

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Chairman & Correspondence Secretary: Mrs. Margaret Dales

Minutes of the seventy third Meeting of the Committee held at April Cottage on 11th November 1998

Present: Mrs. M.E. Dales Chaired the meeting
Mr. A.G. Brand Treasurer
Mrs. J. Burnham
Mr. R. Courtier
Mrs. S. Dutton
Mr. G. Elliott
Mr. R. Melhuish
Mr. R. Newman
Miss V. Ronaasen

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mrs. O. Thornton and Mr. M. Rogers

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd September 1998

The minutes of the seventy second meeting were approved as an accurate record and signed by Mrs. S. Dutton.

3. Matters arising

i) Projector Screen for the Village Hall

Mrs. Dutton reported that the Women's Institute proposed to offer the gift of a screen for the Village Hall to commemorate the Millennium.

ii) Strategic Gap A date for the proposed meeting still had not been arranged.

iii) Football Pitch

a) Problems of dog walking were again noted. Although dogs were not permitted to run on the football pitch, some owners were not complying with this regulation . Where dogs are permitted on footpaths both the footpaths and their environs were being fouled. This applies not only to paths near the pitch, but elsewhere in the village. Mrs. Dutton demonstrated a "poop scooper", showing how readily dog owners could cope with removing dog faeces. Mrs. Burnham stated that the Parish Council could take action if the identity of the owners of offending dogs were known. It was agreed that the presence of a dog warden might solve the problem.

b) The football pitch was not ready for match play this autumn, and the team had arranged to play elsewhere for this season. However, it was noted that the field was for general

recreational use, at such times when the football team were not using it for matches or for practice.

iv) Millennium projects The Society's suggestion of a pond on the Village Green was not considered to be feasible by the Parish Council. The Committee discussed the matter further, with the idea that there might be alternative sites which might become available. The problems of upkeep and safety were considered.

The planting of trees, the burial of a time capsule and the fixing of a sundial, possibly on the Church, were suggested.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported a bank balance of £483. Of this £59 was from subscriptions, collected at the Autumn Meeting. The Treasurer will send reminders to members who have not paid, and membership cards to those who had paid.

5. Planning matters

a) 16 Church Street Application refused by HDC

b) Kingsfold Application for 6 houses refused by HDC

c) Barns at Charmans – delegated

d) Warnham Court So far no planning application had been made, though the indications were that the property was under offer.

6. Election of officers and Committee organisation

The following were elected :

Treasurer:	Mr. G. Brand
Chairman & Correspondence Secretary	Mrs. M.E. Dales
Vice – Chairman	Mr. R. Newman

After further discussion the Committee was reorganised to the following apportionment of responsibilities: -

Minutes Secretary :	Mr. G. Elliott
Inspection of the Planning Applications (WN).	Mr. R. Melhuish
Distribution Organiser:	Mrs. O. Thornton
Membership Secretary:	Mr. R. Courtier

7 Spring meeting 1999

The village hall had been booked for Thursday 11th March 1999.

Mr. Courtier offered to contact Southern Water for a speaker on the supply of water services, particularly in the light of the proposed increase in housing in West Sussex.

Mr. Melhuish offered to speak on the architecture of the village and appropriate local styles and

materials, with a view to what might be considered acceptable in future village growth and change. It was agreed to try to get a Southern Water speaker for the Spring Meeting, and to accept Mr. Melhuish's offer for the Autumn Meeting. In the event of Southern Water not being able to provide a speaker for 11th March, Mr. Melhuish agreed to move his talk forward to the Spring Meeting, given adequate notice.

The suggestion of a speaker on the Government Regional Offices was deferred to the next meeting. It was also felt that the Society might wish to follow up some of the ideas put forward by Mr. M. Hodgson when he spoke at the Autumn 1998 meeting, particularly as the formulation of the next phase of the Village Plan would be taking place in 1999.

8 A.O.B.

i) Autumn Meeting 1999 It was agreed to book the Village Hall for 7th or 14th October 1999 for the Autumn Meeting and AGM.

ii) Traffic It was reported that some cars mount the pavement in an attempt to pass each other. The provision of further pavement bollards, particularly near the Red House, might add to the safety of pedestrians.

iii) Traffic calming

It was agreed that the matter of traffic calming was too pressing to be left until the A24 improvements had been carried out. Although a scheme for traffic calming, involving "bumps" or other road obstructions, had been proposed and costed by the Society in the past, it was felt that there was the necessity for re-thinking the situation. This arose partly from reports from other villages where "bumps" caused extra noise and disturbance to residents living close to the obstructions, and where chicanes constituted a perceived extra hazard to local users as much as to through traffic. It was also thought that emergency vehicles and buses were hampered by these devices for traffic calming.

It was agreed that the Society should look at the possibility of reducing the rat-run aspects of traffic flow through the village, possibly by the blocking off of certain routes, or at least making them unattractive as rat-run routes.

Mr. Courtier offered to look at the problem and to produce some proposals which could be put to Warnham Parish Council.

iv) Approval of banking arrangements

The Treasurer asked the Committee for approval to continue the Warnham Society's banking arrangements with the Midland Bank in Horsham. The proposal to do so was proposed by Mr. R. Courtier, seconded by Mrs. J. Burnham, and carried unanimously.

9 Date of the next meeting

TUESDAY 26TH JANUARY 1999 at Sands