

DRAFT

for approval at 2022 AGM

Sutton Poyntz Society AGM Minutes Wednesday 29th September 2021

Apologies:

Caroline and John Crisp; Judy and Richard Backwell; Jean and Jez Cunningham; Erica and Tony Ferrari; Chris Hubbard.

Chair's Report:

Hilary Davidson referred everyone to the written report already circulated.

She thanked Jill Kelsey and Peter Riley for their service on the committee. Especial thanks were given to Peter who has been a committee member for many years and organized the winter coffee mornings. She also thanked Chris Hubbard who has agreed to continue producing his amusing and informative newsbites. The committee met during lockdown, via zoom or meeting outside or in a garage then started normal SPS activities as soon as it was allowed.

She realized that there had been concern that several villagers were unable to obtain tickets for the picnic. She explained that 60 is the limit for the Mission Hall; no tickets were reserved or sold before the date advertised and sold on a strictly 'first come first served' basis. All events will be advertised on newsbites.

Future plans include: a race night in November with fish and chips; a Murder Mystery (play!) in the new year. Jubilee celebrations are already in hand. Hilary invited other organizations to attend a preliminary planning meeting. 16 people attended and are busy already!

A question was raised about the new road sign at the end of Puddledock Lane, which has left a protruding, rough pole. Cllr Louie O'Leary said that the council may repair that as additional signage is being planned for Sutton Road.

Treasurer's Report:

Tabled and accepted. Andy Hohne said that it had been decided not to collect subs again this year but collection would be resumed in March/April next year. £2 a head. He asked new people to ensure that he had their e mails addresses for newbites.

Election of Officers:

Chair.(Andy in the chair for this item.)

Hilary Davidson, nominated by Linda Kirkpatrick, seconded Sue Smith.
There being no other nominations, she was returned to office.

Treasurer and Company Secretary.

Andy Hohne, nominated by Hilary Davidson, seconded Peter Jones.
There being no other nominations, he was returned to office.

Committee.

Sue Smith, Tony Critoph, Jez Cunningham, Shirley Davies, Marianna Dodd, Jackie Greet, Linda Kirkpatrick, Kevin Pearce, Jackie Raw, Jon Waterman.

There being no other nominations they were returned to office.

Independent Examiner:

John Bellis, nominated by Bill Egerton, seconded, Bill Davidson.

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AOB:

Motion proposed by Bill Egerton.

"This meeting fully understands and accepts the committee's reasons for no longer making comments on all planning applications, a practice that had proved difficult and divisive in the past. However, this meeting regrets the fact that the village no longer tries to provide a unified voice on major planning matters (including Local and Neighbourhood Plan policy-making, Strategic Housing Land allocations, and large scale planning applications.) We call on the committee to create a process whereby the Society can gather, coordinate and represent village opinion when there are major planning issues of such importance as to merit a village response."

Major points made:

Some people feel Government policy is not fit for purpose, lacking sufficient local involvement and consultation. People should respond as individuals. The council no longer informs neighbours of planning applications. Planning site is difficult to navigate. The committee, ie 12 people, should not be expected to speak for the whole community. Local Councillors are better placed to keep the community informed. People feel planning has become secretive. A meeting could be set up to discuss big issues. Who determines which applications are 'big'? Anyone can attend planning meetings. Everyone should be involved in the Neighbourhood plan.

Cllr O'Leary said that as he receives all the information about planning applications for this ward, he would coordinate and call meetings about big applications. He could send details to the SPS for putting on the website.

Bill said with this in place, he would be happy to withdraw the motion. He also offered to look at the planning portal and examine the feasibility of putting it on the village website.

With this in place SPS committee could alert Cllrs Louie O'Leary and Peter Dickenson as to what might be considered important.

Hilary thanked everyone for their input and for the councillors' contributions.

She closed the meeting with thanks to everyone for coming.