

*Richard  
Thought you'd like  
to see a copy.*

# Sutton Poyntz Society



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

Millstream Cottage  
Sutton Road  
May 92

Dear Gordon

At the recent Committee meeting you asked what you might say to people who want to know what the Society does/has done. I thought I might give you some idea, taken from Newsletters over the years. The aims of the Society are included in the little membership card.

- 1 A major achievement was to get the village declared a Conservation area in the early 70's.
- 2 The Pond: steps have been taken to get the local authority and the water authority to keep it clean; the Society got an island in the middle (put there as an intended refuge for the ducks) removed; we planted daffodils round the grass; we set the stones by Sutton Road to prevent parking; we pollarded the willows.
- 3 Structure Plans: considered the plans and various amendments and special provisions, including open meetings of villagers and discussions with members and officials of the Council.
- 4 Planning: considered many applications submitted to the Council; called special meetings to discuss major matters like the development of Old Bincombe Lane (we engaged an architect to produce better plans) and the Mill (we succeeded in preventing it being converted into flats); discussed with officials potential development (like North Down Farm at present).
- 5 Roads: secured improvements in Puddledock Lane/Sunnyfields after many representations; tidied around on a number of occasions, including when the village was entered for the Best Kept Village Competition a few years ago; representations for repairs.
- 6 Tree planting: encouraged and helped with it.
- 7 Social events organised over the years have included:
  - Dances of various kinds, including barn dances
  - Plays and playlets
  - Skittles evenings (when the pub had an alley)
  - Bonfire nights
  - Teas on the lawn, almost every year
  - Summer walks
  - Celebrations of Hardy centenary *and the Society's 20th*
  - Carol singing round the village
  - Talks on matters ranging from archaeology, the County, planning and conservation, smugglers, first aid, travel, Portland etc etc.
  - Visits to Exbury, Lulworth Castle, various theatres
- 8 Electricity wires: representations (unfortunately not yet successful) to have some of these wires put underground.
- 9 One Newsletter said that we work, educate and enjoy. Another contained a note from the then Mayor congratulating us on our activities and recognising how we help to serve the community.

I hope this may perhaps be of some assistance.

Yours

*Christina, quilting card,  
Dorset's first social club & various "good  
causes" - total? C-in-B.*

*Ken*

N.B. sent with copies of Newsletters 1-20