



# Sutton Poyntz Society

Newsletter No 171 – June 2017

More information at [suttonpoyntz.org.uk](http://suttonpoyntz.org.uk)

With thanks to our Newsletter sponsors [www.goadsby.com](http://www.goadsby.com)

Editor: Chris Hubbard [chubbard80@hotmail.com](mailto:chubbard80@hotmail.com)



## Your Society AGM

Chairman Mike Blee welcomed everyone to a packed Mission Hall, and presented his Chairman's **Annual Report**. He thanked the three retiring Committee members, Jacqui Atkinson, Chris Balfe and especially John Sutherland for his 16 years on the Committee - ten as Secretary, three as Treasurer with significant involvement in the purchase of the "Top of the Pond" land. John then gave his last **Treasurer's Report**. The major expenditure was for the Society's insurance policy. A major donation went to the British Heart Foundation in thanks for their funding of the village defibrillator. With a surplus of £700, Society funds were healthy at £5155, and he recommended an unchanged subscription of £2 per person, duly carried. Bill Egerton reported on the formal relationship between the Society and **Sutton Poyntz Ltd**. The Company had no expenditure in its own right as the Society covered costs. Peter Dye outlined the activities of the **Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group**, chaired by Katrina Blee. Of the £2200 available funding, £1667 had been spent, mainly on the appointment of a Consultant, the issue of two Newsletters and a consultation questionnaire. A policy was due for issue at year end, with formal consultation to follow. The work is essentially concerned with planning issues, but also provides an opportunity to shape the village in terms of social development and facilities. There was lengthy debate on the question of **Parish Council status** for the village. Mike explained that although highly speculative, local government changes in Dorset could create an opportunity for Sutton Poyntz to become a Civil Parish. The AGM needed to consider whether negotiations should start with W&PBC. Cllrs Tony Ferrari and Ian Bruce warned of possible complications and disadvantages and urged caution. Weymouth provides services and has significant capital assets that that the 'Parish' would have to generate for itself. Given the lack of clarity it was felt that a meeting with speakers to give different viewpoints, would be very helpful. The motion was approved: "*That the*

*Committee be given the authority to explore with W&PBC the implications of Sutton Poyntz becoming a Parish Council". (See Below)* Under the Localism Act, communities are able to nominate buildings or other property for registration as **Assets of Community Value**. In the event of the sale of such an asset, the community has the right to make its own bid. Possible assets were considered during the debate. The motion was approved: *"That the Committee should produce a list of potential Community Assets, with cases explaining why each asset should be registered, for consultation with the village"*. Peter Dye dealt with a proposed modification to the **Society Planning Policy** to include recognition of the need for suitable business and employment within the village which was formally adopted. A complete list of all **elected Committee members** follows at the end of the Newsletter. After the meeting there were refreshments and a film of Sutton Poyntz in the 1950/1960s taken by Ron Waite, then the Springhead publican.

### **W&P Neighbourhood Watch win award**

The Weymouth and Portland Neighbourhood Watch Group have been awarded the annual Martin Baker trophy for the most effective group in Dorset, and recently the Dorset High Sheriff, Sir Phillip Williams, presented the trophy to Peter Jones, the group chairman. The group is exploring the use of social media e.g. Facebook to encourage more members to join Homewatch and to help to exchange information between members. More information will be published in due course when details are confirmed. Whenever possible new arrivals to the village are supplied with Homewatch information and given the opportunity to become members. If you would like to receive Homewatch details please call Peter on 833288.



### **The Society 2017 Summer Walk**

Twenty-four hardy walkers gathered at Wool on a gloriously sunny day, with firm going underfoot. Passing Wool Church and through woods and fields, coffee was taken at the beautiful Shaggs Lake. Continuing onwards through lovely open ground, Lulworth Castle hove into view, where lunch was enjoyed. Some members called it a day here, while the majority of the party returned by a different route to Wool. A thoroughly enjoyable day out in good company, with thanks to Richard Backwell for leading the intrepid band.

## The Sutton Poyntz Friday Art Group Spring Exhibition



This two day event, which showcased the talents of the Group, was a huge success, much enjoyed by all the many visitors. From a marvellous selection, the picture here was selected as popular favourite. To preserve modesty (and my life) I will not reveal the name of the painter, but I think it's very good.

### Forthcoming events

Some dates to mark in your diaries. Details to follow

#### Which Way Forward For Sutton Poyntz? – You decide

There will be a public open meeting at the Mission Hall on Saturday 24 June at 2.30pm to discuss whether Sutton Poyntz should apply for Parish Council status. W&PBC are currently holding a consultation period as they move towards becoming a Town Council under the unitary authority plans for Dorset, and as a result there is an opportunity for Sutton Poyntz to consider how it would like to be managed in the future. There will be three speakers. John Parker, Chairman, and Hilary Trevorah, Chief Executive, of the Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils (John is also a Councillor at West Stour) and Councillor Ian Bruce of Weymouth & Portland Borough Council. They will describe what a parish council does, the implications of setting one up, answer questions on possible outcomes and explain how to go about the process. There will be a public indicative vote at the end of the meeting to consider this matter so it is really important that as many people as possible attend to help reach a decision. Anyone living and/or working in the village is eligible to vote, with the same electorate as that established for the Neighbourhood Plan. This is a neighbourhood forum event organised by The Sutton Poyntz Society. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Summer Coffee Mornings** : in the Mission Hall between 10.30am and noon on the first Friday in every month through the summer.

**Pimms & Ploughmans** : The new date is Saturday 1 July at the Mission Hall. This afternoon/early evening event is great fun, and delightfully idiosyncratic. Not many places have this combination!

**Cream Teas** : Again at the Mission Hall, inside or out depending on the weather, on Saturday 29 July. Another excellent social afternoon with good company and quintessentially English fare.

**Village Vegetable Show** : Another Mission hall extravaganza for all you gardeners, on the morning of Saturday 5 August.

## Stop Press

The **Spring Scouts Jumble Sale** in the Scutt Hall raised over £470 for our local children. Mo and Dave Martin would like to thank everyone who donated items or helped on the day to make it so successful - and thanks to them for their hard work.

Ray Aggett has built and installed a **lid** for one of the **litter bins** by the pond, with second to follow soon. Many thanks, Ray, for your help.

### Spotlight on Committee Member Jill Kelsey



In her working life Jill was an Archivist, and spent 25 years looking after and making available the historical documents of the Royal Family which are kept in the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle. She and husband Stephen spent a lot of time on holiday in Dorset, so when they both retired they decided to move from Reading to Sutton Poyntz. Eighteen months later she says that Dorset has proved so much quieter, cleaner, friendlier and generally more fun than living in the Thames Valley. She particularly appreciates the village sense of community, and that there is always so much going on. Keen walkers, she and Stephen travel around the world, usually with rucksacks, and both are equally keen football fans, even on occasion braving the weather at Portland FC! Jill has now been converted to the joys of the WI, and enjoys helping with village activities. She stresses that it is the community feel makes Sutton Poyntz such a very special place for her, and as a Committee member she would like put something back into the village which has been so welcoming.

### Business matters

**Minutes** of the Society monthly committee meetings are on the web site.

**Newsbites** are email news updates. Contact [newsletter@suttonpoyntz.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@suttonpoyntz.org.uk) to receive these. Jez also displays them on the Cartshed notice board.

**Organising an event?** Send the editor a reminder about a week before it takes place so that a Newsbite can be circulated.

**Neighbourhood Plan** - see progress at [suttonpoyntz.org.uk/neighbourhood](http://suttonpoyntz.org.uk/neighbourhood)

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Chairman Mike Blee 568135**

<b>Secretary Bill Egerton 83287</b>	<b>Treasurer Terry Pegrum TBA</b>
<b>Peter Riley 834653</b>	<b>Jez Cunningham 835811</b>
<b>Sue Wintle 834209</b>	<b>Hilary Davidson 834479</b>
<b>Peter Dye 837139</b>	<b>Jill Kelsey 835605</b>
<b>Liz Balfe TBA</b>	<b>Jackie Greet TBA</b>

**Please contact the editor with news and views, but make sure your input is with him at latest by 1 August, ready for the next issue.**