

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 8th July 2015
at the Mission Hall.**

1. *Present:* Mike Blee, Bill Egerton, John Sutherland, Sue Wintle, Hilary Davidson, Jacqui Atkinson, Jez Cunningham, Peter Riley, Peter Dye, Chris Hubbard.
Apologies: Chris Balfe, Tamzin Hyde
2. *Minutes of previous meeting*
The Minutes of the meeting on 10th June 2015 were agreed and signed.
3. *Matters arising*
Trees policy: A recent report by the Borough's Trees Officer had been circulated to Committee members. As a result, BE had written to him saying that if that standard of report could be maintained, the Society would be happy.
Neighbourhood Plan meeting: BE will propose possible dates in the second half of September.
4. *Items to be raised under AOB*
The pond.
5. *Planning*
 - a. Land off Plaisters Lane – An invoice had been received from Richard Burgess, but was for rather more than the “about £500” that we had expected. BE will discuss with Richard Burgess **(Action BE)**.
 - b. WP/CA/15/00070 and WP/CA/15/00071 – Trees at 45 Sutton Road and The Cottage, Puddledock Lane – After discussion, it was agreed that we could leave these application to the judgement of the Borough Trees Officer **(Action BE)**.
 - c. Work at 3 Silver Street – The excavation phase was almost complete. It was reported that the contractors appeared to be working with suitable care, but that nevertheless a slight dip had appeared in the path. Via the owners, we would seek to ensure that this was restored at the end of the work.
6. *Other village matters*
 - a. Margaret's Seat –JC confirmed that footings had been dug for the new seat, by JC, John Crisp and Clive Davies, who had also poured concrete footings for the seat. Delivery of the seat to Eweleaze Farm was expected on Friday 10th, after which a date to install the seat will be agreed with Peter Broatch. An opening ceremony was being planned for 9 August.
 - b. Sutton Poyntz Limited
A short meeting had been held between MB, BE, JS and John Allen (who had offered help in preparing annual accounts) just before this Committee Meeting.
John Allen, as an Accountant, felt that the Constitution of the Sutton Poyntz Society probably needed to be amended to give clearer authority to the Committee to allocate funding for the purchase of land and to create the Limited Company. This would be done at the next AGM. Various possible arrangements were discussed to formalise the relationship between the Society and Limited Company. John's initial view was that to amalgamate the two bodies into “Sutton Poyntz Society Limited” would prove undesirable; he offered to think about the alternatives, particularly of making the Limited Company subservient to the Society by having the Society appoint Directors.
At present, John Allen does not consider that a separate bank account for Sutton Poyntz Limited is necessary, but this will need to be kept under review.
For the purpose of the Limited Company accounts, John believes that the cost of purchase (fees for our Solicitor and the vendors' Solicitor as well as the £1 purchase price) need to be entered as the asset value in the Balance Sheet. He will check this.
The Annual Report has been submitted to Companies House. The first Annual Accounts need to be prepared and submitted before March 2016.

c. Springhead Car Park

A number of brochures for Noticeboards have been obtained. However, with the present very serious illness of John Wilson, it seems unlikely he will be in a position to fund the Noticeboard, and the matter will be deferred until the situation is clearer. It was suggested that we might perhaps be able to get a second grant from the County Councillor Community Fund; this will be discussed with John Crisp and David Manning when Margaret's Seat has been commissioned. JC has produced further layout ideas, and will now attempt a rough costing. It was suggested that we might be able to get materials for planters donated by local builders' merchants. It was noted that a car has been parked there for some time, allegedly without an MOT (although still with a valid tax disc). BE will discuss with the owner (**Action BE**).

- d. The Beacon – An estimate of £100 for the repair work has been obtained from Simon Grant-Jones. On that basis, it was agreed that we would proceed with the necessary work. BE will contact Wessex Water to see if they would still be willing to part-fund the work.

7. *Village Events / Activities*

- a. Open Gardens (27/28 June) – This event had been an enormous success, and the Secretary was asked to send the Society's great thanks and congratulations to the Open Gardens Committee. It was reported that 730 people had attended, and about £5800 raised. The Open Gardens Committee had held a wash-up meeting, and had concluded that this should be an occasional rather than regular event.
- b. Cream Teas (11 July) – SW had ordered all the supplies, and arranged a team of tea ladies. BE was in the process of arranging a team to set up and put away. JS will arrange a float and take money. JA will run the raffle, for which some further prizes were sought.
- c. Scarecrow Competition (18 July to 1 August) – Sadly there had not been enough offers of scarecrows to justify this event, so it had been cancelled for this year.
- d. Vegetable Show (1 August) – Refreshments are being organised by BE, and a team to set up and for the potato weighing will be assembled.
- e. Pimms Evening (22 August) – There was some discussion of what refreshments to offer with the Pimms, with various ideas floated. The decision will be left to a team consisting of JA, JC, SW and HD. A taste test of Pims and Pimms 'look-alike' was conducted, and it was concluded that we would stick with Pimms. A ticket price of £10 was agreed. It was thought that an alcohol license might be necessary (Post-meeting note: MB confirmed that this was definitely needed, and BE submitted the application).

8. *Communications*

An invoice for £23.76 had been received from the Website service provider, for one year's hosting. Payment of this was approved.

The next Newsletter would be issued shortly. Several enthusiastic responses had been received to the Newsbite on Richard Backwell's Nepal charity – these had been forwarded to Richard.

9. *Other Village Activity reports*

No reports.

10. *Committee Reports*

SW reminded the Committee that the Mission Hall Trust are holding a village picnic on the 2nd August. She also noted that the Mission Hall are considering the question of a defibrillator for the village.

11. *Treasurer's Report*

The report had been tabled by email, showing an income of £354 in subscriptions, plus £1 donation, and costs of £36 subscription to the Dorset Wildlife Trust. Also shown as a separate item is a balance of £153.17 for Margaret's Seat, made up of income this year and last year, less expenses of £90.76.

In addition the accounts currently show the income of £5896.13 from the Open Gardens, which will be distributed to the Charities.

12. *Correspondence*

In addition to the noticeboard manufacturers' brochures (item 6c above) we have received a thank-you from the Open Gardens Committee for the Society's support, and a letter from the Dorset Wildlife Trust on a "Dorset wildflowers appeal".

13. *AOB*

The pond is getting silted and overgrown, particularly at the top end. Dave Emery's advice will be sought.

14. *Date of next meeting*

12th August at the Mission Hall.

Minutes agreed and approved :

Date: