

SUTTON POYNTZ SOCIETY AGM
Wednesday 27th April 2022
Draft Minutes

Hilary Davidson (chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting. She shared the sad news of the recent death of Sue Jones.

Guest speakers Dave Emery on our Biodiversity Group and Colin Marsh on the Village Neighbourhood plan including Community Aspirations then addressed the Society.

Dave Emery gave us a fascinating insight on how the group started with a “Green Audit”, a Biodiversity report being carried out 12 years ago. Wessex Water helped with this project. Some 73 species of birds, 30 species of butterflies, 20 of moths and 11 of bats were identified. Also recorded were: a large range of wild flowers; insect life in the streams 500 'bugs'; all within 10 minutes' walk of housing.

The aim of the group is to get interaction with the villagers. About 5% are actively involved and 80% profess an interest in the group. John Newbould produces a monthly newsletter. Villagers should ask him if they wish to be added to his distribution list. The intention is to help people learn more. The group wants to help interested people by sharing their expertise and teaching recognition techniques. There is a garden watch scheme which is aiming to be inclusive. The group is also involved in Habitat Management, formally leasing land from Wessex Water - the Veterans' wood and rare habitat wet woodland. They coppice and protect boundaries. They have had some problems with vandalism and wild camping but these issues are largely under control.

Looking forward, they will be re-laying hedges and collaborating with the school and village in tree planting. They are always happy to show people around.

Colin Marsh gave an update on the key part of the Neighbourhood plan. The Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Plan was adopted in May 2020 by Weymouth Council, but rejected under the reorganization of Local Government. Colin manages to maintain contacts with the local councillors and steering group. The community can access the Aspiration section via the village website. Some of them such as the 'walk leaflets' have already been achieved.

And what does the Weymouth Town Plan mean for the village? There are no perceived problems at the moment but 'housing' may prove contentious in the future. There will be public consultation.

Colin invited questions. Cllr. Tony Ferrari thanked Colin and Peter Dye for their work on the plan. He will keep people abreast of proposed sites for development.

Hilary Davidson (Chair) thanked both Colin and Dave for their informative and interesting talks and for all their hard work to improve the village environment.

Part 2 AGM

(All reports had been circulated prior to the meeting)

1. **Apologies:** Mike and Pat Haine; Jackie and Roger Greet; Jon Pierre Lambert; Cllr Peter Dickenson; Jan Bergman; Kevin Pearce; Hazel Bruce; Anthea and Tony Heathershaw.
2. **Minutes of AGM** September 29th were accepted
3. **Chair's Report:** Hilary referred to her written report making particular note of: the successful quiz night, with another one being planned for later this year; the installation of the village bench; a proposed summer walk starting from the 'Black Dog'. She also referred to the hard work Kevin has put into the new village website to be launched soon. It is hoped that another Open Gardens in aid of charity might be run in 2023.
She concluded by making especial mention of Chris Hubbard who has written the newsbites and previously the newsletters for many years.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Andy presented the accounts for adoption; nominated by Ian Bruce; seconded by Peter Jones. Andy made mention of the fact that the accounts are in a healthy state in spite of no subs being collected for 2 years.
5. **Election of Officers:** Hilary Davidson as chair; nominated by Andy Hohne, seconded by Jackie Raw.
Treasurer and company Secretary: Andy Hohne; nominated by Hilary Davidson; seconded by Sue Smith.
6. **Election of committee:** Jez Cunningham, Hilary Davidson, Shirley Davies, Jackie Greet, Andy Hohne, Linda Kirkpatrick, Kevin Pearce, Jackie Raw, Sue Smith, Jon Waterman. All returned. Lizzie Bergman Peck, nominated by Andy Hohne; seconded by Peter Jones.
Kirsty Masone, nominated by Ian Bruce, seconded by Sue Legg.
7. **Election of Independent Examiner:** John Bellis, nominated by Shirley Davies, seconded by Jackie Raw.
8. **AOB:** Coffee morning on Friday May 6th will have a representative from the Safer neighbourhood police. Peter and Rita Riley have been the coordinators for the neighbourhood watch they wish to relinquish this task. Anyone who is willing to take on this role please contact Peter Jones.
July 3rd Village Fayre: Jez Cunningham is the contact for helpers.

The meeting ended with a presentation being made to Chris and Jane Hubbard in thanks for all their work for the Society.