

## THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

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

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Minutes of the Forty Ninth Meeting of the Committee  
held at The Red House, Church Street, Warnham on  
Tuesday 14 December 1993

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

1. Apologies for Absence

All Committee members were present at the Meeting.

The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Ashton back to the Committee.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 September 1993

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising

(i) **Golf Course.** It was noted that work has not yet started on the Golf Course. Mr. Read said that the start had been delayed, but that completion by April 1995 was still the intention. He reported that the planners had seen no reason to change the proposed access off Robin Hood Lane which will be widened at the new junction. Mr. Purcell said that he had written to both the County and District Councils suggesting that access from the Guildford Road was not incompatible with the proposed new housing, but that they had disagreed. There will be a pedestrian underpass beneath Warnham Road to link the two halves of the course.

(ii) **Road Naming.** The Chairman referred to an item in the minutes of the Parish Council

Meeting which expressed concern at The Warnham Society's lack of consultation prior to asking the County Council to change road signs. The Committee felt sure that the Parish Council had been advised of the Society's approach to Horsham District Council. The Secretary will check records and write to the Chairman of the Parish Council on this matter. She will also contact the District Council to find out why no signs have yet been erected.

(iii) **Society Affiliations.** Continued membership of the Civic Trust was discussed at the AGM. In accordance with the wishes of the members, membership of the Civic Trust will continue.

(iv) **Bus Shelter.** Mr. Read reported that it is now proposed to erect a shelter at the end of Farm Close, using the Tyldens shelter if practicable. The County Council have agreed to the loss of one parking space to accommodate the shelter. The PCC were also considering the provision of a shelter on Church land. Mr. Brand disputed the stated lack of use of the shelter at Tyldens. Repositioning of the Bell Road shelter was dismissed as too expensive.

(v) **Ends Place Footpath.** The Parish Council are still looking to prove use as vehicular access, and have asked Mrs. Thornton to research the archives at Chichester. Mr. Purcell suggested that the Historical Society should be asked to investigate the matter, and Mrs. Thornton agreed to instigate this.

(vi) **Abbeyfield Society.** Sir James Dalrymple-Hay showed the Committee drawings of the proposed development. Several of the members were critical of the design, feeling that it did not reflect or complement the character of the village architecture. It was agreed that the proposals were at this stage lacking in detail, and that their suitability would to a large extent depend upon the choice of materials and construction detailing. Latest estimates of the likely cost of the development exceed £500,000 which makes the viability of the project very uncertain. It is believed that the Church is asking £40,000 for the land.

(vii) **Underground Cabling.** Telephone cabling is now complete, Lighting standards will be erected after Christmas. Concern was expressed that if the new standards are sited adjacent to the kerb the footpaths will become too narrow in places. It is anticipated that the standards will be sited on the inside of the footpaths.

(viii) **Station Road.** Mrs. Ashton said that residents of Station Road have been asked for their opinion of the proposed closure, and that they are to be advised of the decision. She reported that residents are in favour of closure of the level crossing.

(ix) **Best Kept Village Competition.** The Chairman expressed his thanks to Mrs. Thornton and Mr. Purcell for their efforts in connection with this competition.

(x) **Civic Trust.** Mr. Newman confirmed that the membership fee for this year has now been paid to the Civic Trust.

(xi) **Cox Farm.** Mrs. Jameson confirmed that Cox Farm is being sold by the County Council

for residential use only. The Land included in the sale extends to the edge of the route of the future A24.

(xii) **Field Place.** The Parish Council have objected strongly to the application to change the enabling development to residential. Despite this permission has now been granted for housing.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Newman reported that funds in the bank stand at £225.20.

7 new members have joined the Society, and 2 lapsed members have rejoined. Many members have yet to pay their subscriptions for this year, and reminders will be sent out at the beginning of January.

Thanks was expressed to Mr. Purcell for his free provision of new membership cards, and for the plans showing traffic calming proposals.

The annual subscription to the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies has been increased from £15 to £20.

#### 5. Planning Matters

The Parish Council have objected to the removal of a rear chimney stack at 38 Friday Street. This has now been replaced but using modern bricks. Mr. Read said that the District Council were taking a relaxed attitude to the matter, although they could insist on replacement with contemporary materials.

Mr. Read reported that the owner of the land behind Cromwells is applying for early construction of the housing projected in the Local Plan. Kingsfold residents had wanted this development delayed until after the A24 dualling when water supply and pressure problems could be sorted out.

The extension of commercial vehicle facilities at Nye's premises in Kingsfold is being resisted by the Parish Council.

#### 6. AGM

There had been a very good attendance at the AGM, and good feedback was reported from members. It was agreed that the guest speaker had given a very interesting talk, and Mr. Brand was thanked for making the invitation. Thanks was also given for the provision of refreshments.

#### 7. Spring Meeting

The Spring Meeting will be held on Friday 15 April 1994. It was agreed that Mr. Newman

would approach GACC to provide a speaker to talk about opposition to the proposed second runway at Gatwick Airport.

8. Any Other Business

Mr. Purcell described the latest developments to his plans for traffic calming measures in the village, taking account of comments received from the County Council. The introduction of a 20mph speed limit must apply to an area rather than one stretch of road i.e. to more than just Church Street. He proposes that the 20mph zone should commence just to the north of a mini roundabout at the junction of Church Street with Friday Street, extending to include Church Street as far as Bell Road together with Hollands Way up to Tilletts Lane. By this means, traffic approaching the village in any direction will have the option to avoid entering the 20mph zone.

The village would be permitted to carry out an 18 month trial of a self enforcing scheme without Department of Transport permission. After that time speeds in use would be checked and the scheme approved, or rejected if outside acceptable limits.

It was agreed that the amended scheme should be submitted to the Parish Council with the intention that the PC should make the submission to the County Council.

Mr. Brand expressed his concern at the steadily increasing traffic on the A24 and the number of accidents arising. The meeting was advised that, whilst the Parish Council is wanting to push for an early start to the A24 dualling, the present proposed start during 1996/7 is likely to slip as a result of cutbacks in Government expenditure.

Concern was expressed at the loss of the footpath adjacent to the Village Hall following resurfacing work and the removal of the railing. Mr. Read suggested that it is intended to delineate the footpath when the white lining is done.

Mr. Read said that there had been complaints within the Parish Council about the trees planted on the village green and the subsequent reduction in open area. Mr. Purcell pointed out that the Council had been advised of the landscape plan.

The fencing around the play area beside the cricket field was discussed and whether it should be removed. It is constantly being damaged, with an annual cost of £500 - £600 for repairs.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 February 1994 at the Red House, Church Street, at 8.00pm.