

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Forty Second meeting of the Committee
held at No 1. Valley Forge, Warnham on
Wednesday 1st July 1992.

Present: Mr R. E. Melhuish (Chairman)
Mr R. H. Newman (Treasurer)
Mr R . B . Bensted-Smith
Mr R. H. Courtier
Mrs J. H. Jameson
Mr R. H. Purcell
Mr G. J. Read
Mrs O. G. Thornton

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence had been received from Sir James Dalrymple-Hay (Hon Sec) and Mr AG Brand. In the absence of the secretary Mrs Jameson undertook to take notes of the meeting.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 15th April 1992.
Reference in the minutes to "The Slinfold Amenity Society" should read "The Slinfold Society". Subject to this amendment the minutes of the meeting held on 15th April 1992 were approved as a correct record and were signed by the chairman.

3. Matters arising
 - (i) GRANNY'S LANE. Mrs Thornton had heard nothing further from the HDC. on this subject. She had however spoken to Mr Prichard-Jones who was concerned that eight companies would have to change their address. He will ask them for their feelings on the matter.

 - (ii) FIELD PLACE. RESERVE HOUSING SITE. Mr Read said that the Parish Council had in fact expressed "concern" rather than "objection" in respect of this possible development. However, this permission is now unlikely as Mr Prichard-Jones has submitted an application for industrial units. As the land is within the Broadbridge Heath boundary neither the the Warnham PC. nor the Warnham Society will be involved. There followed a discussion on the position of this boundary. The Chairman is to ask the Hon Sec. to establish this on behalf of the Society.

(iii) BEST GARDEN COMPETITION. Mrs Thornton and Mrs Jameson will make an inspection at the end of July and will report their assessment at the next meeting.

(iv) SHELLEY BI-CENTENARY. Mr Read said that the matter was to be discussed at the PCC. that evening. The History Society is preparing a map and there will be flower arrangements in the church.

(v) COUNTY LANDSCAPE PLAN: Mr Read said that the PC had met Mr Lloyd (WSSC) last Friday. The Warnham Society's comments had been passed to, and generally agreed by the PC. There is debate about the planting of additional trees in the churchyard, along Church Street and in Friday Street.

(vi) HANGING BASKETS. Mrs Thornton reported that these were being done and attended to and that no remuneration was being asked for. The Chairman expressed the committee's appreciation of this.

(vii) SPRING EVENT. The illustrated talk by Mr Ray Fox of the Sussex Wildlife Trust had been a great success. Thanks were also given to Mr Courtier for his presentation of the possibilities for traffic calming in Warnham. The chairman mentioned the interest that the talk had generated

(viii) GATWICK OVERFLYING: Mr Newman said that following his enquiry concerning the daily flight of a light aircraft over the village, he had received a wealth of information, from which he had gathered that light aircraft below a certain weight are subject to fewer controls and restrictions than scheduled flights.

4. Treasurers Report:

Mr Newman reported that the balance stood at £ 138-42.

It was agreed to continue with the £ 20 subscription for Civic Trust membership and the £ 5 to the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign.

A membership list was handed to the chairman. It will be necessary to print further membership cards. (Mr Purcell to deal).

It was not thought necessary to increase the subscription as the present funds are adequate.

There are currently 48 joint members and 26 single members. There is a record of non-payers, all of whom have been sent reminders.

It was agreed that the defaulters should not forfeit their membership.

Payment by Standing Order was discussed but as this would incur bank charges of £16 – £18 per quarter it was agreed not to pursue it.

The Chairman will approach Roy Boud again to ask him if he would audit the Society

accounts for the AGM.

5. 1992 Annual General Meeting:

After discussion on traffic calming (see para 7) it was agreed that Mr Purcell would invite an officer from the WSCC. to address the meeting on this subject. It was agreed that this would be a topic of local interest and would constitute a constructive part of the consultation process. The presentation to be followed by open discussion.

A provisional date of 23rd October was agreed, subject to Mr Purcell finding out about the availability of the speaker.

6. Planning Matters:

- 6.01 THE WAREHOUSE : An application has been submitted by the Warnham Warehouse to open at 7am on weekdays and between 8am and 6pm on Sundays. This exceeds the earlier application. Whilst the gymnasium and the studios are run as separate businesses, any permission would apply to the premises and an application for a "quiet" use of the gym could extend to the noisier exercise classes.

The Chairman reported Sir James DH's view that such extended use on a Sunday was inappropriate to the village, and all agreed. It was resolved that a letter be sent from the Society objecting on these grounds and that of parking.

- 6.02 FOOTPATH at ENDS PLACE: Mr Read reported that the PC had not objected to the diversion of the bridleway. As the footpath and the bridleway could not be split, the Council had not registered an objection to the diversion. He considered it likely that consent will be given. Several members expressed their concern at the principle of making a diversion so easy on the sole grounds that it had become inconvenient.

7. Traffic Calming.

There was a discussion on the possibilities and problems associated with the suggested introduction of traffic calming measures, particularly in relation to the conditions necessary for the creation of humps and the alteration of priorities at the Friday Street/Church Street junction. (changing the priorities at Hollands Way might be simpler).

The attitude of the County Highway officers dealing with approvals and the compliance with regulations would have an important bearing on negotiations. Cash for calming measures might well be prejudiced by the need to wait for the effects of the A24 improvements to become evident before accepting that there is indeed a problem.

Traffic flow measures being carried out in Broadbridge Heath might also effect the amount

of traffic passing through Warnham.

Mr Bensted-Smith reported that in Slinfold, traffic calming measures were to be carried out as a part of the conservation area enhancement policy.

Mrs Thornton questioned proposals to widen Bailings Hill. This road does not have the width for a two-lane highway and there has been a creeping increase in width each time the road has been resurfaced.

8. Society Chairmanship.

Mr Melhuish informed the committee that, in October, he will have served 5 years as chairman and that he would not be standing for re-election for the committee. In the past, a successor to the office of chairman had been dealt with informally out of committee, subject only to subsequent ratification by the committee. He would therefore be approaching members privately on this subject, but, as with other officers, the appointment must be by the committee.

Committee members expressed their regret at the decision of Mr Melhuish.

It is understood that Sir James Dalrymple-Hay will be prepared to continue for a time as Hon Sec.

9. Any Other Business.

Mr Read said that the position of Community Adviser for Warnham had become vacant. He wondered whether the Society could recommend a suitable candidate. He will check before the next meeting on the duties associated with the post.

10. Next Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd September 1992 at 8pm at "Applegarth", School Hill, Warnham. (Mr Newman).