

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

REGISTERED WITH THE CIVIC TRUST

CHAIRMAN : & Correspondence secretary : Mrs Margaret Dales

Sands, Warnham, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 3SQ

Tel: & Fax: 01403 254 843

Dear Member

Enclosed are the Agenda and papers for the Autumn Meeting and Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday 11th October. The Treasurer's Report and a Statement of the Accounts will be available at the Meeting,

Following the challenge to "do something radical" to manage traffic in Warnham, a working party has been investigating some of the measures which might be taken. At the meeting, the committee plans to give an illustrated presentation of some possible solutions, in order to consult members on the acceptability and practicability of the ideas presented. We want your views and hope that you might encourage neighbours who are not members to come along to the meeting. Admission is free, though we would welcome donations, particularly from non-members.

Subscriptions for 2001-2002 will be due in October. They can be paid at the Autumn Meeting, or sent to the Membership Secretary, Robert Courtier, at 11 Friday Street, RH1230Y. With reluctance, but of necessity, the Committee has raised the subscriptions to £5 per household (£3 single membership). Twelve of **this** year's subscriptions have not yet been paid, so if the receipt of this letter and the associated papers stirs a pang of guilt, please can you assist the Treasurer's balance sheet by paying as soon as possible.

If you wish to nominate a potential Committee member, please contact me or any other member of the Committee, having ascertained the nominee's willingness to stand.

We hope to see you on 11th October. Wine and coffee will be available from 7.30. The meeting will start at 8.00.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Dales-Chairman, on behalf of the Warnham Society Committee September 2001

Annual General Meeting to be held at Warnham Village Hall

on Thursday 11th October 2001 at 8pm

AGENDA

1 Apologies for absence

2 Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12th October 2000.

3 Matters arising

4 Receipt and approval of the accounts from 1st October 2000 to 30th September 2001. Copies of the audited accounts will be available at the AGM

5 Election of a Committee to serve for one year. The Constitution specifies that the Committee shall consist of at

least eight and no more than twelve members

6 Report on the year 2000–2001 and discussion on matters arising from this report, a copy of which is enclosed.

7 Discussion on matters raised by members. Traffic will be discussed as the main topic of the Meeting. Please give the Chairman at least two day's notice of any other topic which you may wish to raise at the meeting.

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11TH OCTOBER 2001
REPORT ON 2000–2001

Meetings

There have been six committee meetings and two open meetings.

Autumn Meeting and Annual General Meeting 12th October 2000

The AGM, which was attended by 39 members, is recorded in the minutes accompanying this report. Mr Jeff Alexander, from the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA), spoke on the work of the agency, whose role is in the field of economic development of the region.

Spring Meeting 8th March 2001

The topic was “Making Rural Roads Safer”. The speaker was Mr Peter Mumford, Chairman of the Sussex Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) and leader of its Transport working party. His presentation emphasised the importance of reducing the use of private vehicles and developing public transport. The discussion which followed moved from general transport policy to the road issues in Warnham and its environs, with the challenge to “do something radical” to improve both the condition and use of local roads.

Affiliation to other organisations

The Society continues to be affiliated to the Civic Trust, GACC, CPRE & the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies, the last of which we rejoined two years ago. The FSAS is proving to be a source of considerable initiative, and the NW Sussex Branch has organised meetings with officers of the WSCC and HDC to help us to understand the workings of local government, particularly in the areas of planning and transport. Several members of the committee have attended meetings. Through our membership of the organisations we are not only becoming better informed but also enabling effective representation on issues of importance to be made to the appropriate bodies and individuals in government.

Housing Development.

The WSCC Draft Structure plan was published this month. The Society’s committee has not yet had time to consider it and to make a response. It appears that the number of houses to be built in Horsham District has been reduced, but we do not know precisely how Warnham might be affected. There will be a consultation period, with a “travelling show” early in 2002. HDC’s Press Release of 21/09/01 summarises the effect of the WSCC Structure Plan on Horsham District and is on the HDC website (www.horsham.gov.uk)

In October 2000 Planning applications were made for housing development at Warnham Court Farm and on land at Tilletts Lane. After studying the plans and visiting the farm site with the Area 1 Planning Officer, Clare Upton-Brown, the committee’s response was to request the refusal of

planning consent on both sites. There were many grounds for this response, which we explained in detail. The principal reasons on which we objected concerned the building on greenfield land outside the built area of the village, and the proposed access to the development from Church Street. In response to our letters we have recently had confirmation from HDC that the applications remain undetermined, and are unlikely to be determined until the Position Statement has been agreed and also the results of the Housing Needs Survey have been completed.

Other Planning Matters

We have continued to check the list of planning applications made to HDC, writing to support or oppose those applications where a matter of planning principle or of general impact is involved.

