

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

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

CHAIRMAN : Mr. P.M. Lee CBE SECRETARY : Mrs. M.E. Dales

Minutes of the Sixty Fourth Meeting of the Committee

held at 1 The Forge on

Thursday 20th February 1997

Present: Mr. P.M. Lee Chairman
 Mr. G.J. Read Vice-Chairman & Treasurer
 Mrs. M.E. Dales Secretary
 Mrs. R. Ashton
 Mr. A.G. Brand
 Mrs. J. Burnham
 Mr. R.H. Courtier
 Mrs. S. Dutton
 Mrs. J. Jameson–Bates
 Miss V. Ronaasen
 Mrs. O.G. Thornton

1. Apologies for Absence

None. All members of the Committee were present.

2. Change to Membership of the Committee

The committee accepted the resignation of Mr. R. Purcell. Mrs. M.E. Dales was co-opted and agreed to take on the role of Secretary.

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 October 1996

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

4. Matters arising

i) Litter bins

Warnham Park Estate . Mr Lee reported that the Society had written to the Parish Council to ask them to take up this matter, and it was agreed that there appeared to be no further action that the Society could take.

Church Street Although there are now bins sited outside the shop and close to the bus shelter, members of the Committee reported that there is still litter in these areas.

ii) Dead Tree in Church Street

Mrs. Burnham agreed to ask Horsham District Council to plant a tree to replace the felled tree in Church Street.

Several members expressed concern at the damage done to verges at the entrance to Farm Close. Kerb-stones had not kept vehicles off the verge and small bollards were suggested as a practicable, if unsightly, solution. Mrs Burnham agreed to take this matter to the Parish Council.

iii) A24 Mrs Burnham reported that the WSCC Surveyor will be present at the Parish Council meeting on 24th February to give a presentation on the proposed A24 improvements.

There was agreement on the urgency of the improvements and it was agreed that the Society would contact the new Minister of Transport and West Sussex County Council immediately after the forthcoming Parliamentary and local government elections to ensure that the A24 scheme did not slide down the list of priorities.

iv) Traffic calming. Mr Courtier has taken over Mr Purcell's file on traffic calming measures.

Mrs Burnham reported on a meeting which she had attended, which had been addressed on the subject by Mr. Bradley, Section Engineer of the Traffic Calming Safety Unit W.S.C.C.

Though there had been no formal response to Warnham's traffic problems, Mr Bradley had outlined the incompatibility with local residents' lives of some traffic calming measures which had been installed.

It seemed unlikely that Warnham would receive any consideration of a scheme in advance of the A24 improvements, though we should press for a review of the situation and for money for the scheme to be considered within the A24 budget.

v) Footpaths. The black surfacing of the footpath had not been covered with brown chippings and it was agreed to let the matter rest.

vi) Dogs. The proposed ban on dogs on the cricket-field and their controlled exercising on the village green was reported. Some points of clarification were needed and Mr Read agreed to ask for these at the Parish Council meeting on 23rd February.

vii) Paint Spillage This was fading and no further action was deemed necessary

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported a balance of £467, a rise on the previous year. Approximately £80 worth of subscriptions were outstanding.

Nine new members had joined after the AGM.

It was agreed that the Society's bank account should have three authorized signatories (the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary). Cheques would require the signatures of two of these officers.

Bills for Society expenses should be given to the Treasurer.

6 Planning Matters

Considerable concern was expressed on the prospect of large scale development in the area, particularly in Kingsfold. However as there were no plans laid before the council for such development no formal objections could be made to information gleaned largely from reports in the local press. It was agreed that the Society would support the Parish Council in opposing development which would change the character of Warnham.

Application had been made for outline planning permission for a five bedroomed house at The Mount, on A24. This would be placed before the Parish Council on 23rd February.

The vision splays at the Vicarage had not yet been cut back.

There was still no news on the future use of Warnham Court School.

7 The Spring Meeting and AGM 1997

To be held on 25th April if the Village Hall was available, 9th May was an acceptable alternative. Mrs. Burnham agreed to ask Mr Michael Rowan of WSCC Heritage department to talk on listed buildings and planning.

AGM. It was agreed to book the Village Hall for a Friday evening late in October.

The Secretary agreed to contact Mr. Arliss to make bookings for both meetings.

8 AOB

Trees opposite The Forge. It was recommended that these be lopped and the matter was in the hands of WSCC

Membership cards. The Treasurer reported that cards would be printed and issued to members.

GACC The Chairman had replied to a request from GACC to sign a form stating that the Society supports the WSCC resolution opposing any attempt to overturn the legal agreement on the second runway at Gatwick.

GACC also asked the Society to take action to ascertain the names of the candidates for the Parliamentary and Local Government elections, and to write to them asking them to include in their election addresses pledges to oppose attempts to overturn the legal agreement on a second runway at Gatwick and to work for a better environment with a reduction in disturbance from aircraft using the airport. The Secretary agreed to do this.

750th Anniversary Celebrations The Society agreed to take part in the Fete to be held on the Village Green on 14th June. The suggestion that it should be responsible for a mini-tombola was turned down. It was felt that there should be attractions which would provide some activity and participation.

Mr Read suggested bowling and agreed to pursue this idea.

A competition recognising landmarks in the village from photographs was approved and it was suggested that Mrs. O. Thornton, Mr M Donovan, & Mr. P. Christmas might be asked to take suitable photographs, with the Society reimbursing their costs.

Millennium Funding

Mrs Burnham reported that Parish Councils were being asked to submit projects to be considered for funding. Ideas should be put forward via local organisations and it was agreed that the Society would discuss ideas at the next meeting. The sum available is to be £50,000 for the Horsham District.

Neighbourhood Watch

A volunteer's name had been put forward

Village in Bloom competition

The Parish Council has been asked to consider entering Warnham for the 1997 competition. In view of the many activities in which people of Warnham were likely to be involved this Summer it was felt that there would be little support for entry.

9 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th April at 8 pm at Ridge House, Byfleets Lane, by the kind invitation of Mrs. Burnham