

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 13th September 2017
at the Mission Hall.**

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

Apologies: Peter Riley, Jackie Greet, Liz Balfe.

2. *Minutes of previous meeting*

The Minutes for the meeting of 9th August 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 document had been considered by Steering Group members, who had fed back comments incorporated into a second draft. The two Consultants had also provided comments, among which was a suggestion that the Place Appraisal ought to go further towards making positive recommendations for the future of the village than had been originally envisaged. This idea would be considered at the Steering Group meeting next Tuesday, and also at the meeting with the Consultants scheduled for Saturday 23rd September.

The other main purposes of the meeting with the Consultants was to allow the Subgroups to get advice about how the next round of Consultation ought to be managed, and to discuss the project plan and timetable, in particular to be sure of meeting the potential deadline of March 2019 for formal submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to the Borough Council. All of the Subgroups have continued their work in gathering evidence and preparing for the next Consultation round, but all of them (and especially the Housing & Planning subgroup) were finding this process difficult.

It was proposed that the Place Appraisal will be available for villagers to see at a Coffee Morning in the near future.

- b. Assets of Community Value

Options will be presented for the village's consideration as part of the next Neighbourhood Plan consultation.

- c. Local Government consultation for Dorset

The Society had not made any representation to the Borough's consultation. Topic closed.

5. *Planning*

- a. WP/CA/17/00119 – Tree maintenance at 9 Old Bincombe Lane – It was noted that the Planning Officers had approved this just 4 days after the application was published.

- b. WP/CA/17/00129 – Fell hornbeam at 15 Old Bincombe Lane – A very similar application had gone through recently. No comment necessary.

- c. WP/CA/17/00077 – Fell trees at Limoncello – This application was posted on the Borough's website on (we believe) 12 September, with a consultation start date of 12 September, but with a note showing that the application had already been approved, evidently on the 21st August. [Post meeting note: the application had been submitted to the Council on the 19th June, so even approval on 21st August was late according to formal planning procedures]. The application had slipped through our regular trawl because no post code was given on the website (although it was given correctly on the application form). Fortunately JC had spotted it, and had submitted a complaint to a senior Council Officer.

The evidence from several recent instances that tree felling applications are being approved

without proper consultation was a matter of considerable concern to the Committee. It was agreed that we would write to the Council at a senior level, with copies to our local Councillors, requesting a meeting to try to ensure that the Council has a process in future that allows representations and gives them proper weight [**Action BE**].

6. *Sutton Poyntz Ltd*

No matters to report.

7. *Other village matters*

- a. The Pond – History Boards – Being looked at by the Neighbourhood Plan Heritage subgroup.
- b. Defibrillator – Leaflets had been printed for distribution with the next Newsletter; JC handed these to BE. A medical amenities map had been added to the village website showing, among other things, to precise location of the defibrillator. JC had responded to a questionnaire from the British Heart Foundation.
- c. Top of the Pond drainage – The meeting on 11th August with Dave Carey had been reported by email. There is little prospect of getting work done by the Highways Authority. Before doing this as a DIY project, it was suggested that we should contact Geoff or Simon Buckland of Buckland Construction (currently engaged in the development of Hunt's Yard) to see whether they might as a courtesy to the village put in a drain for this area [**Action BE**].

Dave Carey had offered to come to a meeting to talk about an Agency Agreement between the Society and the Highways Authority, to allow the village to commission small works that would not otherwise get done. It was not thought that this was necessary at the moment.

- d. Bus Service – Another recent survey of usage had been done, showing maybe 8 or 9 passengers getting on the morning bus, maybe 2 or 3 at lunch time, and (as might be expected) only people getting off the afternoon bus. First Bus had confirmed the same pattern of buses for the winter.
- e. Springhead car parking – It was agreed that availability of parking in the field next to the Springhead at very busy times was of net benefit to the village, provided its use did not become so common as to risk an automatic right of use. The advice from the Council's Planning Enforcement team was that there was no risk of any automatic right of use, beyond the 28 days permissive planning, unless use of the field became fairly continuous (in practice meaning more than about 50% of the time) over much more than simply the high season. Use had certainly been "fairly continuous" over much of the high season, but it was noted that the field gate had been closed since the end of August. Use would continue to be monitored.
- f. Traffic at top of pond – BE had discussed the height of the No Through Road sign near the top end of Sutton Road with Dave Carey, whose opinion was that its height was correct. On the matter of road signs at the top of Silver Street, the general view was that the village did not want yet more signs, and unless people in Silver Street itself ask, no action will be taken. BE will report back to Anne Kemp [**Action BE**].
- g. Ideas for telephone box – It was agreed that the village would wish to keep the phone box, which would probably be removed by BT if we took no action. Several ideas were floated for its use, including a collection point for charity jumble, a book swap library, and/or a notice-board. JC agreed to find the form that allows the village to purchase the box [**Action JC**].

8. *Village Events / Activities*

- a. Coffee Mornings: PR has a rota of helpers and cake-bakers for the Coffee Mornings, starting in October. It was intended to have copies of the Place Appraisal document available for the October Coffee Morning; nothing had yet been arranged for later Coffee Mornings.
- b. Winter events: It was noted that a charity Coffee Morning was arranged for 29th September in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support.

Other than the recent History Evening, no other winter events had currently been arranged. Ideas were sought.

9. *Communications*

The next Newsletter will be issued in early November. CH and TP had been looking at the membership list, with a view to increasing significantly the use of email. It was noted that there are 187 member households, and 106 email addresses. CH suggested that for next year, a membership form should be issued, to allow us to gather more email addresses and forenames than we have at present.

10. *Other Village Activity reports*

The recent History Evening was very well attended and much enjoyed. Just over £30 was raised, and the Windrose Trust had received a number of offers of potential interviewees for their “Handig Down Heritage” oral history project.

11. *Committee Reports*

Nothing to report.

12. *Treasurer’s Report*

TP had distributed a report before the meeting, showing income of £152.50 from the Vegetable Show and one payment of £17.58 to the Mission Hall. The Neighbourhood Planning payment of £710.40 had been reimbursed from the Sutton Poyntz Ltd account. The current account and cash balance stands at £3459.89.

13. *Correspondence*

A CPRE membership card had been received.

14. *Date of next meeting*

Wednesday 11th October in the Mission Hall.

Minutes agreed and approved:

Date: