

## THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

### Minutes of Committee Meeting No. 79 Monday 7th February 2000

#### 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

#### Action

**1 Apologies for absence** : Mr. R. Purcell, Miss V. Ronassen

**2 Minutes** of the Meeting held on 2nd November 1999. The Minutes were approved as an accurate record and signed by Mrs. Dales.

#### **3 Matters Arising:**

a) Millennium Projects: It was reported that a meeting had taken place, chaired by Elizabeth Bridges, of representatives of village organisations to initiate the Warnham contribution to the Big Archive, a project of the West Sussex County Council. Various people have undertaken to compile records during the year 2000 of events reflecting village life and concerns. The Warnham compilation will join others from West Sussex in the County's archives at Chichester. No input is required from the Warnham Society. The Parish Council may be approached to maintain a copy of the Warnham contribution in its files.

The Historical Society does not intend to proceed with the Time Capsule idea. However , the PCC is continuing to progress the installation of the tithe stone in the churchyard.

MD It was agreed that Mrs. Dales would contact Martin Wright of the HDC to establish if money remained in the Millennium Fund for possible beneficial use within the village.

b) Traffic Calming. Mr. Courtier reported that circumstances had precluded completion of his discussions with Mr. Purcell, so delaying his letter to the Parish Council. He also reported an apparent increase of traffic in Strood Lane, possibly from an expanding Billingshurst. Mr. Courtier undertook to investigate regulations regarding road closure as a traffic management tool following discussions he had he had had with a new Warnham resident, Mr. Parker– Smith, who had spoken at length to WSCC on traffic issues. Mrs.

RC Thornton reported that she had counted 40 cars passing her Church Street house between 8am and 8.05am on one recent weekday.

c) Amenity Society Membership: Membership of the Sussex Federation of Amenity Societies for the current year will cost £20.

d) Autumn Meeting 1999 : Mrs. Dales reported that she had received a letter from Mr. Boud, the Society's Auditor, thanking the Committee for his Honorarium.

MD e) Planning Matters: Mrs. Dales reported that she had written to Tony Stevens at HDC but only in relation to the Warnham Court School development as no planning application had yet been made with respect to Warnham Court Farm. Regarding joint traffic management of both projects, Mrs. Dales will write to HDC and Warnham Parish Council when the Farm planning application has been made.

f) The Civic Trust. Mrs. Dales reported that no interest had been expressed in positions on the Trust's regional groups

g) CPRE: Mrs. Dales reported that the CPRE had filled the positions of Chairman and Secretary, obviating the need for action by the Society.

MD h) World War II Memorial. It was agreed that Mrs. Dales would write to the Parish Council pointing out the diminished legibility of some names on the Memorial.

**4 Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Brand reported that the Society's funds stood at £505 .96

ALL **5 Membership:** It was agreed that Committee members should continue to seek out new members, especially newcomers to the Village and that an existing leaflet describing the MD/RC Society's work should be made available.

## **6 Planning Matters**

a) Warnham Court School: Mrs. Dales reported that HDC are seeking legally binding agreements on key aspects of the planning application. This action should deal with the Society's concern about the lack of specificity in the plans.

b) Mrs Dales reported that a proposal for a dwelling to be built adjacent to Pear Tree Lane , and which the Society had opposed, had been rejected by HDC. However, the "proposer" has appealed, the appeal is to be heard by the "written appeal process". It was agreed that our original objections should stand and go forward for consideration within the "process".

c) Vodafone Telecom, Mast: Mrs. Dales reported that Vodafone had submitted a planning application for the construction of a mast, with attendant building and fencing. Because she and Professor Dales had personal concerns arising from its proposed position, Mrs. Dales had asked Mr. Newman to write on behalf of the Society, which he had done, objecting on grounds of avoidable visual intrusion. The application has been refused. Mr Newman

MD acquainted the Committee with the technical requirements for positioning of masts and the presence of weighting MD within planning regulations in favour of telecom companies securing sites for masts. Mrs Dales undertook to contact HDC to determine the next stage in the process.

d) Old Barn Cottage, Kingsfold: The owner had submitted an application to increase the property's 'residential curtilage'. The Committee decided against entering an objection as HDC, although deciding each application on its merits, takes a consistent line with such applications.

e) The Dog and Duck: Mrs. Burnham reported the rejection of an application by the owners, King and Barnes, to close the public house and build houses on the site.

**7 Spring Meeting , March 2000:** Mrs. Dales reported that Simon Rowles, Community Fire Safety Officer, WSCC, would speak at the Meeting

Logistics:

- SD a) Hall key with WI
- SD b) Wine
- OT c) Coffee
- AGB/RC d) Treasurer/Membership table
- MD e) Warbler
- JB/SD/OT f) Advice to Society members
- RC/MD g) Name and address labels

## **8 Correspondence:**

a) A Civic Trust publication was made available

b) Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies (FSAS). The Newsletter was made available. The AGM is on 17th May at Haywards Heath with two Guest speakers .

Our membership has been confirmed.

Mrs. Dales reported an offer of public liability insurance by the Federation at a cost of £40.

MD/AGB The Committee recognised the need to protect itself against claims. Mrs Dales undertook to determine whether users of the Village Hall are protected by insurance. Mr Brand would obtain additional quotations.

## **9 Any other Business:**

a) It was agreed that Mrs Dales would approach Dr A. Hughes, Chairman of the FSAS, to identify a speaker from the South East's economic development organisation to provide

insight into their strategies for the region's economic development. It was agreed that we should seek the services of a speaker from the CPRE, either as an alternative for the Autumn Meeting , or for the Spring Meeting 2001.

b) Mrs Burnham reported that the proposals for housing development would be available shortly, as the Local Plan, to be followed by a period of consultation.

c) Mrs Burnham reported that the Parish Council was working on a 50 year plan for the village, on which there would be consultation.

d) Mr Courtier raised his concerns about a possible disparity between the planned number of houses and the size of houses actually built.

e) Mrs Dutton suggested roundabouts at either end of Bell Road would be beneficial. It was agreed that this issue should fall within the remit of Mr Courtier and Mr Purcell when preparing their traffic management paper for the Society (see minute 3b) above.

f) Mr Newman reported on his attendance at a meeting of the West Sussex Health Authority at the Horsham Arts Centre. He had learned that the Accident and Emergency operation (A&E) at the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath is to be closed so Brighton and Redhill will be the only two providers of A&E services for a large section of Sussex. Furthermore, the Authority admitted its planned facilities were not geared to cope with a major accident within its area.

Mrs Burnham reported that the Horsham and Crawley District Councils were continuing to work on planning for a new hospital and that the Community Health Council was appealing to the Secretary of State over the proposals to transfer key services from Crawley to Redhill.

**10 Date of next meeting : THURSDAY 4TH MAY 2000, 8PM AT SANDS**