

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 11th October 2017
at the Mission Hall.**

1. *Present:* Mike Blee, Terry Pegrum, Bill Egerton, Sue Wintle, Hilary Davidson, Jackie Greet, Jill Kelsey, Jez Cunningham, Peter Dye, Chris Hubbard.
Apologies. Peter Riley, Liz Balfe.
2. *Minutes of previous meeting*
The Minutes for the meeting of 13th September were agreed and signed.
3. *Additional items (new and repeat) not on the Agenda*
None.
4. *Neighbourhood Planning*

- a. Update

PD reported on a useful Workshop held with the Consultants on Saturday 23rd September. The Workshop had discussed the Place Appraisal and emerging questions that would be submitted to the village in the next round of consultation, probably in December. It had been agreed that the Place Appraisal document should be expanded so that it is partly forward looking, as well as an appraisal of how the village is now. It will include a list of challenges, opportunities, options and recommendations, to be generated by the various thematic subgroups and then assembled by the Place Appraisal subgroup.

For the next survey, each thematic subgroup is assembling questions to be put to the village. The Consultants will review the questions, and stressed the need for care in the way they are put. Various examples were discussed.

The project plan was reviewed by the Workshop, and a new timetable was proposed which would ensure that we can submit the completed Neighbourhood Plan to the Borough Council before any local government reorganisation puts our existence as a Neighbourhood Forum at risk.

- b. Assets of Community Value

Options will be presented for the village's consideration as part of the next Neighbourhood Plan consultation.

5. *Planning*

- a. Tree protection – It was noted that the Borough Council are now not consulting on tree-related applications. Their opinion is that they are not legally bound to do so. BE had researched the relevant regulations, and believed that there was in fact a requirement for consultation. It was agreed that an email would be sent to the Trees Officer, with copies to our local Councillors, challenging his view on the regulations. This email would also note the very rapid loss of trees over the last few years, without any need for replacement, and seek better protection for the village's tree stock. [**Action BE**]. [Post-meeting note. A reply from Graham Cox had confirmed that there is indeed a need for consultation, but only in those rare cases where the Local Authority itself is the applicant. For most tree-related applications, no legal requirement exists].

6. *Sutton Poyntz Ltd*

No matters to report.

7. *Other village matters*

- a. The Pond – History Boards – Being looked at by the Neighbourhood Plan Heritage subgroup.
- b. Top of the Pond drainage – An email had just been sent to the developers at Hunt's Yard to see whether they might be willing to help.
- c. Bus Service – It was noted that First Bus had confirmed the same pattern of buses for the

winter, but that they are now not running Sunday buses to Seven Acres Road, leaving the stop at The Spice Ship as our only nearby access to a Sunday service.

- d. Springhead car parking – It was noted that the gate to the field had been closed for the last month.
- e. Traffic at top of pond – It was observed that car parking availability is sometimes very scarce particularly in the summer, and that some cars park around the pond area in a way that would make emergency vehicle access extremely difficult. These observations would be passed to the Neighbourhood Plan traffic subgroup.

It was reported that the builders' lorries travelling to and from the Hunt's Yard site are causing damage to White Horse Lane. It is assumed that the developers will be required to make good at the end of the work, but this could be some time in the future as they are also being used for the new cottage next to White Horse Cottage. The developers will be contacted to ask for early attention [**Action BE**].

- f. Ideas for telephone box – JC reported that only certain types of body can apply for telephone box ownership. Charities are able to, and he had approached the Mission Hall Trust to see if they would be willing to consider this. No formal answer had been received but it appeared they were rather unwilling to add this to their responsibilities. Another type of body is a "Community Interest Company" (CIC), and it appeared likely that Sutton Poyntz Ltd should be able to turn itself into one of these in order to take over the telephone box. This will be investigated further [**Action JC/BE**].
 - g. Bench near Brookmead – This bench, on Plaisters Lane just near the telephone box, is owned by the highways authority but is in quite poor condition. The Council are not strimming the area, but it has been tidied by John Newbould. The bench needs some restoration, and BE still has timber that was to have been used some years ago for the Ernest Saunders memorial seat by the pond. It was thought that if the area was cleared properly and the seat restored so that it could be used, that would help reduce car parking in front. Ray Aggett has offered to build some planters. It was agreed to put out a Newsbite seeking helpers [**Action CH**].
8. *Village Events / Activities*
- a. Coffee Mornings: Just under 30 people attended the first winter coffee morning, which made a profit of just over £20. Copies of the Place Appraisal will be available at the December coffee morning.
- It was agreed that we would discuss pricing of the event at the next Committee meeting.
- b. Winter events: Nothing to report apart from a repeat of the Pop up 4 Pudsey event being run by Maureen Morris and others.

9. *Communications*

The next Newsletter will be issued in early November. CH reported that he will produce the usual paper version, but with an expanded electronic version with additional material, as an inducement to people to receive their copies electronically.

10. *Other Village Activity reports*

No reports.

11. *Committee Reports*

The question of how the Society benefits from CPRE membership was discussed. Before taking any action over continued membership, it was agreed we should ask Peter Jones, as our local representative and an enthusiast, for his views [**Action BE**].

12. *Treasurer's Report*

TP had distributed a report before the meeting, showing income of £34.40, mainly from the History Evening, and payments totalling of £188.77 of which £150 was charitable donations to Waves and

St Andrews Angels as agreed at the previous meeting. The current account and cash balance stands at £3305.52.

13. *Correspondence*

A Children's Society appeal had been received, but we had just made a donation.

14. *Date of next meeting*

Wednesday 8th November in the Mission Hall. The December date needs to be changed, and the pub will be approached to see if it can be held there, perhaps on 6th December [**Action BE**].

Minutes agreed and approved:

Date: