various outstanding items of account including subscriptions due to the Civic Trust and the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies, were discussed and it was agreed that, although the funds were low, they should be paid forthwith.

#### 5. Membership and Subscriptions.

From the investigation into the accounts it would appear that there are 76 members who have paid their subscriptions. As there was no record of which members had paid by cash it was agreed that it would not be practicable to pursue subscriptions further for the current year.

There was a vote of thanks to Mr Purcell, Mr Brand and Mr Newman for their work in sorting out the difficult problem of accounts and membership.

#### 6. Planning Matters.

The chairman gave a summary of the Inspector's report on the North Horsham Plan, now available for public inspection. The Inspector had generally supported the plan and, specifically, had endorsed the four suggested development sites in Warnham from the development area. It was felt that the Society's efforts in this connection had contributed to the Inspector's findings.

The inclusion by the HDC of Field Place in a list of sites for future building was criticised in the report by the Inspector, who regarded development on that site as an inappropriate way of raising funds for Field Place maintenance. He had recommended that other means be found to meet these costs and that the site be removed from the HDC list. The committee was informed, however, by Mr Purcell, that the outgoing Horsham councillors had subsequently voted to overturn the Inspector's advice in this respect. It was agreed that the chairman should investigate this and write a letter of objection to the HDC .

There was a planning application for a dwelling on Pans Garden, adjoining Byfleets Cottage. It was agreed to raise no objections to this.

7. Spring Meeting.

It was agreed that the Spring Event had been a great success and the talk by Dr Dales very well received.

The Treasurer reported that at the meeting five persons had paid their subscription, including one new member.

There was a vote of thanks to Mrs Ashton for arranging the refreshments and to Mr Read for providing the wine.

8. Street Fayre.

Unfortunately the decision to ask members at the Spring Meeting to provide bottles for the Tombola had been overlooked. It was therefore agreed that (i) a notice be inserted in the next Warbler and (ii) that a letter be sent to all members. Also, all committee members should ask friends. 300 bottles are required. All to be left at The Red House.

A Street Fayre Stall sub-committee was formed consisting of: The Hon. Sec, Treasurer, Mrs Ashton and Mrs Thornton.

9. Federation Matters.

The chairman is to attend a meeting of the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies at Southwater on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 1991.

The Warnham Society has been asked to host the next meeting of the federation on Wednesday, 11th September 1991. The Parish Room has been booked for this. All committee members are invited. Light refreshments to be provided.

10. Publicity and Public Relations.

The chairman said that he hoped to complete a Warnham Guide that he was preparing in

time for the Street Fayre. This could be sold to raise funds. It had been previously agreed that we should try to ensure that there was at least one entry originating from the Society in each issue of the Warbler. The entry in the next issue has been covered.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11. Telephone Boxes.

Mrs Thornton reported that British Telecom had been very helpful when she reported to them that the box in Hollands Way had a broken door. This had been put right within a week.

12. Membership Cards.

It was agreed that the issue of membership cards was desirable but likely to be expensive. Mr Purcell to speak to Mr Brand who, it is believed, may be able to advise possible costs at the next meeting.

13. Hanging Baskets.

Mrs Thornton asked whether the Society would again contribute to the cost of planting the hanging baskets in Church Street. It was agreed that we should.

14. Next Meeting. The next meeting is to be held at "Ramblers" on Tuesday 3rd September 1991 at 8 pm.