A24

Members will be aware that the A24 has been much in the news, sadly due to its accident record. The Southern section (Southwater to Ashington) is already the subject of minor improvements, and WSCC has published an initial assessment report favouring major grade separation works at Buck Barn and other intersections. The scheme bid is due to be made in July 2002, but the public exhibitions and consultation are not due until the summer of 2003. There is better news of “our” section of the A24, from Great Daux to Capel. WSCC and Surrey CC have put in a bid via the Government Office for the South East (GOSE) for improvements on this section. The West Sussex section is planned to leave the present A24 at the Great Daux Roundabout and to take a route approximately parallel to the railway line. The alternative route which was considered was on the line of the existing A24. While some bends would have been adjusted to improve visibility, the resultant likely increase in traffic speed would have made entry from properties along its length more dangerous than at present. We also considered that the volume of through traffic on the Bailing Hill / Knob Hill axis would have increased. Our views were expressed in some detail in a letter to WSCC Director of Environmental Strategy. We are pleased that the “railway route” has been favoured and think that among other benefits it could reduce rat-running through Warnham.

Traffic Calming

In last year’s report, following the Traffic Survey, we expressed the hope that we might be instrumental in bringing about some improvements so that pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians could co-exist safely with vehicular traffic. “Making Rural Roads Safer” was the topic of the Spring 2001 Meeting. Discussion with members at that meeting, and the urge to “do something radical” led to the formation of a Traffic Management Working Party. The work of this group will be evident at the Autumn Meeting. Briefly, we considered the problems of each road entering, passing through and leaving the village. The possible calming measures were considered. Two meetings were held with Roger Hobbs, responsible for Traffic Calming in the WSCC Highways and Transport Department. These meetings included on site visits to all roads covered in our survey, plus much of

the village centre. Discussion centred on what changes might be possible. We were encouraged by his supportive response to our suggestions.

Margaret Dales - Chairman, on behalf of the Warnham Society Committee September 2001

ADDENDUM The following item refers to the Review of Electoral Arrangements.

The draft scheme for consultation reached us on 20th September, and we need to respond to HDC no later than 8th October. Briefly, the document is HDC's response to the Local Government Commission for England's review of electoral arrangements for Districts. The main criterion of the review is electoral equality i.e. that each Councillor should represent as nearly as possible, the same number of electors. To meet this criterion it is proposed for example that Warnham, Slinfold and Itchingfield would share a total of two Councillors. While this may conform to electoral equality in a numerical sense, it does override representation of a recognisable community, with its discernable characteristics. Does this matter? Should we be concerned that we could be represented by Councillors who do not know Warnham as well as they know their own home ground? Will there be volunteers for what will probably prove to be an even more onerous task than at present?

The Society's committee have not met to discuss the review, but hope to respond by 8th October. We hope that members will, if possible consult the review in Horsham Library, or in the HDC Offices at Park House. Alternatively contact M.J. Wright of HDC (Tel: 215124 e-mail martin.wright@horsham.gov.uk) for information and to express your views on the proposals.

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS 1st OCTOBER 2000 TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2001

Balance brought forward
from Accounts at 30th September 2000

Cash £ 2.32
At Bank £ 347.34

£349.66

Income

Subscriptions:-
Cheques £ 21.00
Cash £171.00
Donations £ 19.00
Surplus from refreshments £ 12.06
Bank Interest (Gross) £ 1.09

TOTAL £224.15

Excess of
Expenditure over Income £ 62.10

FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

Cash £ 0.48
At Bank £287.08

Expenditure

Hire of village Hall (AGM) £ 30.00
Hire of Hall (Spring Mtg) £ 30.00
Administrative Costs £ 80.90
Speakers expenses £ 10.35
Insurance (Fed of Sussex
Amenity Societies) £ 50.00

Subs.to other organisations:-
Civic Trust £ 30.00
G.A.C.C £ 10.00
Council for the Protection
Of Rural England £ 17.50
Fed.of Sussex Amenity Socs. £ 20.00
Horsham Society (NW Sx Branch
Fed. Amen.Socs) £ 7.50

TOTAL £286.25

TOTAL £287.56

Signed A. George Brand Date 30/9/01
A. George Brand (Hon. Treasurer)

Signed R.J. Boud Date 8/10/2001
R.J. Boud A.C.I.B. (Hon. Auditor)

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Financial Report for year ended 30th September 2001

Despite raising the annual subscription last year, expenditure has again exceeded our income! This is due mainly to our affiliation subscriptions to associated bodies such as, The Civic Trust, The Council for the Protection of Rural England, The Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies and includes the highly discounted premium for our public liability insurance cover which is obtained through the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies.

It has to be said that had it not been for other unrecorded expenses absorbed in some committee member's pockets the balance of £287.56 would be dramatically lower. We therefore thank them for their contribution.

