

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 13th July 2016
at the Mission Hall.**

1. *Present:* Mike Blee, John Sutherland, Bill Egerton, Peter Riley, Jez Cunningham, Chris Balfe, Peter Dye, Chris Hubbard.
Apologies. Hilary Davidson, Sue Wintle, Jacqui Atkinson.

2. *Minutes of previous meeting*
The Minutes of the meeting on 8th June 2016 were agreed and signed.

3. *Additional items (new and repeat) not on the Agenda*
Newsletter distributors; defibrillator for village; future of NHS in Dorset.

It was agreed that we should discuss how the Society should exercise its responsibility for the economic well-being of the village (added at the AGM to our Constitution) at the September meeting.

4. *Neighbourhood Planning*
PD gave an update. The Steering Group had met twice since our latest meeting, with Minutes available on the village website. Their most recent meeting had been addressed by two people familiar with the Cerne Valley Neighbourhood Plan (the first to be completed in Dorset); it was noted that their view was that the process of Neighbourhood Planning strengthens a community. The next meeting would brainstorm on the components and topics that would need to be addressed as part of our Neighbourhood Plan.

Our application for a Neighbourhood Area, with the Society as Neighbourhood Forum, was in a consultation period ending on the 5th August. After that, a report would be written by the responsible Borough Officer, so that the Borough's Planning Committee could consider our application.

The Steering Group would seek to improve its own demographic balance (age and gender), perhaps by means of a second Newsletter. It was also noted that there were no Society non-members on the Steering Group. The Committee discussed again the relationship between the Society Committee and the Steering Group; it was agreed that this would be raised at the next Steering Group meeting (**Action CB**), and that if the Steering Group was concerned about the number of Committee members also on the Steering Group, BE would offer to resign as a Steering Group member.

5. *Planning*

- a. WP/16/00309/FUL – Extension at 30 Verlands Road – This was discussed because of the proposed change of use of some agricultural land. It was not thought that this minor change would be a threat, so no comment would be offered.

The question of when and whether to consider applications outside the Neighbourhood Area was discussed. It was agreed that there are instances (such as 42 Sutton Road), when an application can have an impact on the village, or on villagers; we will continue to consider 'out of area' applications on a case-by-case basis.

- b. Valley Cottage trees – The email from the Borough Trees Officer was noted, accepting that a mistake had been made in thinking the latest application was simply a repeat of a previous one, but arguing that the decision made was nevertheless correct. It was agreed that we would respond thanking him for his response and hoping that the mistake would not be repeated.

6. *Sutton Poyntz Ltd*

We are still waiting for a response from the Land Registry to Mr Skinner's application to overturn our title to the Top of the Pond land. We are confident the result will be in our favour, but the process is taking a long time.

[Post Meeting Note: We heard on 19 July that the Land Registry have ruled in our favour, confirming our Title and entirely rejecting Mr Skinner's application.]

7. *Other village matters*

a. Library Service – It was noted that the mobile service has now gone.

b. Bins & Dog bins – No progress.

c. Pond & History Board – No progress.

JC had organised a watering rota for the planters at the Top of the Pond. He has also appealed for summer bedding plants, and greatly regretted the lack of any positive response.

8. *Village Events / Activities*

a. Summer events:

- Scarecrows – Sadly there was insufficient response, and the Scarecrow Competition has been abandoned. Other ideas will be considered for next year.
- Cream Teas (16 July 2.30 to 4 p.m.). Arrangements are in hand. Unfortunately the date clashes with a village Theatre Group trip.
- Vegetable Show (6 August). Arrangements are in hand.
- Pimms evening. (6 August). A supply of surplus Pimms had been donated by the Street Fayre, to go along with the extra bottles from last year's event. There was a discussion of what food to supply. CB will investigate Pizza suppliers, and MB/BE will talk to the pub about supplying roast pork rolls. [Post meeting note; SW suggested providing Ploughmans' to go with the Pimms, and the idea was welcomed enthusiastically].
- Summer walk – Richard Backwell is organising a morning walk from Ferrybridge to Portland on 22nd July, with refreshments at the Blue Fish Restaurant at Chiswell. A longer walk later in the year is also being considered.

9. *Communications*

The website hosting subscription is due for renewal; the payment of £24.96 was approved. It was agreed we would seek payments from the website sponsors (other than Goadsbys who already support our communications generously) to cover this (**Action BE**).

It was noted that a newcomer to the village, Duncan Sleightholme, is a journalist for ITV South; this might be a useful contact for future publicity purposes.

It was agreed that Newsletters are not distributed to known non-members, but where there is doubt about someone's intentions, we would continue to deliver. BE is now dealing with distribution and subscription collection for members outside the village; for the next Newsletter we might need to change the distribution rounds slightly.

10. *Other Village Activity reports*

No report.

11. *Committee Reports*

No reports.

12. *Treasurer's Report*

A report had been tabled by email, showing a balance of £4724.27 after receiving subscriptions of around £250.

13. *Correspondence*

None.

14. *Any other business*

It was noted that the Street Fayre committee are considering the purchase of a defibrillator for the village, to be kept at the pub. As a Committee, we had discussed this a couple of years ago, and had not taken action at the time because of concerns over how quickly the defibrillator needs to be brought to the person in need. We did not see this as any reason not to consider this good use now for Street Fayre money.

CB explained that major reorganisation of the National Health Service services in Dorset are being considered, with a period of consultation about to start. He suggested that this was an important issue for everyone, and that he felt it would be appropriate for the Society to organise a briefing for villagers. This was agreed enthusiastically. Various formats for this briefing were discussed, including use of a Coffee Morning, but it was thought this was significant enough to justify its own event. In the end, CB was requested to try to organise an evening event (**Action CB**).

15. *Date of next meeting*

10th August.

Minutes agreed and approved :

Date: