

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 14th October 2015  
at the Mission Hall.**

1. *Present:* Peter Dye, John Sutherland, Sue Wintle, Mike Blee, Jacqui Atkinson, Hilary Davidson, Jez Cunningham  
*Apologies:* Bill Egerton, Chris Balfe, Chris Hubbard., Peter Riley, Tamzin Hyde  
In the absence of Bill Egerton on holiday, Jez agreed to act as secretary for the meeting.
2. *Minutes of previous meeting*  
The Minutes of the meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 were reviewed and agreed.
3. *Matters arising*  
At the previous meeting there was a proposal for Bill to talk to the pub about parking and if/how SPS could help. No update received yet.
4. *Items to be raised under AOB*
  - a. SPS vs. SP Ltd.
  - b. Phone box
  - c. Neighbourhood plan
  - d. Dog mess
  - e. Seats around pond
  - f. Bins outside second homes / holiday lets
5. *Planning*
  - a. WP/CA/15/00119 – Tree maintenance, 63 Sutton Road. It was agreed that we would respond saying we are happy to rely on the Tree Officer's judgement. **Action: Bill**
  - b. WP/CA/15/00657 – White Horse Cottage – new cottage. It was agreed we would enter our standard comment 'Nothing against the Society's published policies'. **Action: Bill**
  - c. WP/CA/15/00119 – Laurel Cottage – extend chimney and re-roof shed. It was noted that Laurel Cottage is a listed building and there could be feedback about the chimney but we agreed that we would enter our standard comment 'Nothing against the Society's published policies'. **Action: Bill**
6. *Other village matters*
  - a. Top-of-the-pond Car Park - noticeboard etc.  
The subcommittee met and have identified a joiner who could make the new village noticeboard that John Wilson (in memory of Lesley) wanted to sponsor. Despite his subsequent passing their children want us to continue in memory of them both and the village they loved. The joiner's estimate of £780 is acceptable and it is proposed to install it on the Top-of-the-Pond car park. **Action Chris B** to reply to joiner.

To keep pedestrians using the noticeboard and parked cars apart, it is also proposed to install some planters to separate off a part of the car park, but this will not result in the loss of any parking spaces. The proposed siting will be sketched and posted on the existing noticeboard at the Cartshed (**Action Jez**) and a NewsBite will encourage villagers to give us their opinions.

It was also proposed that the existing noticeboard could be dedicated to the Bio-diversity group, although they may need to do a bit of maintenance. It was requested out that the plan showing house names in Sutton Road and Plaisters Lane be retained – and maybe extended to include Puddledocks house names.

- b. The pond – Clearance work: Still no feedback received from Ian Bruce yet. **Action: Bill to follow-up**

#### 7. *Village Events / Activities*

- a. Coffee mornings – It was noted that many attendees at the first winter meeting were expecting the price to have risen (following a hint in the Newsletter). We agreed to raise the price from £1.50 to £2 in January (first meeting on Jan 8<sup>th</sup> not New Year's Day!)  
Concerning future exhibits it was suggested that they could include
  - Display of The Emblems' Roman remains
  - Homewatch, perhaps with PCSO attending
- b. The Beacon – It was agreed that a small celebration lighting of the beacon would take place on Thursday November 5<sup>th</sup> between 7.30 – 8.00pm. The beacon will be lit (paper, kindling, firewood) but there will be no fireworks nor food or drink. However this coincides with the Weymouth beach fireworks (planned for 7.45) and we hope we can enjoy them from a distance! The Springhead will no doubt be happy to see us when we come down the hill!  
**Actions: Jez** to make and pin up posters (and inform the pub), **Chris H** to issue NewsBite inviting people.
- c. Future events? - Jez suggested a couple of possibilities:
  - (1) A guided walk around the village to visit some of the historical locations (perhaps accompanied by old photos so we can see “then vs. now”). This sounds like an activity for a sunny spring weekend afternoon! Perhaps someone from the History group could make a proposal?
  - (2) To invite one or more of the local farmers (Broatch, Crittall, Lunn?) to an evening presentation of how they manage their farms in 21<sup>st</sup> century England. We are dependent on keeping good relations with each other and could be mutually beneficial. Topics to discuss could include organic farming, economics, diversification (e.g. camping), footpaths, dog walking, etc.

#### 8. *Communications*

Nothing specific to report.

#### 9. *Other Village Activity reports*

No reports. However there has been no NewsBite to remind people of the upcoming History meeting where Freddy Litschi's pictures will be projected – **Action Chris H.**

#### 10. *Committee Reports*

Mission Hall – No Halloween event; village Carol Service will be on 21<sup>st</sup> December.

#### 11. *Treasurer's Report*

The bill for insurance has been received and it was agreed to pay it (very small increase on last year).

#### 12. *Correspondence*

Nothing significant to report.

#### 13. *AOB*

- a. SPS vs. SP Ltd. – Bill, John, Peter and Mike will form a sub-committee to investigate the optimum way forward. (It was also noted that having the two entities separate is raising some questions about insurance coverage.)
- b. Phone box – A question had been raised to the committee about the responsibility for the phone box. It remains an active BT box (working telephone; light and broken glass recently repaired etc.) so no village or SPS action needed.
- c. Neighbourhood plan – Mike will host the first meeting of a team who will begin the process of establishing a Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Plan. (21<sup>st</sup> October at Mike's house.)
- d. Dog mess – Jacqui raised the issue that Silver Street is suffering from a lot of dog mess. The issue was debated but there are no easy answers. However it was agreed that a fourth Dog Litter

bin at the bottom of Silver Street might help. **Action Jacqui** to talk to her neighbours (and see who would agree to have it on their land?)

The emptying of these bins is also an issue – currently the council do the one by the pond and the one by the footpath (next to the Forecasting Stone) but Jez empties the new one on the bridge at the end of Puddledocks into his household waste every two weeks. Yuk. Mike's wife works for another council and he will enquire what our expectations could be of the council (it is rumoured that we may have to pay almost £300 per bin per year for the service if we request it officially). **Action Bill** to informally ask Ian Bruce what he thinks the council could do.

- e. Seats around pond – A question had been raised to the committee about the seats around the pond. The one by the bridge has its view rather obscured by the tall rushes, and the one in front of the pub is rather difficult for the aged or infirm to get down to. It was concluded that (1) the possible addition of more seating on the Top-of-the-Pond pedestrian area, and (2) the clearance of some of the reed growth in the pond (see elsewhere) could ameliorate the situation so no specific action is currently anticipated.
- f. Bins outside second homes / holiday lets – Some villagers are unhappy that bins are permanently left on the kerbside (council regulations stipulate that this should not be done). **Action Jacqui** to contact the manager of one particular let on Plaisters Lane to raise our concerns.

14. *Date of next meeting*

11<sup>th</sup> November at the Mission Hall.

***Minutes agreed and approved:***

***Date:***