

Sutton Poyntz Society



Affiliated to the Council for the Protection of Rural England (Dorset Branch)

MEETING with LOCAL COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS - THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER at 7.30 pm in the SUTTON ROOM

You will be aware that over the years the Society has been in regular touch with local councillors and local government officers about contentious planning applications and other issues such as traffic flows through the village. Often the views of the Society and of councillors and officials are in harmony - as, for example, when the application to develop a large housing estate below Chalbury and backing on to Plaisters Lane was successfully opposed - but sometimes decisions are taken which conflict with our submissions.

If the Society is to be successful in pursuing its broad aims of maintaining the integrity and beauty of the village, it is essential that our local councillors and officers are made aware of our concerns and work with us to help to achieve these aims. To improve our mutual understanding a meeting has been arranged to be attended by Committee chairmen, ward councillors and officers responsible for planning, roads and the environment. We hope that you will be able to attend what should be a lively and interesting meeting.

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PLANNING MATTERS - Land adjacent to no. 55 Sutton Road

A planning application to build two detached houses and two semi-detached houses on this land was opposed by the Society's Committee on the grounds of the over-development of a restricted site and the increased hazard of additional vehicular access to Sutton Road. The development would also dominate the adjacent property, 55 Sutton Road. All the members of the WPBC Planning Committee and the Chief Planning Officer were notified of our concerns and a site visit was arranged for the Committee. In spite of our arguments against the scheme, the Planning Committee gave approval.

It was very disappointing that Councillor Weaver, our local representative, did nothing to support our case and voted for the planned development.

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INTERESTING FIND AT THE PUDDLEDOCKS

Whilst digging in his garden at 'The Barn', John Waghorn unearthed a metal disc which at first sight appeared to be an old penny. Following intensive cleaning, using all the well-tried methods, it became clear that 'the find' was a much more interesting coin. John asked Dorchester Museum people to identify the coin, without success. Further research and cleaning has revealed the coin to be an 1819 George III silver half-crown.

One can surmise that as the half-crown was discovered in the area of the foundations of the old barn it was probably lost by a Dorset farm labourer of that era. If this were to be true it would be a calamity for the family concerned as it would have represented more than half the labourer's weekly wage - Dorset farm labourers being notoriously badly paid

in that period.

THE SPRINGHEAD

After seven years, Jim and Julie White and their family are leaving The Springhead at the end of September. During their time in Sutton Poyntz they have helped the Society on numerous occasions. We extend our best wishes to them for the future.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 1 WEA Evening Class in the Sutton Room.
"English Domestic Furniture from the 18th Century" - lecturer: Steven Turner.
Students will be able to bring their own items to be examined and discussed.
Term starts on Wednesday 8th October at 7.30 pm.
- 2 Public Meeting, Thursday 30th October at 7.30 - *see above*
- 3 Christmas Social Evening, Friday 12th December at 7.30 pm in the Sutton Room.
Further details will be circulated nearer the time.
- 4 "Military Dorset Today", Thursday 12th February 1998 at 7.30 pm in the Sutton Room. Colin Pomeroy will give an illustrated talk on Second World War scenes and settings that can still be seen, 50 years on.
- 5 Wilfred Weld. Thursday 12th March at 7.30 pm in the Sutton Room. Wilfred Weld will speak about the Weld family connection with Sutton Poyntz.

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