

## The Warnham Society

Chairman and Correspondence Secretary: Mrs Margaret Dales

### Minutes of Committee Meeting No.78. Monday 22nd November 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 M Rogers  
Mr R. Newman  
Mrs O. Thornton  
Miss V. Rönaasen

#### Action

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Mr R. Purcell

**2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 August 1999:** The Minutes were approved, after modifications of Minutes 6a and 9, as an accurate record and were signed by Mrs Dales.

**3. Matters Arising.**

**a. Millennium Projects:** Mrs Dales reported that Elizabeth Bridges intends to call a meeting, through the Warbler, of representatives of village organisations to work on the Big Archive. The Time Capsule idea is also with the Historical Society for consideration Mr Rogers confirmed that the PCC is continuing to work on the installation of the Tithe Stone in the churchyard.

**b. Traffic Calming.** Mr Courtier pointed out that the long term solution to traffic management within the village lay in the provision of a preferred alternative route for motorists, for example the dualing of the A24.

In the short-term, the meeting supported the reiteration by Mr Courtier of his low-cost measures to the Parish Council. Mr Courtier agreed to expand his proposals, in consultation with Mr Purcell, to include drawings and costs. They could also consider inclusion of proposals for mini-roundabouts at both ends of Bell Road. The essence of the proposals remains to achieve speed reduction through road markings and not through more expensive road reconstruction.

**c. Amenity Society Membership:** Mrs Dales reported that she had attended a meeting of the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. Their main concern was

RC

about the powers of the recently established South East Regional Council, in particular, its possible take-over of some of the County Council's present powers. The Federation has written to various M.P.s expressing their concerns. Mrs Dales undertook to keep the Committee informed.

MD

**d. Warnham Station:** Mr Elliott read from a letter he had received Connex laying out their plans for refurbishing the Station. Mr Elliott undertook to give a progress report at the next Meeting.

**e. Hospital Services Reorganisation:** Mrs Dales reported that her letter to the West Sussex Health Authority had elicited a standard letter reply.

In response to members continuing concerns Mrs Burnham reported that elected members and officers of Horsham and Crawley District Councils are working together to develop a hospital strategy to make better provision for local needs than the current proposals centred on the East Surrey Hospital at Redhill.

**f. Autumn meeting.** Mrs Dales has written to Mr Melhuish thanking him for his talk and has presented him with an honorarium of £15. The provision of a similar honorarium to Mr Boud, the Society's honorary auditor, was also enthusiastically endorsed.

**g. Housing in the Horsham District:** Mrs Dales reported that Horsham District Council's response to the recent consultation process should be announced early in the New Year in the form of a draft Structure Plan.

**4. Treasurer's Report:** Mr Brand reported that the Society's funds consisted of £566.39 in the Bank and £8.44 in cash.

**5. Membership:** Mr Courtier reported that 30 family units (= 51 persons) had paid their subscriptions for the current year. Reminders are to be sent to those who have not yet paid.

RC

**6. Planning Matters:** Mrs Dales reported her impressions of the plans for the re-development of Warnham Court School which she had perused with Mr Melhuish. They appear acceptable but there is an absence of detailed specifications and the use of "matching of existing" structure statements. Subject to W.S.C.C. agreement, the developers have agreed to provide a "hard" footpath up Bailing Hill.

Mr Rogers reported on two concerns of residents living near the exit from the site onto Bailing Hill. The first relates to the possible loss of mature trees should the existing boundary wall be re-positioned. The second was the increased volume of traffic. The developers are proposing the provision of 58 hard stand areas, based on two cars per dwelling. Mr Rogers provided Mrs Dales with a copy of the residents' letter to the H.D.C.

Discussion turned to the proposed development of Warnham Court Farm. Mrs Burnham pointed out that it forms a brown field site and that a possible obstacle to the project lay in

an H.D.C. rule that any development of over twenty dwellings requires the provision of some low-cost housing. The landowner may suggest such a provision elsewhere within the village.

The Committee's main concern was the effect on traffic flow in Church Street of additional vehicles to and from the Farm development albeit it would provide a small gain of parking spaces for local residents. The Committee expressed its belief that the traffic management issues arising from the Farm and School developments should be considered together.

MD Accordingly, it was agreed that Mrs Dales would write

- a. To Tony Stevens at H.D.C. asking that traffic implications of both developments are considered jointly, whilst agreeing to the suitability of the School development within the limits of existing information.
- b. To Warnham Parish Council asking them to consider both proposals jointly and to discuss with the landowner the possibility of an alternative route to the Farm development to relieve traffic flow in Church Street.

Mrs Burnham notified the Committee of other planning applications, none was seen as requiring action by the Society.

MR Mr Rogers agreed to take on the task of scrutinising Warnham related planning applications  
JB which Mrs Burnham would continue to provide.

**7. Spring Meeting:** Mrs Dales reported that the Village Hall had been booked for 9th March 2000 and that good progress was being made in securing a speaker from the Fire Service.

**8. Correspondence** etc: Mrs Dales reported that

- a. No correspondence had been received.
- b. "Tree News" was available for scrutiny.
- c. The Civic Trust is seeking people to sit on its regional groups. Any member who is interested or wishes to nominate someone should contact Mrs Dales.
- d. The local CPRE Group is looking for volunteers to serve on its MD Committee. It was agreed that we should write suggesting the CPRE place their request in the "Warbler" giving details of the position and the commitment required.
- e. The Gatwick Airport Conservation Campaign. Mrs Dales reported that we receive a quarterly newsletter. The last one was received too late for discussion at our A.G.M.

All / MD

MD

**9. Any Other Business:** Mr Elliott expressed concern that the legibility of names on the World War II memorial. It was pointed out that it had recently been refurbished.

**10. Next Meeting the next meeting will be held at Sands on Monday 7th February 2000 at 8pm.**