

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Chairman: P. M. Lee CBE

Secretary Mrs M. E. Dales

Minutes of the seventieth Meeting of the Committee held at Five Gables on 10th June 1998

Present:

P.M. Lee	Chairman
Mrs. M.E. Dales	Secretary
Mrs. R. Ashton	
Mrs. J. Burnham (from 8.30)	
R.J. Courtier (from 8.35)	
Mrs. S. Dutton	
Mrs. O. Thornton	
Miss V. Ronaasen	

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Messrs. A.G. Brand, D.S. Cottell and G. Read.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th February 1998

The minutes of the sixty ninth meeting were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising

i) Village noticeboard

Although no progress had been made in establishing responsibility for maintenance of the area of ground near the board, it had been tidied up.

ii) Projector Screen for the Village Hall

Mrs. Dutton reported that progress was being made.

iii) **Strategic Gap** A date for the proposed meeting still had not been made.

iv) **Football Pitch** There was no further news on progress, but it was thought that the pitch would be ready for use by the Autumn

v) **Tuggles Platt** No action to be taken.

vi) **HDC's Petition against extra housing in West Sussex.** Mrs. Burnham had been the Warnham Society's representative in the presentation of the petition at 10 Downing Street.

The outcome of the petition , and of the judicial enquiry into the proposed number of dwellings, was awaited.

vii) Spring Meeting 1998 See Item 5 on this agenda

viii) A24 Improvement works, though delayed, had not been definitely cut from proposed future works.

ix) Lucas Road The matter appeared to have been resolved.

x) Millennium funding. Mrs. Thornton was supported by other members of the Committee in requesting investigation into the possibility of installing a village pond, possibly sited at the south-eastern margin of the village green. It was agreed that the Society should write to Warnham Parish Council with this proposal.

4. Treasurer's Report

In his absence the Treasurer presented a written report that the balance stood at £450.24. Several former members had not paid subscriptions for two years. With regret it was decided that their names should be deleted from the membership list.

Accounts for 1996–97 had still not been audited. The Chairman agreed to follow up this matter with the Treasurer.

5 Spring Meeting 1998. There were many positive comments on the success of the Spring Meeting, on 20th March The subject was topical and the material presented by the Chairman of the Parish Council and the two speakers was stimulating. This provoked many questions, and lively discussion. The only regret was that though the meeting was well attended the age range of the meeting was small and mainly at the upper end

The visit to Nursery House Gardens on 21st March was much enjoyed. The owners , Mr. & Mrs. P. Lowe have kindly invited members to visit informally and unguided at other times of year. The Committee felt unable to be responsible for offering an entirely open arrangement, and the Secretary agreed to discuss with Mr. & Mrs. Lowe the possibility of choosing a few dates on which Society Members might be invited, and at which members of the committee could steward the entrance.

6 Planning Matters

i) Warnham Court had just been advertised for sale by tender by the London Borough of Lambeth. At this time there was no indication of what planning application might be made.

ii) Horsham Local Transport Forum. The Chairman had been invited to join the Forum, which has an advisory and consultative role. He would report back following the first meeting to be held on 23 June. It appeared that Warnham Parish Council was not represented in the Forum.

iii) Serplan document. This lengthy document had just been received. The Chairman

agreed to read it and to respond as necessary.

7 Traffic Speed on the Broadbridge Heath Road The Committee strongly supported the paper sent by Mrs. Woods and other residents of the road, requesting WSCC to impose speed restrictions . The Chairman agreed to write to West Sussex County Council , and to send a copy to our County Councillor, Norman Horton. He agreed also to ask for the installation of speed limits, and of warning and careful driving request signs on all approaches to the parish, along country lanes and on the village approaches, as has been done in Surrey. The amenity value of the parish's rural lanes was noted by the Committee.

8 Committee Organisation The Chairman confirmed that he was prepared to remain in office until, but not beyond, the AGM in October. It was agreed to look at the organisation of the committee, particularly with a view to identifying the role of each member relative to the specific tasks to be undertaken by the Society. It was agreed in principle that some of the tasks undertaken currently by the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary could be split. The Chairman and Secretary agreed to meet before the next Committee meeting to draw up a plan for consideration by the committee. It was also agreed to attempt to identify possible candidates to undertake these functions. Mr. Courtier volunteered to take on the role of Membership Secretary. It was proposed that recruitment of members should be an agenda item for the next meeting.

9 Autumn Meeting 1998

In accordance with previous informal discussions with the Warnham Historical Society, the Secretary had approached the Secretary of that Society, Elizabeth Bridges, with the proposal of a joint meeting in October. The Historical Society had booked the Village Hall for the first Thursday in October (subsequently identified as 1st October, not 2nd, as reported at the Committee meeting). Their speaker had not yet been booked and it was agreed by the Committee that the Secretary should continue discussions with the chairman and Secretary of the Historical Society to arrange.

- a joint meeting on Thursday 1st October in the Village Hall, with the AGM of the Warnham Society to follow the main part of the meeting at approximately 9 pm.
- two speakers, one on "Warnham Past", with particular reference to the growth and employment patterns over the past centuries, and the other on "Warnham Present and future". It was agreed to ask Michael Hodgson, Chairman of Warnham Parish Council to fulfil the second role.

10 Any other Business Mrs Burnham drew to the attention of the committee two meetings of the local Health Consultative Board, the first to be held in Horsham on 30th June, the second in Crawley on 24th September. It was agreed to publicise the latter by a notice in the September edition of the Warbler.

11 Date of the next meeting

THURSDAY 23rd JULY at 8pm at Sands