



Sutton Poyntz Society

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

ANNUAL MEETING - 17th APRIL

There was a good attendance of 57 members. The Chairman, Tony Bugler, unveiled the ship's bell which came from HMS Bandit of W.W.II and had been outside the Sutton Room for many years. Cleaned and polished by Peter Jones and Graham Smith and on a decorative bracket made by local blacksmith Simon Grant-Jones, the bell is now available for order to be called! Many thanks to all concerned.

Tony announced that he would be standing down after serving for five years. He gave a brief resume of the Society's activities during his period of office, highlighting the role played in monitoring planning proposals and involvement in the wider discussion and examination of County and Borough structure plans. In particular, he considered the most satisfying outcome of our endeavours to be the refusal of planning permission to develop a large housing estate in the valley below Chalbury. There had also been a succession of well-attended and enjoyable social functions and talks. The Society, he felt, was in good heart but would always have challenges to meet, such as the battle over the traffic problem in Sutton Road and Plaisters Lane.

Tony would continue to serve on the Committee, the other members confirmed at the meeting being Richard Backwell, Ron Birch, Don Brierley, Simon Emblen, Christine Gates, Peter Jones, Ken Knight, Joyce Litschi, Richard Meech, Maureen Morris, Mike Pressly and Maureen Tepper. Thanks to Tony were proposed by John Hackford and Joyce Litschi, the latter on behalf of fellow Committee members, and were passed with acclaim.

NEW CHAIRMAN

Tony Bugler will be succeeded by Mike Pressly who has lived in Sutton Poyntz at "The Rest" for many years and is well known to most of you. Best wishes to him for his term of office.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

At the AGM it was decided that subscriptions remain at £2 per household, and £1 for people living alone. Some members paid their subscriptions at the meeting, but the usual collectors will be calling on the others by the end of June. For the purpose of collection of subs and the delivery of Newsletters, etc., the village is divided into areas - see the list appended.

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COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL ENGLAND

The Society continues to co-operate with the CPRE, with many of our members active in both organisations. There is a great deal of mutual concern about the serious encroachment of unwelcome developments on our environment. Tony Bugler attended the CPRE annual meeting and was glad to receive confirmation that our Society's efforts had contributed significantly to the successful campaign to influence the authors of the Dorset structure plan to recognise that the emphasis on new building should be in urban areas and that sensible targets for affordable housing should be set up.

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PLANNING MATTERS

** Waterside Caravan Park. A letter has recently been sent to the Chief Planning Officer of WPBC objecting to work that has been started by this company on the hillside forming the site's southern boundary. The company claim that they intend that the excavated site (which, in our view, constitutes a desecration of an open hillside) should be used as a football

pitch, not requiring planning permission. Our letter appeals to the Chief Planning Officer to use his authority to stop this dubious development on the ground that it is simply another episode in the flagrant disregard of the environment and countryside shown by this company. It would appear from recent history that the company has little respect for those responsible for the enforcement of planning regulations.

** Land adjoining 3 Stroudley Crescent. The Society has objected to the proposed erection of a house on this site because it will have a detrimental impact on the skyline in an area of natural beauty, which is visible from many parts of the village.

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TRAFFIC CALMING

To be frank, we are not making much progress towards a solution of the problem in Plaisters Lane and Sutton Road. This does not mean that we have been taking no action; regular letters have been sent to councillors and officers and, in spite of an apparent willingness to listen and help, little has been done, based on the excuses of lack of funds and the dual responsibility for roads shared between County and Borough Councils. Schemes such as the 'Green Lane' system in Jersey have been suggested, but under current regulations in force on the mainland, they cannot be introduced here. The legal possibilities of a suggestion for an 'advisory' speed limit of 20 mph is being investigated by Councillor Weaver. We consider the issue of road safety in Sutton Poyntz is of crucial importance and one which we must keep pressurising local authorities to address. Please take every opportunity to let councillors and officers of the Borough Council know your feelings. It is also hoped that a public meeting involving councillors and officers will be arranged soon, as it has already been agreed that one should be held.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

*** Annual Walk. Thursday 5th June, 7 pm.

The walk will start and finish at the Picnic Area on the B3390 between Waddock Cross and Affpuddle - GR 804923. Refreshments after the walk will be available at the Frampton Arms. Richard Backwell, who is kindly organising this event, says that the walk of approximately 3½ miles is relatively flat. Anyone requiring a lift should please contact a member of the Committee.

*** Cream Teas Saturday 2nd August.

Thanks to the agreement of Mrs Julia Allen and Miss Elizabeth Saunders this popular event will again take place in the area adjacent to the Pond. If the weather is as kind as it was last year, another most enjoyable afternoon is in store for us.

DIVISION OF THE VILLAGE FOR NEWSLETTERS ETC

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| 1 Plaisters Lane North, Wyndings and Purbeck Lodge (inc)
up the hill | Simon Emblen |
| 2 Plaisters Lane centre, between Longmead and Springbank
and Inmosthay, M.H.Lane | Peter Jones |
| 3 Sutton Ct.Lawns; Sutton Close; Houses on E.side of
Plaisters Lane between Pentreath and
Waterford House | Richard Backwell |
| 4 Old B.Lane; Houses on W. side of Plaisters Lane between
Dolphins and Clyffe (inc); Brookmead | Christine Gates |
| 5 Puddledock Lane; Cornhill; Sunnyfields | Ron Birch |
| 6 Seven Acres and beyond Sunnyfields | Richard Meech |
| 7 Sutton Rd.south from Cartshed to the boundary | Joyce Litschi |
| 8 Silver Street; Sutton Rd from the fork to no 111 and
the Springhead (inc) | Ken Knight |
| 9 Mission Hall Lane except Inmosthay; 113 Sutton Rd; all
the area North of the pond, not mentioned
above | Maureen Morris |
| 10 Members outside the village except those in 6 above | Ken Knight |