

Minutes of the meeting of the SPS Committee on Tues. 20th July 1999
held at The Mill. Mike Beahy in the chair

- 1) Apologies. Richard Meach and Ron Lovell
- 2) The minutes of the meeting of 16th June were read, approved and signed
- 3) Matters arising.
 - a) Footpath behind Mission Hall Lane. It was suggested that a decision to take no further action (meeting of 16th June) might be reconsidered. It was agreed to defer further discussion until the outcome of the proposals to develop the land was known.
- 4) Survey of the pond area. Tony Bayler and Gailie Allen made a preliminary report on their investigations. A representative from the Dorset Wildlife Trust had visited the site and confirmed that the holes in the banking had been made by water voles and must not be touched. A report was being prepared by DWT and it was hoped that it

would be available for the next meeting,

5) Merion Hall and adjacent land.

Simon Embler reported that the Merion Hall Committee had not met and that he was unable to comment on any recent developments if in fact anything had taken place. The Chairman had spoken to Norman Brown (Chairman of the Merion Hall Committee) who told him that a lease had not been signed because the boundaries of the land were not properly defined and that the Committee would not do anything until it was known about the intentions of the PCC to develop the land behind the Merion Hall. At a subsequent meeting N.B. had confirmed that a new planning application will be submitted by the PCC. This it was reported by Neville Wood of the PCC, was being done on the instructions of the Diocese.

Simon Embler expressed his disenchantment about the lack of meetings of the Merion Hall Management Committee, a view that was supported by the members.

Ken Knight confirmed that the Diocese was now involved in the decision making process about the use of the land.

It was agreed that the Society should respond quickly once the intentions of the Diocese were known.

6) Planning.

a) The Chairman reported that WPPC decision not to allow development at No. 3, Stroudley Crescent had been overturned on appeal.

b) No 5 Sulta Blue. This proposal was referred to the Planning sub-committee.

c) Tony Bayly drew the members attention to recent press coverage about registering open spaces as 'green'. He wondered whether the area between Puddledock Lane

and the 'haze valley' could be registered. The Chairman asked him to seek out more detailed information for consideration at the next meeting.

d) A letter about the Waterside Brown Park had been sent to WPC.
(see previous minutes)

7) Millennium celebrations.

Tony Bayle reported the following:-

a) Contact had been made with a supplier of Christmas trees and an approximate price of £50/£60 had been quoted. The most likely place for the tree was on a grassed area outside Mrs. Harbour's house. The latest view of the Working Party was to organise community singing around the tree on the evening up to midnight.

b) David Cuddy was looking out for an appropriate book to be placed in the Music Hall for signing by the villagers.

c) Tree planting. A request from the Tree Office of DCC was awaited.

d) Stone sign. The difficulties of transporting the sign to Weymouth village for cutting and then returning it to SP were being looked into. It was hoped that Wessex Water may be able to help but if not there would be a cost. Planning permission was also required. Alan Simpson agreed to print out a design for the stone for consideration by SE and Tony B.

8) Village Survey.

a) The Chairman reported that so far 80 copies had been sold or given to appropriate bodies. He had ordered a further 30 copies from J. Jeffries. Peter Gyles had been successful in his application to Dorset Community Action for funds and a grant of £100 had been made towards the cost of producing the survey.

b) Meeting with councillors on 7th July.

Whilst most members expressed their satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting, the Chairman ^{was} ~~expressed~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ disappointed at the vague responses from the councillors and officers. He was particularly concerned about the apparent indifference to the problem of flooding. The CPO had said that no building was allowed in a flood plain even yet this policy did not appear to have been observed in Sutter Property. The Chairman felt that a simple mathematical calculation taking into account the size of the valley area draining into the Gorden and the impact of a ~~fast~~ huge downpour on land already waterlogged would show the devastating effect this would have because of the narrowness of the outlets through the bridges over the Gorden. This view was supported by Alan Simpson who suggested that the Gorden should be checked from SP to Bezeleaze to highlight the stretches of the river where obstacles to the flow were likely to cause flooding. He felt that such a report should be sent to the WPBC to suggest that something, even though it may be limited by financial constraints, could be done to tackle some of the problems. No decision was taken on these suggestions. Julie Allen raised the traffic problem and the suggestion made at the meeting to conduct a traffic survey. It was agreed that the Society should undertake a survey and that a small working party of MP, SC and JAI would set up a scheme for approval at the next meeting.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Richard Buzen to thank him and his colleagues for attending the meeting and to say that we are looking forward to the next meeting, which we hope could take place sometime in October.

9) Social events

a) Rachel Barchwell was thanked for organising the very enjoyable bus ride and walk in Pothol on 6th July.

b) Brown tea 31st July.

The following were agreed -

(i) M.M. will take care of the consumables and the plates etc.

(ii) Jim Willis's van will be available to collect bottles and chairs. Members were asked to lend equipment. Collection would start at 11-0 on 31st July. DB will assist Jim Willis.

(iii) John Allen will produce notices to circulate to members.

(iv) Tony Bayle will produce posters

(v) Raffle. Alan Simpson to organise. Members to deliver prizes to Alan before the event.

(vi) Bunting and notices to be put in place Thursday evening before the event (7-0pm).

(vii) J.A., J.L. and Maria Knight will man the kitchen.

The event will start at 2-30 formally at 4-0pm.

10) Treasurer's report.

As at 20th July 1999 there was an opening balance of £352-32, income of £407; expenditure £690-09, leaving bank at bank of £59-45, cash in hand £9-78 (£69-23).

11) AOB.

a) Joyce Hitchell asked if anyone had any information about the dumping of sand on Sutton Rd. near the Golliffe building site. Other members confirmed that the sand had been left by a supplier of Mr. Golliffe and steps were being taken to remove it and prevent any recurrence.

b) Display cabinet at Mrs. Harbour's. Tony Bayle agreed

- to reformat it.
- c) It was reported that the Society's notice board had been reformatting by Grah Noden-Williamson. The Secretary was asked to thank him for the work and to mention it in the next Newsletter.
- d) Postcards. Tony B. asked if he should order a new set of cards in response to a special offer that had been received (£99 per 1000). Decision deferred until next meeting.
- e) Richard Buckwell drew attention to the dumping of rubbish on the ridge adjacent to the track leading to Broadwayne and asked if members were prepared to help to remove it if he could organise transport. It was decided that Rich should check with the local authority - probably WDDC - before taking action and if the authority could not do it, then to organise a work party. His initiative was strongly supported.
- f) Julie Allen complained about the increased amount of dog mess alongside the pond area.
- 12) Date of next meeting, 7-30 pm Thurs. 2nd Sept at Julie Allen's house.

Thanks were given to MM & DM for their hospitality and the meeting closed at 10-0 pm.

Proposed IB.
Sec'd. KK.

Chairman
~~Richard~~