

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

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

Minutes of the Fiftieth Meeting of the Committee
held at The Red House, Church Street, Warnham on
Tuesday 8 February 1994

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

1. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence had been received from Mr. A. G. Brand

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 December 1993

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

3. Matters Arising

(i) **Road Naming.** Mrs. Jameson reported that she had again spoken to Mr. Flack at Horsham District Council who assured her that the new signs had been manufactured and would be erected "in the near future". She had written to the Chairman of the Parish Council regarding the Warnham Society's stated lack of consultation with them, and read out to the meeting the reply she had received from the Parish Clerk. The PC still seemed to be objecting to the initiative for additional road signs, although members of the Committee were satisfied that the PC had previously approved of this action.

(ii) **Bus Shelter.** Work has commenced on provision of a shelter at the end of Farm Close. The shopkeepers opposite were reported to be angry at the loss of car parking spaces.

(iii) **Ends Place Footpath.** Mrs. Thornton said that this matter had been raised at the last

Parish Council meeting, but she did not think that any maps would indicate or establish vehicular use. She will contact the gentleman who was present at the Appeal hearing and who may be able to direct her investigations.

(iv) **Underground Cabling.** The electric cabling is due to be done shortly, also the laying of new gas pipework. Mr. Courtier said that British Telecom is now proposing to replace the overhead cabling along Friday Street.

(v) **Station Road.** The County Council are not opposing the closure of the level crossing, which is set to happen in July. Mrs. Ashton said that the signal box is well worth preserving, and Mr. Read agreed to raise the idea at the next Parish Council meeting. Mr. Purcell will telephone the County Council to ascertain their plans in this matter.

(vi) **38 Friday Street.** The Parish Council has expressed its strong opinion that the rear chimney stack should be rebuilt using 2" bricks as original.

(vii) **Traffic Calming.** Mr. Purcell showed the committee his revised drawing which now takes account of comments received from the County Council i.e. that a 20mph speed restriction should relate to an area rather than a road, and must allow drivers to avoid the 20mph area should they so wish. He distributed copies of a draft letter to the Parish Council, and it was agreed that Warnham Society members would meet the PC to discuss the proposals. Mr. Purcell will not progress any further with the scheme drawing until the approval of the PC has been obtained.

(viii) **A24 Dualling.** Mr. Purcell displayed a plan he had received which showed the work being done by Surrey County Council on the environmental impact of the entire length of the new road. It shows an alignment for the road much closer to the railway line than previously illustrated, and which prevents the inclusion of a junction to serve the Horsham Business Park. The Kingsfold junction has also been eliminated, the only points of access being to either side of the railway crossing.

As this new plan indicates that the old A24 will remain fully open, the need for traffic calming in Warnham could be considered a necessity to prevent motorists using the existing roads as a 'quiet.' alternative fast route.

(ix) Village Hall Car Park. No provision has been made for a footpath. It has been suggested within The Parish Council that matters be left to see how things work out. It was suggested that a white line would at least keep a clear pedestrian route adjacent to the building.

4. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Newman reported that the total funds stand at £281.93 in cash and in the bank.

12 members have yet to renew their subscriptions.

5. Planning Matters

Their was nothing to report on this subject.

6. Spring Meeting.

Mr. Newman said that Mr. Brendon Sewill of the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign had agreed to be the guest speaker at the meeting to be held on 15 April 1994. The Secretary will arrange for notices to appear in the Warnham Warbler and the West Sussex County Times. She will also advise the Horsham Society (Mrs. Paula Lamplough) and the Sussex Amenity Societies, and will write to Mr. Sewill to confirm arrangements for the night.

It is anticipated that there could be a larger attendance than normal, and it was thought that there are sufficient chairs in the Village Hall to cater for this. Mr. Read will arrange the wine as previously, and Mrs. Thornton and Mrs. Jameson will provide coffee and biscuits.

7. Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies

Sir James Dalrymple-Hay reported that he had attended the FSAS meeting on 26 January at West Chiltington which had proved to be a shambles. The Society is broken up into local districts, with the West Sussex district having difficulty getting support. They have no funds, no officers, and no minutes are taken of the meetings. The FSAS believed it carried influence with Local Authorities, but the local groups are very parochial. The Federation was a good idea, but in practice the separate groups had little common ground. The Horsham Society felt it was a missed opportunity and thought that a loose grouping of local societies based around Horsham may develop.

Mr. Newman asked whether the Warnham Society wished to remain a member of the FSAS after the end of the 10 months left of run of the current subscription. The Chairman thought that the grouping may collapse within that time. It was agreed that membership of a grouping based around Horsham might be more relevant to the concerns of Warnham. The cost of such a membership is likely to be in the order of £10 per annum.

8. Any Other Business

Mr. Newman produced a letter from GACC detailing a proposed "Ring of Fire" protest to be held on Sunday 13 March 1994. It was agreed to be inappropriate for the Society to involve itself, and Mrs. Jameson undertook to send the letter on to the Chairman of the Parish Council.

Sir James Dalrymple-Hay discussed notice he had received of a seminar to be held on 12 February at Broadbridge Heath Leisure Centre about the Local Government Revue. Mr.

Purcell said that he would attend if possible.

Mr. Purcell commented on the Parish Council's plans to move some of the trees recently planted on the Village Green. It seemed unwise to move plants which had taken root, and he was opposed to any further planting. The Secretary will write to the Parish Council asking for details of their proposals for the Warnham Society's consideration.

It was reported that the Warnham Society waste bin on the cricket field is badly damaged. Mr. Read will raise the matter at the next PC meeting.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8.00pm on Tuesday 7 June 1994 at **1 The Forge, Byfleets Lane**, not at The Red House as previously arranged.