

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee on Thurs 3rd July at
Myrtle Cottage - Mike Presley in the Chair.

(1) Apologies from Pete Jones, Ron Koch, Chaertus Yates, Litch
Meed & Richard Backwell.

2) Simon Williams - Assistant Chief Planning Officer (Forward
Planning) of WPC. The Chairman introduced Mr Williams
who had kindly agreed to meet the members of the

Committee before the meeting began to speak about planning policy and issues related to Sutton Point. The Chairman felt that an input from Mr. Williams would be a useful preliminary to help members to formulate reasonable questions to put to Officers and Councilors at the proposed public meeting planned for the Autumn.

Mr. Williams explained the general framework of the planning process and the WIPBC Local Plan and how it has proposed to develop this in line with the DCC Structure Plan which envisaged the building of 4500 extra dwellings in the WLP area up to the year 2011. The WIPBC was committed to a policy of filling in the major part of this growth in existing urban areas using 'infill' and infilling sites. A fundamental aspect of the planning process of his Department was to help maintain the village character of Sutton Point. He believed that the only new building in Sutton Point would be restricted to infilling, but he was not able to give an estimate of the ^{ultimate} number of houses likely to be built as part of the Council's commitment to meeting the Structure Plan requirements. In response to questions about the relationship between housing development and traffic problems, particularly those associated with Plasterers Lane & Sutton Rd, Mr. Williams was unable to refer to any policy connecting these issues in respect of Sutton Point. He did confirm that it was difficult to deny specific applications on the grounds of road ~~use~~ usage because it was not possible to 'draw a line' on road usage which may not have ^{much} anything to do with housing development but more with outsiders taking short cuts through the village.

There followed a wide ranging discussion and study of local maps brought by Mr. Williams at the end of which a number of questions were drafted - see later minute - and Mr. Williams also asked if the Society would be prepared to join with his Department in producing a local guide for the village and the surrounding countryside.

In conclusion Mr. Williams promised to send the Secretary

further information about the Local Plan, statistics on building developments in Sutter Boggy over the last ten years and details of the Joint report prepared for the CPRE on sustainable growth and environmental capacity.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Williams for his valuable contribution and kindness in giving up his time to come to the meeting.

3) Appointment of Vice-Chairman

The Secretary reported that he had received five nominations for Richard Meach who had agreed to stand as V-C. There were no other nominations and Richard Meach was duly appointed V-C.

4) The minutes of the meeting of 6th May 1997 were read, approved and signed.

5) Matters arising -

(a) Item 4. The Chairman reported that planning permission had been granted for (i) extension to cottage No. 4, Puddock Lane (ii) New building at 'Old Orchard' Pleister Lane (iii) " " - 3, Strandly Crescent.

(b) Use of Sutter Room for elections. The Secretary reported on his conversation with Mr. Tinsbury of WABC who had confirmed that the decision on ^{the location of} polling stations was taken by the Chief Executive - Mr. Murray Ashby and that he had considered the use of St. Anne's School on Littlemore Rd as an alternative to the Sutter Room but had decided that on balance the Sutter Room was a more popular and satisfactory station than the School.

Item 9. Waterside Brown Park. The Secretary reported on a further exchange of letters with CPO about the change of use of part of the site from agriculture to leisure use. It appeared that permission had been granted but the Planning Officer

members could not find the relevant documentation in the records.

Item 10. Traffic calming. The Secretary reported that a reply from Councillor Weaver was still awaited.

6) Current Planning applications

(i) 55, Satter Rd. The Chairman reported on the proposed development of four houses on the limited site adjacent to 55, Satter Rd and explained the nature of the objection that had been lodged by the Society. Members supported this action.

(ii) 616 Botley. Application to build a house in the grounds. Concern was expressed by members and the Secretary was asked to write to the CPO to draw attention to the problems of access and the detrimental impact a new building may have on the main dwelling of 616 Botley in an area of conservation.

(iii) Joyce beside asked the Secretary to check on time limits and quality considerations when planning permission was granted for development of new buildings and extensions. In this instance she had No. 4 Padledoch Lane in mind.

(iv) Attendance at WSPBC Planning Committee meetings. A number of members expressed an interest in attending the meetings on behalf of the Society. The Chairman agreed that in future a rota could be set up to establish a better monitoring system of the planning process.

7) Social events.

(i) 2nd Aug. - Broom Teas. Mawren Morris enquired that Mrs Allen had everything in hand for the production and distribution of the teas etc. Help with clearing up and washing may be required. M.M. had booked the use of tables and chairs from Pinston Village Hall but help would be needed to transport them in the morning and after the function. Mike Penry would be available as would David Morris but a car was considered necessary for the movement of the chairs. Tony Bayler agreed to

ask Mr. Willis if he could help.

(ii) Buntingbridge Surveys. It was thought by some members that this group would be ideal for the pre-Christmas event. Goyse lettschi agreed to make contact with ~~the~~ ^{CSS} and to try to arrange 3rd December. M.M. ^{agreed to} ~~accept~~ deal on the availability of the Linton Village Hall.

8/ Treasurer's report.

The closing balance at 3rd July 1997 was £424.53 made up of £378.10 cash at bank and £46.43 cash in hand. Details of the accounts were deposited with the Secretary.

AOB

9/ (i) Membership cards. The Secretary passed on to members the suggestion from Ron Birch that new membership cards should be printed. In general this was felt to be a good idea but the Chairman asked that a review of the wording on the old style card should undertaken before going to print. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

(ii) Flowers in the cart at the Springhead. Tony Bayler proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Allen for undertaking the work. This was supported and the Chairman agreed to convey the message to Mrs. Allen.

(iii) Sale of North Down Farm. The Chairman reported on the joint letter of the Society and the Victorian St. James Committee sent to the prospective owners of the land. A reply was awaited.

10/ Questions for Public meeting.

(i) What can be done to help strengthen the WPBC Planning Department's attempts to fight the case against the over-development of the area?

(ii) Is there a theoretical measure of what would constitute an unacceptable level of traffic density on existing road capacity? Does the Planning Dept. take into consideration the impact on traffic density when deciding on planning applications for

extra dwellings and if so what weight does it give to this consideration?

iii) Is there a housing density policy for Satter Point?

iv) Does the P.D. envisage any large-scale developments in S-P or will all future developments be single infill?

v) Would members' offices confirm that it is a fundamental aspect of the WPCBC planning process to help the village to maintain its character & identity?

vi) Traffic calming. The dangerous state of Minister's Road and Satter Rd is of great concern to residents. What measures are being considered to improve the situation.

11/ Date of next meeting. Tues 26th Aug. at Ken Knight's home.

Thanks were given to Mervyn Tepper for his hospitality and the meeting closed at 10.30pm.

~~Respectfully~~
Chairman.