



# Sutton Poyntz Society

*Affiliated to the Council for the Preservation of Rural England (Dorset Branch)*

## The Committee

Membership for the current year is:

Chairman	Mrs Joyce Litschi
Vice-Chairman	Mr Ron Birch
Secretary	Mr Ken Knight
Treasurer	Mrs Eve Noden-Wilkinson
Social Secretary	Mr Ron Birch

A new post of Membership Secretary has been created and Mrs Cathy Pressly appointed. Other members are: Mr Richard Biss, Mr Tony Bugler, Mr Mike Doyle, Mr Simon Emblen, Mr Richard Meech, Mrs Liz Rowbotham, Mr Ernest Saunders, Mrs Maureen Stephen and Mrs Camiel Swords.

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## Forthcoming Attractions

Another programme has been arranged for - as Old Tyme Music Hall comperes used to say - your delectation and delight. Why not make a note now and come along to enjoy them?

Summer Walk - Tuesday, 27 June. Meet at the T-Junction by Came Down Golf Course at 7 pm for a walk over Bincombe Bumps back to the Springhead. Transport available at the Springhead at 6.45 pm if desired.

Dorset Cream Teas - Saturday, 19 August from 3 pm in the garden of "Clyffe", Plaisters Lane, by invitation of Mr and Mrs Biss. Price 80p. There will be a raffle.

Barbeque - It is hoped that one will be arranged to take place in the village on a Sunday in September. Details later.

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The 21st Anniversary party on 26 May at the Tack Room Club was enjoyed by 102 members and friends. Councillor Les Ames and his wife represented the Mayor and Mayoress of the borough who, with the Deputy Mayor, were visiting Weymouth's twinned town in France. Councillor Ames cut the anniversary cake. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the occasion, especially Ron Birch who master-minded it, and Hugh Garnish and staff of the Club.

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## Planning

Proposed development at the Sutton Poyntz Riding Stables (i.e. conversion of the barn and erection of two dwellings on the site of the actual stables) was discussed on 25 April by the Committee and eleven members of the Society from around the Stables with a representative of the firm who submitted the plans to the Council. As a result, the Society wrote to the Chief Planning Officer emphasising the importance of the design and siting of the dwellings and their effect on the street scene and amenities generally. The advice of an architect, Mr Roy Fewtrell, was also obtained. He made most helpful comments on details of design, materials, layout of the intended courtyard and so on, and the Society submitted further comments to the Council.

While most people would naturally prefer to see the Stables continue in use as a very pleasant and acceptable rural pursuit, we have to accept that for one reason or another this seems no longer feasible. What is therefore important is to get the development right, bearing in mind its impact on this crucial part of the village and any precedent which may be created. Equally important is to endeavour to prevent more development behind the Stables site. It was in fact to achieve this objective that, as the Chief Planning Officer of the Council told our annual meeting last year, the boundary of the development area in the Structure Plan was moved back. Although revised boundaries in the borough have not yet been formally approved, applications for development in line with the revisions are being considered - which strikes many people as odd, to say the least.

Mr Peter Diment's plans for development at his farm in Puddledock Lane, referred to in the last Newsletter, were not approved by the Council and it is understood that an appeal against the decision has been lodged with the Department of the Environment.

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#### S.P.S. Notelets

Packs of six notelets (pen drawings, no message inside) are available from Eve Noden-Wilkinson, 1 Old Bincombe Lane, price 75p each. There are two copies of three scenes - the pond area, the cottages at the fork-junction and a reproduction of a drawing of St Andrew's Church at the turn of the century - drawn by local artist Alan Butler. They are useful all-purpose cards and good value.

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#### The Commemorative Stone

After a shameful and chequered existence, the stone is now safely stored and is expected to be installed shortly in the wall of the Springhead's small car park. It will overlook the pond, the bank of which is now nicely restored after being badly cut about when the pond was dredged in February.

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#### The White Horse, Osmington

How lovely to see the horse and George III gleaming white again instead of a paler shade of grey. Well done, the Scouts and Cubs of Weymouth and Portland; and thanks for all your hard work.

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#### Litter

The Council sponsored anti-litter campaign got off to a well publicised start recently. The Society wished it well. Two points arise - first, although there are now more litter bins around the Esplanade and beach areas of Weymouth, there appears to be a need for a much more satisfactory system of emptying them; maybe that will be taken care of before the season really gets under way. Secondly, the Society is still waiting for two more bins to be provided in the village, despite a number of requests.

An exhibition sponsored by Weymouth Civic Society will be set up in Sutton Poyntz, probably in the Mission Hall, in the autumn.