

5/-

An Inaugural Meeting of the proposed Sutton Poyntz Society was held on Tuesday March 5th ¹⁹⁶⁸ at 7.30 p.m. in the Mission Hall, Sutton Poyntz, Mr L. Samphier in the Chair. Between 50 + 60 residents were present, representatives of the Press, and two guest speakers, Colonel Wordsworth of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England and Mr Ricketts of the Weymouth Civic Society.

The Chairman opened the meeting explaining that its object was to determine whether a society to preserve the natural beauty of the area and protect it from unnecessary development should be formed. Before hearing the views of the gathering he would like them to hear from the guest speakers in what capacity a vigilant society could be of value. Both Colonel Wordsworth and Mr Ricketts stressed the importance of an active watch committee to liaise with the Weymouth Council to protect the village against the insidiousness of unplanned growth and prevent the erection of ugly building structures. Mr Ricketts expressed the view that a vigilant society should be there "not to chip at Councillors but to remind them of the problems in the village." Colonel Wordsworth stressed the point that it was essential to be on friendly terms with the Borough Planning Offices who usually welcomed the views of people with local knowledge and love and interest in their own village.

Before dealing with the main business of the meeting, the Chairman requested the acting secretary to read out the apologies. These were from Mr Stuart Best, Rev. Harry Orchard, Rev. Tanner, Councillors Taylor, Holland

and Mrs O'Brien, Mr + Mrs Robertson, Mr + Mrs Wright,
Mr + Mrs Battle-Pye, Mr + Mrs Kemp, Mrs Brown, Mrs Metcalfe
and Mr Putnam. All had expressed their support
for the proposed society and the hope that it
would go forward.

The Chairman then declared the
meeting open for general discussion.
Mr Shires said that the forming of such a
society would not be unique, and many
village amenity societies were in existence.
In his personal opinion the work of the
Society would be: ———

- a) to obtain regularly information of future
planning in the area.
- b) to obtain the personal opinions of every
resident, so that a fair section of the residents
can be represented, strength lay in combination
not in individuals.
- c) to encourage historical research on the
village.
- d) to keep the village tidy.

It was proposed by Mr R. J. Sullen,
seconded by Mr Stillwell and carried
unanimously that the Society be formed.

Election of Officers

Chairman - Mr Samphier, prop. Mr Branton, sec. Mr Hunt
and carried unanimously.

Secretary Mrs J. Sitschi - prop. Mrs Shires, sec Mr Stillman
carried unanimously.

Treasurer Mr E. Saunders - prop. Mr Corbyn
sec Mr Sitschi & carried.

Public Relations Officer - Mr E. Shires pr. Mrs V. Morris
sec Mr Saunders & carried unanimously.

Committee

Mr Branton proposed, sec Mrs Macdonald that 4 additional members be elected. This was carried. Names were as follows: ———

Mrs Mary Macdonald - pr. Mrs Fullford, sec. Mrs Townsend
Mr Hunt - pr. Mrs Shires sec. Mrs Lamb.
Mrs Shires - prop. Mrs Sutton sec Mr Litschi.
Mr Henshaw - prop. Mrs Macdonald sec. Mr Litschi.
Mr Fullford - prop. Mrs N. Sutton, sec. Mr Dodge.
Mr Stillwell - prop. Mr Seall, sec Mr Buchenough.
Mr Litschi - prop Mr Saunders, sec. Mr Hunt.
Mr Branton - prop. Mrs Miller, sec. Mrs Sutton.
Mr Reed - prop. Mrs Shires, sec. Mr Shires.

In view of the fact that 9 names had been proposed, Mr Harding proposed, seconded by Mr Buchenough, that the Committee consist of 9 members in addition to the H officers. This amending Mr Branton's proposal. The amendment was carried.

Mr Brown proposed that the newly formed Society be given a title. Mr Buchenough proposed, sec Mr Townsend that it be called the Sutton Payntz Preservation Society.

Mr Litschi, sec Mr Sutton proposed that it continue to be known as the Sutton Payntz Society. This latter proposal was carried.

Mr Litschi proposed that a box be placed in the village in which residents could ~~state~~^{place} their individual problems for perusal by the Committee.

The Stone Edifice in the Pond -

This was much discussed and it was finally decided that the Council be requested by the Committee, to remove the stones from their present position and ^{that they be} used to renew and

strengthen the pond perimeter, and to protect pond from rubbish chucked off the road by traffic. Mr Stilwell requested that ducks be reinstated. Other points made were as follows: —
a request to attack the conglomeration of electric and telephone wires crosscrossing overhead
: — Mr Colquhoun.

The erection of pylons: — Mrs Colquhoun. In reply to this Mrs Shires stated that a protest meeting had been held eighteen months ago remonstrating against the erection of pylons in South Dorset but it had been of no avail.

Mrs Morris asked whether new buildings in Sutton Payntz could be restricted by the Council as to materials and architecture, in order to ensure that they fitted the environment. In this respect Mrs Shires expressed the view that the Society must have information of the relative costs of building materials available, so that it could be ascertained which of the cheaper materials might be used without creating a discordant note.

Mr Bichenough expressed his belief that the Council were endeavouring to preserve the conformity of the area.

Mrs Miller regretted that though tourists were most welcome it was unfortunate that they left so much litter and rubbish behind them and expressed the hope that this could be dealt with. [Another hope was that some of the corrugated roofs on various buildings might be replaced to better effect.]

Mr Stilwell said that the beauty of the village was much admired even as far away as America, and it was essential to maintain

and protect it at all costs.

Mr Hetschi suggested that a working party of strong able men and women be set up.

The Chairman read a letter from Mrs Moore, a resident of many years, in which she stated that the newly erected sign "SUTTON POYNIZ" had been placed in the wrong position. It was unanimsly agreed that the site should be just north of the Gospel Hall on Sutton Rd.

Mr Townsend kindly offered the use of a room at the Springhead Hotel for Meetings to avoid additional expense. A vote of thanks was made in response to this generous suggestion.

Subscription Fee

After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Ruchanough, seconded Mrs Hunt, that it be 10/- per year per household. This was carried. A vote of thanks was extended to Colonel Wordsworth and Mr Ricketts by Mr Colquhoun and unanimsly seconded by all present, and there being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting to be at an end.

J. Sampson
15/3/69.