



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England

Newsletter No 144 – June 2011

www.suttonpoyntz.org.uk

PLANNING

Camping at Northdown Farm is now advertised on the internet and looks set to go ahead under the 28 days permitted development law. This means that the land-owner can carry out an activity for 28 days which would normally require planning permission without making an application. So at the moment this is a case of “no” planning. The Committee is consulting with our local councillors and the West Dorset District councillor for Osmington to see what actions are open to us. There is a possibility under the law of removing the 28 days permitted development -- known as an Article 4 direction. We are currently looking into this.

The Society led objections to the application for a year-round music and sale of alcohol licence at the proposed campsite. The Weymouth and Portland Council Licensing Committee came to a very balanced decision in that they refused the music licence totally and only allowed the sale of alcohol for 30 days. Your committee carefully considered this decision and came to the conclusion that it represented the optimum outcome for the village. Appealing against the decision would have offered the applicant the opportunity to run his case again (at no cost to himself) in a forum which would not have been subject to the pressure of local public opinion and could very well have come up with a decision less favourable to the village. So no appeal was lodged.

It would be very helpful if those villagers that walk the footpaths would remain vigilant in the area of the proposed campsite and report any activity which may not be agricultural to the local authority and to one of the society committee members, preferably with photographic evidence. Contact points – Neil Dackham (Weymouth Planning Enforcement) 838232, David Evans (Head of Planning) 252232 and any of the committee members.

On the subject of planning: a reminder that Sutton Poyntz is a Conservation Area so the felling or pruning of trees requires planning permission.

COMING EVENTS

Friday 3rd June Wildflowers – meeting at the Pumping Station, Details on posters.

Wednesday 15th June Listen to bat calls in the copse using the equipment provided by the Bio Diversity Group. Details on posters.

Tuesday 28th June Village Walks. The first will be a circular walk of about 4 miles, from the Kings Arms, Portesham, starting at 6.15pm. Meals available at the Kings Arms on our return. We are planning a day walk in early September - watch out for more details.

Saturday 9th July Richard Backwell is raising money to help provide a pumped water supply to the village of Kot Guan in Nepal. Richard would like people to carry water a similar distance the Nepalese villagers have to when they collect their daily water. Look at www.okhle.org.uk for details and information on the charity.

Sunday July 24th. Village Scarecrows appear. Please contact David Martin at Dolphins, Plaisters Lane, 836322 for details and to get your scarecrow on the map. Remember, all money raised goes to the children's charity **Waves** in Weymouth -- a very worthy cause and close to home.

Saturday July 30th. Cream Teas in the Mission Hall garden. A high point of the summer. Don't miss it.

Saturday 6th August. The famous Sutton Poyntz Village Vegetable Show. Your spud in a tub should be well under way by now, but there's still time to grow a lettuce, or anything in your greenhouse (even a parrot). Enter any or all of the categories – a selection of herbs; three carrots; three tomatoes; a single lettuce; three courgettes; three beans; five soft fruit; anything grown in a greenhouse; any other vegetable; a bunch of flowers; a bunch of different leaves; a plant in an unusual container.

Tuesday 6th September In the Mission Hall 10:30 to 11:30 – the **Village Weigh In**. A self-help meeting for those wishing to recover their lithe form of youth. Coffee and gossip all for £1.

NEWSROUND

Subscriptions are due now:

£4 per household. Pay John Bellis (Sutton House) or your Newsletter distributor.

Question Time was very well attended, both informative and amusing. Our thanks to the panel – Councillors Peter Chapman, Hazel Bruce and David Mannings, the Rev. Dennis Ackroyd, and Chris Hubbard.

The Street Party held on the day of the royal wedding was enjoyed by over 270 people. Organised to perfection by John and Julia Allen, Judy Backwell, Sara Knight, Dave Caddy, Maureen Morris and helped by many others especially those who prepared the teas. Andy Nineham baffled the youngsters with magic and delighted the rest of us

with conjuring tricks under our noses. The Navy were back: six sailors from HMS Portland turned out in immaculate uniform and folk singers Nick and Shaun lent a village air and the children's treasure hunt was a riotous success. See the village website for photos.

The History Group organised a highly entertaining **Murder Evening** presented by Richard Samways of the Weymouth Museum in the Mission Hall (the talk that is, not the murder). Greatly enjoyed by a full house, a fascinating story. Refreshments followed in Sutton Poyntz Society tradition.

The Society **AGM** was very well attended and elected Bill Egerton as the new chairman, John Crisp having served the three years allowed by the constitution. John Bellis generously agreed to continue as Treasurer, but the Society is currently without a Secretary. The new committee is listed below. John Sutherland was presented with a book token to mark his sterling service over many years as secretary. Simon Grant-Jones gave a fascinating talk on the blacksmith's craft and his own expertise as a blacksmith. He also gave us a glimpse behind the scenes of the television series in which he appeared -- a wonderful talk. Simon didn't mention that he is also famous for having his portrait in the National Gallery.

A **Flood Warden Scheme** is being introduced by the Environment Agency, if anyone would be prepared to volunteer details from the Environment Agency (Nick Reed) on 01258483473 or locally from Peter Jones, Hampton Lodge, Plaisters Lane.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bill Egerton (Chairman)	832872	John Bellis (Treasurer)	837162
Anne Dye	837139	Karen Phillips	836330
John Crisp	832529	Tony Bugler	832953
John Sutherland	832227	Peter Riley	834653
Peter Sheaves	833338	David Martin	836322
Alan Dawson-Hollis	832746		