

## The Warnham Society

Chairman and Correspondence Secretary: Mrs Margaret Dales.

### Minutes of Committee Meeting No 74. Tuesday 26th January 1999

Held at Sands, Warnham.

Present: Mrs M. Dales. Chairman  
Mr A.G. Brand. Treasurer  
Mrs J. Burnham  
Mr R. Courtier  
Mrs S. Dutton  
Mr G. Elliott  
Mr R. Newman  
Mrs O. Thornton  
Mr M. Rogers  
Mrs V. Ronaason

#### Action

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Mr R.E. Melhuish

MD It was agreed that a list of committee members names, addresses and telephone numbers should be circulated to all committee members.

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 1998:** The minutes of the 73rd meeting were approved as an accurate record and were signed by - Mrs Dales.

#### **3. Matters Arising.**

**(i) Strategic Gap:** The committee expressed it's support for the Warnham Parish Council as it continues to press for formal recognition of a strategic gap between Warnham and Broadbridge Heath - a long standing issue.

**4. (ii) Millennium Projects:** It was noted that Mr Christopher Cox had written to Whitbread Ltd, owners of the "Sussex Oak" seeking their support for the construction of tennis courts on land behind that property.

Mrs Burnham advised the committee that Horsham District Council has funds to allot to parish councils to help them celebrate the millennium.

MD An early application is advised.

It was agreed that the committee should make the following three suggestions to the Parish

Council:-

- (i) The burial of a time capsule.
- (ii) The preparation of a photographic record of Warnham life during the year 2000.
- (iii) The fixing of a sundial, possibly on the church.

MR It was agreed that the P.C.C. should be approached to secure their initial reaction to this idea.

**5. Traffic Calming:** Mr Courtier gave the committee a comprehensive overview of the problem in taking effective measures to manage traffic in, and passing through, Warnham. The Highways Department of W.S.C.C. does not consider the village to be a priority and is not considering any proposal for action at the moment. Most solutions also present problems. The "Village Gateways" in the Dorking Box is a trial project, the effectiveness of which has still to be assessed. It was agreed that a "twin-track" approach should be taken, namely:

(a) Revisit the legislators to confirm official thinking on what is good practice.

RC (b) Make proposals to the Parish Council including the use of "hostile markings" which are at minimum cost but suitably comprehensive and uniform in approach.

**6. Treasurer's Report.** Mr Brand reported a bank balance of £477 and that the revised bank mandate was operational.

MD Membership cards have been issued by Mr Courtier to those who have paid their annual subscription. It was agreed that the 50% of members who have not paid should be given a reminder in the Spring letter which would include a payment slip. Three options would be offered:-

- a. by cheque to the Treasurer.
- b. Payment at the Spring meeting.
- c. Payment direct to the Membership Secretary at his home in Friday Street.

## **7. Planning Matters:**

(i) 16, Church Street (The Warehouse). The application for Sunday opening having been refused by H.D.C., is going to appeal.

(ii) Warnham Court. No planning application has been made.

Mr Melhuish has not reported any other application.

Mr Newman reported that the "Sussex Oak" has been granted permission to extend it's

premises at the rear to accommodate additional diners.

He had written to the H.D.C. acquiescing in the application but only if the extension was not used for the playing of loud music.

**8. Spring Meeting 1999:** Mr Courtier reported that he had secured the verbal agreement of the Southern Water Authority that Mr Cook would be pleased to address the meeting. His subject would be "The Water in our Taps Meeting the Demand for the Future". Written confirmation of this arrangement has not been received and will be pursued.

RC

MD Notification of the meeting will be included in "The Warbler" and in the Spring letter to members which will be available three weeks before the meeting. Posters will be prepared for distribution to pubs, noticeboards etc. including Kingsfold. Distribution will be organised by Mrs Thornton.

VR It was agreed to adopt Mrs Burnham's suggestion that newcomers to the parish should be invited to the Spring Meeting. Miss Ronaason agreed to compile a list of newcomers to enable Mr Courtier to issue such invitations.

SD Mrs Dutton undertook to arrange the supply of glasses and nibbles. She would also arrange for the chairs to be left out in the hall after the W.I. meeting earlier that day.

OT Mrs Thornton undertook to oversee the provision of coffee for the meeting. Members will be invited to make a donation to cover the cost of refreshments.

**9. Autumn Meeting:** Mrs Dales reported that the village Hall is booked for Thursday 14th October, to include the AGM and at which Mr Melhuish would be the speaker (subject to there being no hitch in the arrangements for the Spring Meeting speaker).

It was agreed that, as a new strategic plan for Horsham district was due to be published in the Spring of the year 2000, the meeting could be used to collate suggestions and ideas from members for forwarding to the Parish Council who may choose to submit them to the HDC. in advance of the publication of the plan.

#### **10. Any Other Business:**

**(i) Publications and Reports:** Mrs Dales notified the committee of various publications she had received. It was agreed that:

a) Mrs Dales would select any item items from the Civic Trust publications that she considered to be of interest to members and to advise them accordingly.

b) Mrs Dales would secure prospectuses from organisations which might represent village

interests better than the perceived urban weighting of the Civic Trust.

c) The HDC's Composite Business Plan and a report from the Surrey and Sussex Health Care Trust warranted no further circulation beyond the meeting but were available to members.

ALL d) Mrs Dales would circulate the Citizens' Jury report to the HDC. on housing development to interested members of the committee. Mrs Dales suggested that comments could be written on the document itself or be suitably highlighted to show items of concern. She asked for the report to be returned to her by 22nd February so that she could formulate a response before the 5th March deadline.

**11. (ii) Roadside Verges:** Mrs Dales expressed her concern about the loss of roadside verges around the village. This forces pedestrians to use the carriageway, with all the attendant dangers. No immediate solution presents itself however.

**12. (iii) Rosemary Ashton:** Mrs Dales undertook to write a letter of appreciation to Rosemary Ashton at an appropriate time for her services to the Society. It was noted that the sale of her house in Station Road could be made more difficult if a current application by a neighbour to extend his property succeeded.

**13. Next Meeting.** The next meeting will be at 8pm on **Monday 15th March** at Sands, Warnham.