

SPECIAL MEETING OF COMMITTEE

Minutes of special meeting on Monday 5th March 1985 at 7.30 pm
at the Rest, Silver Street. Councillor Mrs J. Litchi, in the chair
(Mr W. H. Mercer on holiday).

The Mill and Stream, Silver Street.

Three members had requested this special meeting to
consider this matter.

1. The Minutes of the special meeting on 28 January were agreed.
2. As regards the Stream, reference was made to a concrete-
slab wall or dam which the Wallis had constructed very
recently at the base of the outflow from the mill-race.
Mr & Mrs Wallis were unable to attend the meeting, as
invited; but they had spoken at length to the Secretary.
In summary, the points they raised were:
i) Privacy for their land is vital. Several times last
year adults had trespassed on to it, and many children
had wandered on to it - often from the stream. There
were photographs of some of this trespassing. The Wallis's were

letter to put up "private" notices but had to maintain their privacy and hoped all concerned would assist them.

- b) The stream used to be completely overgrown and it would not have been possible for children to play there until the refurbishing took place. The work was then intended only for beautification and regrettably some damage has been done to bushes or plants. In regard to the general use of the stream, the section behind the Mill house does not get used much, because of the bushes etc.
- c) They have sought to co-operate with the allotmenters and others, and hope co-operation will be two-way.
- d) The wall in the stream was constructed in the belief that it would further improve that end of the stream; there was nothing ulterior nor any desire to exert rights. They will, however, ~~take~~^{bring} it down as soon as reasonably possible.

Mrs. Crosby thought the Land Registry at Weymouth had confirmed that there is an outstanding claim about Nelson Street itself, and she reiterated she had a L.R. plan showing that the stream (apart from the overflow from the Mill-race) was not covered by the Mill. Mrs. Brown mentioned that she understood that the Council had purchased the pond from the Water Board in 1960. Mr. Saunders said his family had for very many years kept part of the Mill Land

fronting Silver Street clean and tidy. Mrs Litcher stated that the Borough Council have never accepted responsibility for the stream and have been discussing with Messrs Water the question of ownership of other parts of the River Jordan.

After considerable discussion it was decided-

1. To approach the Land Registry for information on the ownership of Sutton Road and the stream;
2. To ask Messrs Water for their view as to ownership of the stream;
3. To accept Mr/ Mrs Wallis's decision to remove the wall from the ^{stream;}
4. To ask their confirmation that the length of wire-netting by the stone bridge is temporary protection for bushes only;
5. To invite them to a future meeting, if they wish, when more information is available.

3 The Stables, Sutton Road.

Arising from the minutes, Mrs Litcher said a site visit by councillors was in hand. The part of Sutton Road in question is unclassified and the council was advised that the ~~declassification work~~ ^{by making of the access} did not contravene planning control although the declassification work was being further considered. The Secretary referred to details which he had sent to the County Surveyor and to W.P.C. Chief Executive. The County Surveyor had confirmed the un-classification of the road, and stated

that if permission were in fact necessary then the access was not to the standard required. The Chief Executive had been informed of our concern that all this work was not merely a planning and highway matter but represented what could be a serious precedent of defiance of authority. The reply (25 Feb) said the matter was being actively considered.

4 Footpath behind "Fox Cottage" and Allotments.

Following discussion on the stream, consideration was again given to this footpath and the possibility of the Council being asked to delineate it officially by providing signs at either end. However, the committee decided not to pursue this, accepting that the right of way does in fact exist and can - and occasionally should - be used.

W. H. Murcher
Chairman.