

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 12th July 2017  
at the Mission Hall.**

1. *Present:* Mike Blee, Terry Pegrum, Bill Egerton, Hilary Davidson, Jill Kelsey, Liz Balfe, Sue Wintle, Peter Dye, Peter Riley, Chris Hubbard.  
*Apologies.* Jackie Greet, Jez Cunningham.

2. *Minutes of previous meeting*

The Minutes for the meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> June were agreed and signed.

3. *Additional items (new and repeat) not on the Agenda*

None.

4. *Neighbourhood Planning*

a. Update

PD reported that the Place Appraisal subgroup was intending to have a draft ready for the end of August. A structure had been agreed and parts of each section had been written. Among other things, this subgroup had carried out an analysis of census data for the village.

Other subgroups had held meetings and were planning more detailed questions for the next round of consultation, although some of their work needed to wait for the Place Appraisal to be completed. The next consultation would be an important step when the Neighbourhood Plan finally comes to be examined by an Inspector.

In answer to questions it was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group would need to generate a vision for the village, but this was not the role of the Place Appraisal whose purpose is to describe the village as it is now. It was reported that visitors had asked why the village has no tea shop, and the Neighbourhood Plan will need to consider aspirations such as that.

b. Assets of Community Value

This topic is now being considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Facilities subgroup of which PD is a member.

c. Parish Council Statement

It was reported that the Village Meeting on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June had been well attended, and had generated good debate. The general view however was that the village did not feel it had a sufficiently clear view of what might be intended to form a satisfactory opinion. The matter had therefore been returned to the Society Committee.

It was noted that the current Borough consultation on local government reorganisation proposals closes on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, but there is currently considerable uncertainty on what form of County-wide reorganisation, if any, might finally be agreed. Until this is clear, the Committee felt that it was not possible to formulate any concrete proposal for Sutton Poyntz. It was agreed that with this uncertainty, and with the effort currently going into Neighbourhood Planning, now is not a good time to try to move forward on Parish Council status. Having Neighbourhood Forum status allows us to return to this topic at a time of our choosing, as has happened with Neighbourhood Forums in other places.

It was agreed that we should remove this topic from the Agenda. CH will write a summary on the topic for the next Newsletter. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group can consider including information or even a proposal on Parish Council status as an Appendix to the Neighbourhood Plan.

It was noted that if Weymouth & Portland becomes a Town Council, then the Society's status as a Neighbourhood Forum will cease, with Weymouth Town Council taking over responsibility

for Sutton Poyntz's Neighbourhood Plan. Provided our Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to the Borough for examination before this happens, our Neighbourhood Plan can be examined, voted on and "made", but any subsequent updates would become the Town Council's responsibility. It was agreed that this means the question will need to be looked at again when and if there is a firm proposal for a Town Council.

#### 5. *Planning*

##### a. Land south of Limoncello

HD described in outline aspirations that she and Bill have for building a house for themselves on this plot. She noted that they had been approached by several developers, but had turned these approaches down as they did not like the outline proposals. She noted that their plans, which will be submitted soon, retain the roadside hedge and protect the view through the gate. By building on the north side of the plot, they have tried to ensure that views from the hills are not harmed. They have spoken to neighbours about the plan.

The Society Committee will consider the matter in accordance with its Planning Policy when the application is submitted.

#### 6. *Sutton Poyntz Ltd*

BE reported that TP's appointment as Director has been notified to Companies House and the SPLtd Annual Return has been submitted. All Committee members except one have submitted membership forms.

#### 7. *Other village matters*

a. The Pond – History Boards – Being looked at by the Neighbourhood Plan Heritage subgroup.

b. Defibrillator – The insurance position is being checked by TP. It was noted that better signs were needed (**Action JC**).

c. Kissing Gate above Reservoir – Peter Broatch to be contacted to see if this is on his land (**Action BE**).

d. Top of the Pond drainage – Highways to be contacted (**Action BE**).

e. Bus Service – The Neighbourhood Plan transport subgroup have looked at the current service and found it to be unreliable. It was noted that on one occasion there were 9 people waiting for the morning bus, but when the bus arrived late most had made alternative arrangements and only two got on the bus – First Bus records of bus use will therefore under-report actual demand. It was also noted that one afternoon when no 4A bus appeared, the driver of the 4 bus got permission to drive into the village, calling into question First Bus's apparent suggestion that the old service made the timetable difficult.

Ian Bruce has discussed this with First Bus. A second survey is planned and further evidence will be sent to him. It is believed that First Bus is monitoring the situation.

#### 8. *Village Events / Activities*

a. Summer events: The Pimms Evening (8<sup>th</sup> July) made almost exactly £100 for Society funds, with £36 stock in hand in the form of bottles of Pimms for next year.

For the Cream Teas (2.30 to 4 p.m. 29<sup>th</sup> July), helpers were requested to but up gazebos in the morning. Helpers would assemble at 1.30 to set the teas out, with teas served in the hall as last year. A price of £3.50 was suggested but will be left to the organisers.

JC is organising the Vegetable Show (5<sup>th</sup> August).

#### 9. *Communications*

The next Newsletter will be issued in early August, with items on Parish Council status, the village

defibrillator, John Willows' retirement, and the new Street Fayre Chairman, David Langridge.

Newsbites will be sent out on the summer events including the Mission Hall picnic and the summer coffee mornings.

It was noted again that Agendas should be published on the website and on Noticeboards about a week before Committee meetings (**Action BE**).

There was a report that one member whose husband is in care had approached a Committee member to complain gently that the Society does not have any pastoral care for distressed members. After discussion, it was not obvious what could be done. Distributors only actually call on members when they are collecting subscriptions, and otherwise we can only depend on word of mouth. It was also noted that the Angels organisation already does an excellent job, which the Society should not try to duplicate. However, a Society information pack was suggested and will be investigated further.

10. *Other Village Activity reports*

It was noted that some information passed to the Homewatch system from within the village had later reappeared in a Homewatch email. The system seems to be working well.

11. *Committee Reports*

The Mission Hall Trust had held its AGM on 28<sup>th</sup> June; the list of Trustees had been formally changed. A Village Picnic was planned for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August.

12. *Treasurer's Report*

TP had distributed a report before the meeting, showing income of £66 and expenses of £148.22 (including £100 contribution towards John Willows' retirement gift).

The revised bank account mandate is still being sorted.

13. *Correspondence*

A SPLtd bank statement had been received and was passed to TP

14. *Date of next meeting*

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August in the Mission Hall.

*Minutes agreed and approved:*

*Date:*