

Minutes of the O.P.S. Committee Meeting: Held 7.30pm  
on 9th December 1986 at "The Rose", Silver Street.

Ch. Mrs. J. Litchie in the chair.

Apologies: were received from Mr. Briarty, & Ken Knight.

1) Minutes of the previous meeting: - on the  
21st October at Little Acrens were read and  
approved.

2) Matters Arising:

1) Planning Appeal re the Stables: A letter to the D&E  
written by M. Rosebilly on behalf of Ken Knight, and

setting out the objections of the Society was read by Joyce.

Mrs. Hitschi confirmed that Mr. Knight had approached the C.P.R.E. for advice regarding a suitable solicitor to represent, or write on behalf of the Society, in the forthcoming planning appeal by Mrs. Pitman. On approaching the solicitor, one Mr. Gillam, his expressed view was that a letter from the Sutton Poyntz Society would carry so much weight as a letter from himself. Mrs. Hitschi therefore requested me to write, in Mr. Knight's absence, so that she could write as a councillor and resident of 16 years, and independently of the Society.

Mr. Birch expressed his concern over the number of appeals against 'Planning Refusal' and endorsed this concern with the fear that this particular appeal might be upheld. Mrs. Hitschi replied by outlining the appeal procedure and confirmed that last time this occurred in the village the D. of E. was opposed to any unnecessary development of Sutton Poyntz. Joyce went on to say that she was quietly optimistic that the appeal would be dismissed.

Mr. Saunders recalled that he had been asked, by Mrs. Guppy, to lease the land now

in dispute but had declined to outbid  
Miss Pitman.

3.)

### Chairman's Report.

Mrs. Hirsch reported that the council had approved the change in use of the Butcher's shop in Preston, for use as a play school. The approval had, however, been granted with the proviso that this change in use applied to Mr. & Mrs. Andros only.

Joyce went on to say that she had telephoned Mr. King regarding the large volume of water that had been flowing through the spring. On the subject of the stream, Mrs. Hirsch pointed out that Mrs. Doyle had written a letter to the Society regarding the proposed modifications to the River Jordan by Mr. Wallace, and expressed serious concern over the effects of such interference with the river levels. Mrs. Pressley outlined the content of the plan, which was basically to construct 3 dams in the river alongside the Mill. Fears were that damming would seriously affect the functioning of various land drains into the river - of which Mr. Saunders had 6, Mrs. Pressley 3 and Mrs. Doyle 1. Other concerns expressed were that serious changes in

level and silting would also result. Mrs. Doyle had also expressed the fear that increased water levels might undermine the foundations of her home. It was also felt that there would be an increase in the insect population and if sections of the stream dried out, there may be a problem with smells.

Mr. Saunders said he'd spoken to Mr. Wallace who had given his assurance he'd lay a drain for those affected. Mr. Birch suggested that the Water Board could shed some more light on the subject and the effects of such a scheme.

Mr. Litschi pointed out that Mr. Wallace had indeed applied to the ~~Nessex~~ Water Authority for planning consent, and that she would write to the Authority expressing concern on behalf of the Society. Mrs. Litschi also said that she would raise the subject with council officials.

#### 4) Treasurer's Report.

The 60's night had yielded a profit of £85-76. Income comprising :-

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Evening               | £28-00            |
| Raffle                | £63-30            |
| and expenses totalled | £5-54 for prizes. |

Eric Wilkinson then reported that Christmas Card sales had totalled 892. Income from these sales amounted to £115 against a cost for the cards of £109, therefore, we were already in profit.

Account Balances were as follows:

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Bank Balance         | £201 - 84 |
| Petty Cash           | £19 - 56  |
| National Savings A/c | £761 - 21 |

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Expenses to date totalled | £608 - 04  |
| Receipts                  | £1003 - 41 |

With nothing further to report the committee endorsed the treasurer's suggestion that £100 should be transferred from the current A/c to the National Savings A/c. No further income was expected before the subscriptions became due. There were no notes arising from the Treasurer's Report.

5.)

### Dixie's Evening

Mrs. Kitchin thanked Ron Birch for his efforts in organising the event. Ron replied by

explaining that the evening was primarily an experiment intended to please the majority but to attract some of the younger residents and members. As such, the event was successful and generally enjoyed with mixed feelings in the minority. Fears had been expressed that the Society had damaged its relationship with the Springhead when one or two of those attending suggested that we had betrayed our allegiance. In the general discussion that followed it was the consensus of opinion amongst the committee that this was not the case and that it was a good evening.

6.) C.P.R.E. - Annual General Meeting:

Ron Birch had attended on his own and read a brief report on the meeting. Approximately 70 people had attended an excellent buffet lunch at which Major Wickham was presiding. New officers were elected including Mr. Michael Biddy as the New President.

Ron pointed out that affiliation fees may now be paid to either the Dorset or National Branch of the C.P.R.E. - the Dorset Branch being preferred by the committee.

Motions before the AGM included:

A) Route Planning Applications & Appeals -

due to the volume of appeals, councils have now weakened due largely to the fact that formerly 20% of refusals went to appeal now 70% of refusals go to appeal. Councils now appear to be arriving in favour of approving and many appeals are now succeeding; developers are going for everything they can. The C.P.R.E Motion was - 'CONCERN THAT PLANNING PROCEDURE IS BREAKING DOWN FOR THESE REASONS'

B) Motion - Footpaths. Mr. Birch confirmed that fears were aired at the meeting with feelings running high concerning the changes to established footpaths. A good deal of resentment was present within the C.P.R.E over landowners discouraging walkers. The motion was discussed by the committee with the conclusion that the Society would have to arrange another walk in the Spring.

Mr. Birch concluded his report by saying that the talk by Mr. Townley was excellent but a little worrying in that he'd confirmed that further Nuclear energy is very likely to come to Dorset.

7.) VIENNA EVENING:

Joyce reported on behalf of Mr. Brierly that the Vienna Evening, comprising of both Music and a talk, was to take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd January. Coffee and Biscuits would be served with the Society paying.

### 8.) Future Programme.

The A.G.M. would be as agreed at the last meeting.

Fireworks would now be displayed on St. Georges Day (23rd April). Mike at the Springhead confirmed that he would be willing to provide a hot dog with the fireworks. Estimated charge would be £1/head for the fireworks.

Newsletter: Joyce said she would like one published before the beginning of March and suggested it should include reminders for forthcoming events.

### 9.) A.O.B.

i) There were various matters about the potholes in Plaisters Lane none of which were really 'inimitable'.

ii) Mrs. Mitschi reminded the committee that Mr. Freddy Mitschi's census was not yet "off the ground" with only one reply received.



iii) The Civic Society's Meeting dates were read for those interested.

iv) Mrs. Litschi notified those present that the White Horse Garage, having been granted permission to demolish, then build two flats had now re-applied for four flats.

v) Mrs. Wilkinson reported that she would contact Mr. Grev Nichols to give a First Aid demonstration during the last week in February.

vi) The date of the next meeting would now be the 13th January 1987 and not 16th February as originally planned.

The Chairman and Committee extended a vote of thanks to Mrs. Cathy Pressley for the venue and excellent hospitality (Milked Nine & Sausages).

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.25 pm.



VICE CHAIRMAN.

13.1.87