

Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 10th February 2016 at the Mission Hall.

1. *Present:* Mike Blee, John Sutherland, Bill Egerton, Peter Dye, Peter Riley, Sue Wintle, Jez Cunningham, Chris Balfe. Wendy Vallance attended as an observer.
Apologies. Hilary Davidson, Tamzin Hyde, Jacqui Atkinson, Chris Hubbard
2. *Minutes of previous meeting*
The Minutes of the meeting on 20th January 2016 were agreed and signed.
3. *Matters arising*
None.
4. *Items to be raised under AOB*
None.
5. *Arrangements for Society AGM*
This was set for 13th April. The Mission Hall is already booked for that date. A notice of the meeting will go in the next Newsletter.
John Sutherland had said that he wished to step down as Treasurer, and it was agreed that a notice seeking a volunteer for this post would appear with the notice in the next Newsletter.
The proposed Constitution wording had been circulated by John Sutherland. It was agreed that the Newsletter notice would inform members in outline of the proposed changes, with the actual wording to be available from the website and/or from Committee members.
The vote on the Constitution at the AGM will follow a briefing and discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan proposal.
6. *Planning*
 - a. Land off Plaisters Lane – It was reported that the Council Planning Committee meeting that morning had turned down both these applications. The Councillors had not been impressed with the type of housing on offer, but the main formal reasons for turning down the applications were given as being contrary to policies SUS 2 (outside Development Boundary) and ENV 1 (damage to the AONB), and to policies L1, L2, PH1 and PH2 of the AONB Management Plan. The plan for the main site was also judged to be contrary to policies ENV 10 and ENV 12 by reasons of the cramped space for the affordable housing; the northern part was also judged to be contrary to policy HOUS 1 by not having any affordable housing agreement. There was discussion on sending a letter of thanks to the Planning Committee, but it was agreed this was not necessary.
It was expected that the applicants would appeal, or submit a revised application more in line with the type of housing the Planning Committee had thought more in line with need.
Pleasure at the Planning Committee's decision was not unanimous among the Society Committee, but there was complete agreement that progress on a Neighbourhood Plan was now vitally important. This will allow a democratic decision on whether any development would be acceptable to the village, and if so what sort and where.
 - b. 42 Sutton Road – It was agreed that the Society needs to be as conscientious in dealing with this application as it had been on the Land off Plaisters Lane applications.
 - c. Neighbourhood Plan – Some final edits to the Newsletter were agreed, so that it does not state explicitly that the Society and Neighbourhood Forum are the same body. The Newsletter will now be printed and distributed – a budget limit of £60 for printing was agreed. The web subsite will be made available at the same time, with similar last minute edits.
BE will contact the Council Officer who will be advising us, to arrange a meeting. It was agreed that we would push to have the Society accepted as the Neighbourhood Forum, but that speed of progress was more important than agreement on this matter of principle.

7. *Other village matters*

a. Top-of-the-Pond

The soil has been purchased and the planters have been filled. **HD** will manage the planting itself. Bill Davidson will manage the strengthening of the noticeboard uprights.

JC has obtained information on bespoke signs to advise that car parking is at owners' risk. It was suggested that the sign should state the ownership of the land. **JC** will investigate the cost of individualised signs, and arrange the purchase of a sign.

b. The pond – It was noted that the bottom end of the pond, on the road side, is falling in. **BE** will contact the Borough Council and Highways Authority to get action. **BE** will also contact the Parks Department again about agreeing a plan to remove silt.

c. Dog bins – JC has advised that he is not willing to continue emptying the bin at the end of Puddledock Lane. **BE** will negotiate urgently with the Council and/or Dorset Waste Partnership to add this to the dog bins they already empty. If payment is needed for this to happen, this will be discussed between Committee meetings.

8. *Village Events / Activities*

a. Coffee mornings – The amount of the payments made to cake providers was discussed. It was agreed that from next Autumn, the payment would be increased to £3.

b. Social events – It was noted from the Echo that the founder of the Jurassica project had died suddenly. It was agreed that we would wait before trying to contact the organisation to arrange a presentation.

9. *Communications*

a. Newsbites and Newsletters – A Newsbite will inform villagers of the result of the “Land off Plaisters Lane” applications. The next Newsletter is due out in March

10. *Other Village Activity reports*

No reports.

11. *Committee Reports*

The Mission Hall committee had met on the previous evening. A fund raising/social event was being planned for later in the year – more details to follow. It was reported that the Christmas Tree outside the Mission Hall had outgrown its site and would be cut down (it is not yet a “tree” for planning application purposes). Nearer the time, we will therefore need to think again about obtaining a tree for the village, presumably from Trinity Street Christmas Trees; in the past this has been donated by Pete Hyde in exchange for a donation by the Society to his nominated charity.

12. *Treasurer's Report*

a. The report had been tabled by email. A balance of £4549.73 was shown, after payment for the soil for the planters (item 7a above).

There was some discussion of the format of the monthly reports, but it was felt that they showed sufficient information.

b. Sutton Poyntz Limited accounts – The Directors of Sutton Poyntz Ltd (JS and BE) reported that they had met with John Allen, who is acting as voluntary accountant to the Limited Company, to put together the annual accounts for the first year's trading, now due. At John Allen's recommendation, these will show the land purchased at its cost of £1 plus fees of £2067.80, funded by means of a loan from the Sutton Poyntz Society. Other costs (the sum paid to Pengillys for the abortive purchase attempt, and solicitors' fees for correspondence with Mr Skinner's solicitor) have been paid by the Society and written off.

This treatment of the accounts will make things simple for the Limited Company, and have the benefit that the loan will be repayable to the Society should the land ever be sold. The following motion was agreed: “That the minutes record an interest-free loan of £2068.80 made to Sutton

Poyntz Limited for the purchase of the top-of-the-pond land, repayable if and when Sutton Poyntz Limited is wound up or disposes of the land.”

13. *Correspondence*

None.

14. *AOB*

None.

15. *Date of next meeting*

Next Committee meeting 9th March, at the Mission Hall.

Minutes agreed and approved :

Date: