

Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 8th February 2017 at the Mission Hall.

1. *Present:* Mike Blee, John Sutherland, Bill Egerton, Peter Riley, Jill Kelsey, Hilary Davidson, Jez Cunningham, Sue Wintle, Peter Dye, Chris Hubbard
Apologies: Chris Balfe, Jackie Greet, Jacqui Atkinson
2. *Minutes of previous meeting*
The Minutes of the meeting on 11th January 2017 were agreed and signed [post meeting note – in Item 2, date of previous meeting should be 2016].
3. *Additional items (new and repeat) not on the Agenda*
None
4. *Neighbourhood Planning*
 - a. Update
PD reported that the Steering Group had appointed a consultant, Brian Wilson Associates, to provide advice to the Group. Grant funding is available until mid-March, and an application will need to be put in before the end of the financial year for a second round of funding. JS noted that we needed to have good processes in place to ensure that financial commitments were well controlled and there was no overspend which could impact on Society funds. [Post meeting note: JS has been supplied with information on the tasking so far, which has been based on an agreed hourly rate; JS expressed himself satisfied that KB and BE will manage the contract within the agreed budget].

Analysis of the responses to Newsletter 2, and to the Open Days, was currently being undertaken by the Steering Group. It had been suggested that feedback should be given to the AGM.

Some members of the Steering Group had attended a seminar at Bath, which had proved useful. It was clear that the difficulties we are anticipating are quite common, and some positive messages were given about the ability of Groups to overcome them. It appeared from the attendance list that other groups like us (non-urban Neighbourhood Fora) are very few and far between. It had emerged from this and from the Newsletter responses that the village ought at some time to investigate Parish status.

It was reported that Ian Bruce had suggested the Borough Council Planning Department were happy with the route we are going down, and pleased that we are trail-blazing Neighbourhood Plans for them.

- b. Assets of Community Value
It was explained that the Locality Act, and a separate section from the one that allowed Neighbourhood Plans, allowed local groups to declare buildings or land “assets of community value”, which ensured that if the owner intended to dispose of them, the community was given time to assemble a bid. The Society, as a Neighbourhood Forum, is entitled to apply for buildings to be given this status. Buildings that the village might wish to consider in this way were thought to be the Mission Hall, the pub, and the Waterworks Museum; some green spaces might also be considered.

It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group should be asked to investigate this topic in more detail.

5. *Planning*
Local Plan consultation : The Local Authority are conducting a consultation exercise on an “Issues and Options” paper that has been produced, along with a Sustainability Appraisal. The consultation runs until 3rd April, and there are various opportunities to see the material including 21st February at

Redlands Sports Centre. MB had read relevant parts of the Issues and Options paper, and reported that Sutton Poyntz is a 3rd tier community, with little development planned, and that land around Sutton Poyntz had been placed low in the list of developable areas. It was agreed that people should study the material, also available at www.dorsetforyou.com/planning-policy-consultation, in order to discuss at the next meeting. It was also agreed that the Steering Group should consider the issues raised.

WP/16/00899/FUL Revised Hunt's Yard plan: This had been discussed by email, as a result of which we had supported the revised plans, which accord with a growing wish in the village for smaller houses.

WP/17/00013/FUL Cartref extension: The meeting was happy that this accords with Society policy.

WP/CA/17/00007 (reduce ash at Mill) and WP/CA/17/00010 (tree work at 5 Sutton Close): We are happy to leave these to the judgement of the Council Trees Officer.

6. *AGM planning*

The AGM is set for 12th April. PR had found a copy of a video, produced from film taken by a former Springhead publican (Ronnie Waite). Although this has been shown at an AGM before nearly 20 years ago, it was agreed that we would have a copy running after the AGM as entertainment during refreshments.

Terry Pegrum has stated that he is willing to join the Committee as Treasurer. His formal nomination will be obtained and sent to BE (**Action MB**).

