

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

A MEMBER OF THE FEDERATION OF SUSSEX AMENITY SOCIETIES
REGISTERED WITH THE CIVIC TRUST

Minutes of the Forty Fifth Meeting of the Committee
held at 'Applegarth', School Hill, Warnham on
Thursday 4 February 1993

Present: Sir James Dalrymple-Hay (Chairman)
Mrs. J. H. Jameson (Secretary)
Mr. R. W. Newman (Treasurer)
Mr. R. B. Bensted-Smith
Mr. R. H. Purcell
Mrs. O. G. Thornton
Mr. A. G. Brand
Mr. G. J. Read

1. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence had been received from Mr. R. H. Courtier.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 1992

The minutes of the meeting held On 10 December 1992 were approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

(i) **Field Place.** It was understood that, despite all objections, approval has now been given to the proposed warehousing. A letter dated 12 January 1993 had been received from the Department of the Environment in response to Reg Melhuish's appeal on behalf of The Warnham Society confirming that the Secretary of State had decided not to intervene .

(ii) **Knob Hill.** It is understood that the Council will be banking the earth and undertaking planting to complete removal of the old lay-by.

(iii) **Appointment of Chairman.** The Secretary will write to the Clerk of the Parish Council to advise him of the appointment of the new Chairman and Secretary of the Warnham Society.

(iv) **Tyldens.** Mr. Read said that he had no further information in respect of the application to convert Tyldens into a Nursing Home, but commented that various different uses for the

premises had been put forward for consideration.

(v) **Retiring Chairman.** Sir James Dalrymple-Hay read out to the meeting the letter of thanks he had sent to Reg Melhuish together with the reply he had received.

4. Treasurer's Report.

Mr. Newman reported that total receipts now stood at £262.39 which is well down on earlier sums held.

Most have now renewed their membership except for 15 people, mostly Kingsfold residents. Their interest has possibly waned following the Outcome of the A24 consultations. Membership now stands at 44 couples and 21 single members. (membership fees are currently £3 for a double and £2 for a single member.)

Mrs. Thornton offered to approach 6 of the people who had yet to pay.

It was confirmed that the Society would not continue to pay for notification of planning applications submitted to the District Council as the information can be obtained from the local press. Mrs. Jameson will check with Reg Melhuish to see whether he is still being sent the lists.

5. Planning Matters

Mrs. Jameson said that she had studied the proposed two-storey extension at Northlands and considered that there was no reason to raise objections.

Mr. Read said that the Parish Council had discussed the proposed Golf Course and that they had expressed their annoyance at the District Council's lack of response to the objections they had raised about the proposed access. Mr. Purcell said that Mrs. Kitchen had not realised the extent of the opposition to access being made via Robin Hood Lane (the suggested 'no right turn' will not answer the criticism), but that she had now noted the comments of the Parish Council and taken the objections on board.

6. Road Naming

Mrs. Jameson reported that she discussed possible additional road naming with Mr. Flack at the District Council - Knob Hill, Three Stile Road, Durfold Hill and Bailing Hill were considered - and that he was happy to implement such naming subject to the agreement of the Parish Council and residents of the roads in question.

There are discrepancies between local understanding and old maps and more recent maps as to the correct allocation of the names 'Three Stile Road' (or Lane) and Knob Hill. It was thought probable that Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Elliott would object to the naming of Three Stile

Road. It was agreed to undertake more research into available maps.

Mrs. Thornton said that she had written to the local paper requesting that Mr. Prichard Jones withdraw his objection to changing Byfleets Lane back to Granny's Lane, but they had not published her letter on the grounds that Mr. Prichard Jones had not been consulted. This was agreed to be a poor excuse and she will pursue the matter further.

Mr. Flack had stated that the name signs he would provide would be the normal black lettering on a White ground. It was wondered whether the Parish Council might be prepared to contribute towards the cost of more attractive signing, and Mr. Purcell undertook to look at the Warninglid signs as an example of what would be preferable. It was asked whether conservation grant money might be made available. (the Warnham 'deer' sign was funded by the WI).

It was suggested that the Parish Council might be upset if the Warnham Society were to progress the matter of road signing without their advice, Mr. Read will raise the subject at the next Parish Council meeting on 8 March.

7. Traffic Calming

Mr. Purcell reported that he and Mr. Courtier had taken road measurements but had yet to progress the drawings.

Mr. Purcell advised the meeting that the District Council is also preparing a traffic calming scheme for Warnham and that they were keen to see our ideas. He suggested that sketches already prepared should be sent to the Council.

The Parish Council have been talking about traffic calming for a long time but without making any progress. They have been critical of the Society for working up proposals and having public discussions without their involvement. The Chairman suggested that Mr. Purcell should write to the Parish Council advising them that the District Council are now interested and sending them our proposals for comment.

8. Any Other Business

Mr. Purcell reported that Margaret McNab is producing a conservation plan for Warnham based on the document produced by the Warnham Society.

British Telecom and Seeboard are looking to bury their cabling between Hollands Way and Bell Road at a cost of £13,000 to HDC, the balance being met by BT and Seeboard. They are also looking to install more attractive lamp standards. Mrs. Thornton asked whether the new standards would provide softer lighting. Mr. Purcell suggested that, if the footpaths are to be dug up, more attractive paving could be reinstated.

Floodlighting of the Church and the Sussex Oak was discussed together with responsibility for running costs.

Mr. Brand asked whether the plans to develop land behind the old schoolhouse had been dropped. It was thought that there was still potential for development in this area.

The recent Abbeyfield meeting was discussed and Mrs. Thornton said that it had been a very lively occasion. There has been a 'generous' starting donation to establish a home in Warnham, and an estimated £250,000 will be required to provide nine self-contained units plus reception and dining areas. The idea had had a favourable reception and it was confirmed that Warnham residents would be given priority for the accommodation. A site has yet to be found – Canon Taylor is prepared to allow building on the glebe land but provision of rear access to this site is likely to render it too expensive. It was generally considered that this land should remain as open space. The conversion of a house in Hollands Way was a preferred option but Abbeyfield think it would be too expensive to convert. The meeting agreed that the estimated cost of the project is likely to prove insufficient.

Mr. Newman said that it was proposed to increase the number of night flights from Gatwick, as from all airports. It was thought that such night flying would be conditional upon the use of modern 'quiet' aircraft.

It was agreed to discuss at the next meeting which other societies the Warnham Society would continue to support.

9. Spring Meeting

The Chairman asked the Secretary to book the Village Hall for Friday 23 April (preferred date) or Friday 30 April.

The Chairman invited suggestions for a guest speaker and proposed the invitation of a speaker who recently addressed the Rudgwick Society on the subject of the Wey and Arun Canal. Mr. Read suggested further presentation on traffic calming or the District's scheme for conservation. Mr. Purcell offered to ask Ms. McNab if this would be appropriate at this stage. Such a presentation could be given in conjunction with the Parish Council. Mr. Brand said that BCTW give talks about conservation aimed at promoting amateur groups to undertake conservation projects. He will give the Chairman, a copy of their magazine.

10. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 1 April 1993 at 8 pm at The Red House, Church Street at the kind invitation of Sir James Dalrymple-Hay.