

Sutton Poyntz Society AGM
Wednesday April 12th. 2023
DRAFT

Hilary Davidson welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced our guest speaker **Richard Backwell**.

Richard entertained us with a fascinating glimpse of the work that he has been instrumental in supporting for 20 years, in villages in Nepal.

In 2002, when he first visited, there was no electricity, few toilets and fresh water was 100 metres away. By 2012, electricity arrived and now every house has a toilet. To begin with, water was gravity fed to houses but the arrival of electric pumps made a huge difference. 31 water projects have been completed and he thanked Rotary for their support in these endeavours. He made the point that it is cheaper to make a difference in Nepal than here, for example 10 toilets can be installed for £1500. The earthquake in 2015 devastated the area but houses were reconstructed at a cost of £1200 each.

He spoke with affection of the people he met in Nepal, praising their generosity of spirit. In spite of all the hardships faced by the villagers, he was met with kindness and never feared for his personal safety.

We were then treated to the video of Richard abseiling down a ravine, his challenge being to be the first 80 year old to do this!

The Mission Hall resounded to heartfelt applause for his humorous and enthusiastic talk. We would like to hear more!

Bill Egerton then gave us an update on the new village website:

The first website was created in 2010 so it is time for a re-fresh. Bill has picked up the work that Kevin Pearce started. He showed us examples of the 'Areas ' to be covered. Bill and the SPS would welcome feedback, opinions on this please.

Hilary thanked both our speakers.

There followed a brief interval for refreshments and chat.

Part 2 AGM

(All reports had been circulated prior to the meeting)

- 1. Apologies:** John and Caroline Crisp; Jez and Jean Cunningham; Sue Smith.
- 2. Minutes of AGM** April 22nd 2022 were accepted.
- 3. Chair's Report:** Hilary referred to some items from her written report, making particular mention of the very successful Jubilee celebrations. She also reminded us of other events such as the Barn Dance, Flower show Quizzes etc. Village enhancement was also a feature of the past year, including the planting of thousands of bulbs. Looking forward, 'Open Gardens' in June and an updated website are being planned.
- 4. Treasurer's Reports:** Sutton Poyntz Society and Sutton Poyntz CIC.

This was accepted with no questions being raised.

5. Election of Officers:

Chair - Hilary was re-elected; nominated by Andy Hohne; seconded by Erica Ferrari.

Treasurer and Company Secretary – Andy Hohne; nominated by Shirley Davies; seconded by Jackie Raw.

6. Election of current committee:

Jez Cunningham; Shirley Davies, Jackie Greet, Linda Kirkpatrick; Kirsty Masone, Jackie Raw, Sue Smith, Jon Waterman; nominated by Louie O Leary seconded by Tony Ferrari.

Charles Collins; proposed by Jackie Raw, seconded by Barbara Harrison and Maureen Cribb; proposed by Judy Backwell, seconded by Sue Embley were duly elected on to the committee.

- 7. Election of Independent Examiner:** John Bellis elected and thanked for all his work.

- 8. Motion to Increase subs** to 2.50 single, £5 a household: Agreed.

9. Update on local buses:

Cllr Louie O'Leary alerted people to a meeting being held on July 5th at 6pm, Preston Village Hall to discuss this matter. If people want a service to Sutton Poyntz, it is imperative that they show their support by attending this meeting.

10. AOB (tabled): Proposal to reduce speed limit to 20 mph through the village.

Grant Leighton spoke on this matter pointing out the need with the rise in traffic largely caused by the increase in delivery vans.

Much discussion followed. Most people were in favour of pursuing this idea. Cllr. O'Leary said he would be happy to organize a meeting with residents to discuss this further.

Coronation -Mission Hall organizing a lunch party. SPS will light the Beacon and raise a celebratory glass

Should rule of terms of years served as officers be changed?

Erica Ferrari proposed a vote of thanks to the committee.