In anticipation of expenditure for the forthcoming year the committee has reluctantly agreed to increase the annual subscriptions for this year to £500 per couple and to retain the individual membership at £300. This of course does not prevent anybody making a further contribution in the way of a donation - cheques or cash will be gratefully received.

Our thanks go to Mr Roy Boud for his continued effort in auditing our accounts again this year.

George Brand

Hon. Treasurer

From: George Elliott To: Margaret Dalen, Roger Purcell

Warrham Society A.G.M.: Discussion on Traffic Presentation ^{4.1}₁₀
2001

General: There were 25 or more comments or questions from the 60 or so members present. The tone and content of the audience participation suggested a deep level of concern in the presentation's subject.

There was frequent praise given to the presentation.

What follows is my record & recollection of the discussion.

It is incomplete so there will be some errors of omission and commission.

Contributions

1. Ian Mc Dougall, Strood Lane: Urbanising affect of proposals, benefits of one way (for Strood Lane?).
2. Ted. Andrews, School Hill: Extend 20 mph up School Hill towards A 24, pedestrian crossing in Church St?
3. M/s A, Marches ^{Rd.} ~~Hager~~ Lane: Drivers' arrogance.
4. Philip Lee, Warrham Lodge: Northlands Rd. doesn't feature. If proposed changes succeed will some divert to N'lands or elsewhere. Fact - traffic is getting faster. 'Gates' should be practised @ exits from principal roads. One way roads not popular @ D.S.C.C. Importance of considering whole village

5. Christopher Cox Church St.: General support for proposals. Road signs.
6. Robert Carter, Friday St.: Recollects that width reduction of Friday St led to changes in signs directing traffic to Dambam, @ The Clemsfold roundabout.
7. Brian King, Northlands: Signage needs Highways Authority agreement. Accident rates influence priority and expenditure for improvement.
8. Jean Burnham, Bauling Hall: Was advised by R.P. that Highways Authority is keen on Gateways, Speed limits, Moving 30 mph further south.
9. Philip Lee, Northlands: Verges have been reduced by default.
10. Margaret Sales, Northlands: Advised that DSEC has a limited budget for ditching & verge reinstatement. Earth has been used in Granny's Lane to reduce road width.
11. J. Watts, ~~great for~~ ^{re} ~~road~~ Rd bridge Heath: Objected to being described as a "rat runner" in terms of his choice of routes in Dambam. Thought removing the "Dambam" sign @ Be A284 end of Flood Lane was a waste of £40k. Via Wamham? P.C. has tried to get 40 mph limit applied to all of B.B. Rd, has been told it can't be justified.
12. Thomas Dester, Tuggles Platt: As a walker & non-car owner deplures parking of cars on pavements, Church St? Applauds mini-roundabout @ Friday St/Church St. ? possibility of Byfleets Lane being one way from Greets P.H.
13. Guest ex BBH: Working on similar scheme for BBH including 20 mph in village centre & 40 mph in BBH Rd.

- 14 M/S (v. Gabre) works @ Darnley Station observes "Cates being ignored"
- 15 Jimmy Dabrymple-Hay: Charlwood a success, why not Darnley
Roger Purcell: Charlwood has installed stone sets, slows traffic takes investment. Liphook ditto.
- 16 Fay Clark: Loose Green: ^{one} ~~Part~~ of group of residents seeking 20 mph limit length of BBH Rd.
- 17 Thomas Weston, Tuggles Platt: A 24 needs improvement, eg more under/over passes.
- 18 AN Other, Byfleet Lane: Make Stood Lane one way
- 19 Tony X, Friday St: Fr. St. used by some cars travelling @ high speed. Residents feel strongly about need for speed limit.
- 20 Clare? Friday St: Granny's Lane road banking is not welcome as a cyclist
- 21 T.W. Tuggles Platt: Cycled in London, wouldn't cycle in Darnley.
- 22 J. Meredith, Stanford Orchard: Close roads (I'm unsure %)
- 23 B King, Northlands: Change of attitude @ CC needed. ^{of Surrey CC}
- 24 J. Buntan, Byfleet Lane: Surrey doesn't have 3000 miles of rural lanes
- 25 Eileen Lumsay, Farm Close: Need for speed checking by police.
- 26 Lady, Farebrothers: Nearby parking on double yellow lines makes safe vehicle exit from property difficult
Could Rhind Pt speed plat (pmp) include pedestrian crossing(s)?

27 Elizabeth Bridges, Cranny's Lane: Had heavy usage by dog walkers during Foot and Mouth Disease Restrictions.

28 Simon Parker-Smith, Stood Lane: Pleaded for a solution that allows, pedestrians, equestrians & cyclists to use village roads/paths safely. A solution of to manage cars would not suffice. The village population is changing, traffic management should reflect people's needs. Noted that rain is damaging verges.

Carl Smith

18.7.2001