7. *Sutton Poyntz Ltd*

It was noted that the list of members and Directors would need to be amended after the AGM, when new Committee members and officers will need to be added.

8. *Other village matters*

- a. The Pond – cleanup – Some people have volunteered to participate in a working party. MB will speak to Dave Emery to arrange (**Action MB**). Ros Evans had contacted BE to report that some ashes have again been placed by the pond.
- b. The Pond – History Boards – BE and Caroline Crisp had met to start assembling material for a new History Board. BE had spoken to a Council officer about this (and also about the state of the bank near the outflow); the officer was going to identify who the right person was to speak to (**Action continues**). At the meeting, there was some discussion of where another seat might go. The far side of the pond was mentioned, but the ownership of this area was not known.
- c. Bins & Dog bins – BE had spoken to a Dorset Waste Partnership officer, but been referred to a Borough Council officer. Ian Bruce had identified the same officer, and BE was awaiting contact from that person (**Action continues**). There was some discussion of the general problem of dog mess.
- d. Defibrillator – JC has now taken delivery of the first items of equipment, and will contact the Springhead to arrange installation. It was suggested that some form of display could be put together for the March Coffee Morning. Publicity and training will need to be arranged when we know when the equipment is to be installed.
- e. Bus service – MB and BE would be meeting with the First Bus local manager (Simon Newport) on Friday 10th, and would report back what the bus company intended on the village's service.

The possibility of setting up a camera or deploy observers to monitor bus use was discussed, but any action was deferred until after the meeting with First Bus.

9. *Village Events / Activities*

a. Coffee mornings

Attendance was excellent in February, with over 50, raising over £70. It was noted that the

coffee mornings are going to be extended over the summer months, but not by the Society.

b. Winter events

Next event - A talk on St Andrews Church (both the history and building), at the Mission Hall on Wednesday 22nd February.

A briefing on the NHS reorganisation consultation had not proved possible to arrange.

It was agreed that we would discuss summer events at the March meeting.

10. *Communications*

The next Newsletter, due later this month, will include a final account on the Land off Plaisters Lane planning applications.

Newsbites at appropriate times will provide reminders of the History Evening and the AGM.

BE had written to the two members in response to the actions from the last meeting.

11. *Other Village Activity reports*

BE had discussed with Dave Emery the strategy for the Waterworks woodlands. DE had promised to forward a copy of the Management Plan that he and Wessex Water were working to. In addition, DE was willing to be a member of the Biodiversity working group as part of the Neighbourhood Planning, and this would assist significantly in ensuring that the long term future of this woodland can be considered as part of the Neighbourhood Plan.

12. *Committee Reports*

The Mission Hall Trust were considering summer events, perhaps including a summer Safari Supper.

The list of Trustees has been updated, and now consists of Anthea Heathershaw, Maureen Morris and Keith Potter.

The Trust is investigating the possibility of extending the existing lease for the Mission Hall, which is now a little over half way through its 30 year period.

13. *Treasurer's Report*

A report had been tabled by email, showing a balance of £5279.06.

14. *Correspondence*

As well as the letters sent to members (item 10 above), emails had been received on a number of topics reported above (bus service, Local Plan review, ashes by the pond). A note had been received advising us of the new Mission Hall charge (£6 per hour).

BE had received a request via the website for information on holiday lets in the village. He had replied advising a Google search, and saying the website cannot make recommendations. In discussion, it was agreed that if we even tried to list holiday lets, we would need to make sure the list was complete and up to date, and it was best avoided.

BE had received a reminder of a meeting before Christmas with representatives of a charity who run "Ridgeway Radio" which gives youngsters experience of radio presenting. They would like to arrange radio interviews with villagers. SW said she might be willing to take on the arrangements for this; BE will pass on the information (**Action BE/SW**).

15. *Date of next meeting*

Wednesday 8th March in the Mission Hall

Minutes agreed and approved:

Date: