

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

AUTUMN MEETING

to be held on

FRIDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2007 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

7.30pm for 8.00pm

To all Members of the Society

You are cordially invited to our Autumn meeting. This will include the proceedings of the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the Warnham Society,

Followed by our Guest Speaker: Mr. FRED ASBURY who will give an illustrated talk on:

LOCAL churches THROUGHOUT THE AGE

This Meeting is being held jointly with the Warnham Historical Society.

The Meeting is open to Members of both Societies and to visitors who are most welcome to attend.

Drinks and light refreshments will be served.

The Agenda for the AGM will be found overleaf.

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

23rd Annual General Meeting of the Warnham Society to be held on 16 November 2007 at the Village Hall at 8.00pm

AGENDA

- 1) Apologies for absence
 - 2) Welcome to Members of the Warnham Historical Society
 - 3) Approval of Minutes of the 22nd AGM of the Warnham Society held on 2 November 2006 at the Village Hall
 - 4) Matters arising from the Minutes
 - 5) Chairman's Report on the activities of the Society in 2006/7
 - 6) Treasurer's Report and Approval of Annual Accounts – the Treasurer's Report and Audited Accounts will be presented for the year from 1 Oct 2006-30 Sept 2007.
 - 7) Hon. Auditor's Report
 - 8) Election of Officers and Members of the Committee (maximum 12) Officers: Chairman, Treasurer, Minutes Secretary, Membership Secretary and election of Hon. Auditor
 - 9) Proposal to amalgamate the Warnham Society and the Warnham Historical Society
 - 10) Proposal to amend the Constitution of the Warnham Society in order to update various clauses and to include any amendments required upon the amalgamation of the two Societies (see item 9 above) if agreed.
 - 11) Any other business appropriate to the meeting. Item 10 (4) of the constitution requires that fourteen days notice must be given for any such business. Please notify the chairman of any matter that you wish to be considered.
 - 12) Closure of AGM and Commencement of Autumn Meeting
- Telephone No for Chairman -

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS 1ST OCTOBER 2006 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2007

Balance brought forward
From Accounts at 30th September 2006

Cash £ 0.00
At Bank £419.21

£419.21

Income

Subscriptions:-
Cheques £ 23.00
Cash £ 138.00
Surplus from refreshments £ 34.00
Donations £ 12.00

Bank Interest (Gross) £ 0.00

Total £207.00

Excess of Income
over Expenditure **£-110.08**

FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

Cash £ 0.00
At Bank £309.13

Expenditure

Hire of village hall(AGM) £ 35.00
Wine for AGM speaker £ 21.00
Administrative Costs £ 6.48
Insurance(Fed of Sussex
Amenity Societies) £125.00
Subs.to other organisations:-
G.A.C.C £ 10.00
Council for the Protection
Of Rural England £ 30.00
Fed.of Sussex Amenity Socs. £ 25.00
Spring meeting expenses £ 22.70
Hire of village hall (Spring
Meeting) £ 35.00
Postage costs £ 6.90

Total £317.08

Total £309.13

Signed.....Date.....
Sarah T.V.Rees (Hon. Treasurer)

Signed.....Date.....
R.J.Boud A.C.I.B.(Hon.Auditor)

PROPOSED MERGER of WARNHAM SOCIETY and HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At last year's AGM, we raised the possibility of amalgamating The Warnham Historical Society, which had been dormant for several years, with The Warnham Society.

We have given this proposal further consideration during the year and have discussed the possible merger with members of the former committee of the Historical Society. There has been good agreement that this amalgamation would be a sensible move and to the benefit of both Societies as their aims are complementary and a significant proportion of the membership is common to both.

An example of such a society is The Horsham Society, which combines, eg, amenity, environmental and historical aspects in an effective way within a single society.

On a purely practical level the merger would make sense, given the difficulty of sustaining two separate committees!

We have examined our respective Constitutions and there is no reason not to proceed, subject to a positive vote at this meeting.

The Historical Society has not collected any funds since 2000 and has a present balance of some £920. These funds would be consolidated with those of The Warnham Society and administered by the Committee of the merged society.

We have prepared a revised Constitution for the merged society, which would continue to be named The Warnham Society, for adoption subject to a vote in favour of amalgamation.

Brian King

16 Nov 2007

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

1.The NAME of the Society shall be THE WARNHAM SOCIETY. Its amalgamation with THE WARNHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY was agreed at the Annual General Meeting of The Warnham Society on Friday 16th November 2007.

2.The AIMS of the Society shall be: - to safeguard the character of Warnham parish - to apply the Development Guidelines within the Parish Design Statement in its scrutiny of proposed developments - to foster any activity beneficial to the parish - to promote the study and dissemination of the history of the parish - to support the acquisition, use and retention of historical data and artefacts - to work with like-minded organisations and local authorities in achieving these aims.

3.The Society shall have no political or religious activities and be shall be non-profit making.

4.MEMBERSHIP:Anyone interested in the parish shall be eligible for membership.

5.SUBSCRIPTIONS shall be determined by the Committee and shall be payable on becoming a member,and thereafter at the Annual General Meeting. Membership shall lapse if the subscription is unpaid six months after it is due.

6.The COMMITTEE:The administration of the Society and all matters connected with pursuit of its aims shall be in the hands of the Committee who shall have full power to make all decisions,subject to paragraph 14 below. The Committee shall meet at least once a quarter.

7.COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:The Committee shall consist of not more than twelve and not less than eight members,all of whom shall be elected annually. Five members shall constitute a quorum. The Committee shall be empowered to fill any casual vacancies until the next Annual General Meeting. The Committee may co-opt up to two extra members who may serve up to the next Annual General Meeting.

8.The OFFICERS shall be appointed by the Committee and shall include a Chairman,a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Membership Secretary and any other posts it deems necessary. The Committee may arrange for any post to be shared between two or more of its members.

9. The Committee may appoint sub-committees or working parties, either on a permanent or temporary basis, to deal with any part of the work of the Society, Such sub-committees or working parties may contain members of the Society who are not members of the Committee but shall report to the Committee and be fully answerable to it.

10.The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING shall be held in the autumn of each year, not less than fourteen days' notice being given to the members. At this meeting the business shall be:

- (1) To receive a report on the activities of the Committee during the year
- (2) To receive the audited statement of accounts
- (3) To elect members of the Committee for the ensuing year after due nomination.

(4) To deal with any other business appropriate to the meeting. Fourteen days notice must be given for any such business.

11. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:Nominees for election to the Committee shall declare at the appropriate Annual General Meeting any financial or professional interest likely to be of concern to the Society,and any member of the Committee shall similarly declare if he or she is interested financially or professionally in any item discussed at any Committee

meeting, and shall not discuss such item (except by invitation of the Chairman) or vote thereon.

12. A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society may be called by the Committee at any time, and shall be called on a requisition signed by not less than ten members, stating the object of such a meeting. Not less than fourteen days' notice of a Special General Meeting shall be given to the members and the object of the meeting shall be confined to the special matter or matters for which the meeting has been called.

13. A quorum at General Meetings shall be twenty members. The Chairman of the Society shall preside, or in his absence a member elected by the Committee. Only fully paid up members shall have the right to vote, in the case of a couple both parties having such a right.

14 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION - ALSO WINDING UP Any change to the Constitution shall be made only at a General Meeting and by a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting. The same applies to any proposal to dissolve the Society, but in the latter case the decision must be confirmed by a simple majority of members voting at a further Special General Meeting held not less than fourteen days later.

15. DISPOSAL OF FUNDS AND RECORDS ON DISSOLUTION: In the event of dissolution the available funds of the Society shall be transferred to one or more charitable institutions with aims similar to the Society, as recommended by the Committee and approved by the meeting at which the decision to dissolve the Society is confirmed. The Minute book and other records of the Society shall be deposited in the first instance with Horsham Museum (Horsham District Council) or in the second instance with West Sussex County Council Archives.

The Original Constitution was approved on 27th October 1989. This version was approved at the Annual General Meeting on 16th November 2007. Paragraphs 1 and 2 were amended to take account of the amalgamation of The Warnham Society and The Warnham Historical Society approved at the same meeting. Paragraphs 5, 8 and 10 were amended to reflect more flexible operating arrangements. Paragraph 15 was amended to make it consistent with Paragraph 2.

THE WARNHAM SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Village Hall on Friday 16th November 2007.

41 members of the Society and The Warnham Historical Society were welcomed by Mr King who chaired the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence: Mr & Mrs Hamer, Mrs King & Mrs Bousfield.
2. The Minutes of the 22nd AGM held on 2nd November 2006 were approved proposed by Mrs Stockley, seconded by Mr Brand. There were no matters arising.
3. The Committee's Report for 2006-2007: Mr King highlighted Committee members' substantial contribution in preparing the Parish Plan & the Parish Design Statement, in initiating & securing the implementation of the Traffic Management System, commenting on the draft "Land West of Horsham Master Plan" and monitoring the County's strategy for waste management. He emphasised the importance of our members and said that recruitment will be an important objective in 2008. He thanked everyone for their support in the past year.
4. Treasurer's Report & Approval of Annual Accounts for 1.10.2006-30.09.2007. An excess of expenditure over income of £110,08 was noted and will be receiving the Committee's attention. Mr Boud was thanked for continuing as Honorary Auditor.
5. Election of the Committee: Mr King reported that the serving 8 members are standing for re-election, they were re-elected on a proposal by Mrs Lee, seconded by Mrs Dales. John Hamer & Elizabeth Bridges from the Historical Society were elected on a proposal by Mrs Jarvis, seconded by Mr Purcell.
6. Proposed Amalgamation of The Warnham Society and The Warnham Historical Society: Mr King spelt out the rationale for the proposal, which has the support of the officers of the two Societies. The proposal was approved by a majority of more than two thirds of those present and voting.
7. Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of The Warnham Society: Mr King sought approval for amendments to recognise the amalgamation of the two Societies and some operational changes. They were approved by a majority of more than two-thirds present and voting. A copy of the revised version will be sent to members not at the meeting.
8. Any Other Business: Mr King referred to the proposed closure of Warnham's Post Office

and the need for prompt action within the consultation period if closure is to be averted.

Mrs Evans, who works in the Post office, outlined to the meeting the adverse consequences of closure,(especially to vulnerable residents),the best ways to protest and anomalies in the closure proposal. Members responded with spontaneous applause.

Mr King read out a Resolution to the Meeting deploring the proposal, seeking its reversal and access to the information on which the decision is based. The Resolution was passed and will be the focus of a special meeting of the new Committee next week.

Mr King closed the formal business of the meeting and handed over to Mr Bousfield. He introduced Mr Fred Asbury who gave a most interesting talk on "Local Churches Through The Ages" followed by a discussion and a vote of thanks.