

Minutes of the meeting of the SPS Committee held on
Weds. 28th Feb 01 at The Mill. Joyce Ketraki in the chair.

- 1) Apologies. Steve Davies, Alan Simpson, David Emery,
David Wyn-Williams ~~at~~ Pete Jones and Ken Knight
- 2) The minutes of the meeting of 17th January were read,
approved and signed.

3) Matters arising.

a) Village Green. The Secretary reported that he had contacted Richard Burgess about planning implications if the land adjacent to the pub was purchased from Mr. Seal. R. B. had recommended that the Society should employ the firm of Conrsons (Dorchester) to produce a scheme that could be submitted for planning permission. He believed grants were available to cover the cost. Tony Bayle produced copies of reports showing that grant aid was available to fund projects of information passed on by Peter Jones informed that he was now on line with the Countywide Agency and would be prepared to maintain the contact even though he would be leaving the Committee after the AGM. It was agreed that he should be asked to do this. The fund in question was the New Opportunities Fund. Following discussion it was agreed that the Secretary should write to Bradens (Mr. Seal's agents) to ascertain if the land known as 'Top Field' near the pub was for sale.

The Secretary also reported that he had contacted Mr. Neville Wood (church warden) about the sale of land near the Mission Hall. Members felt that at this stage it would be premature to take any action as the lease covered the main part of the orchard area and the larger areas of land were owned by the Squibb Trust, Mrs. Mrs. Bury and a third unknown party. It was agreed that the priority should be to follow up enquiries on the Top Field. Tony Bayle felt that the Society should continue to investigate the sale of the church land near the Mission Hall but his views were not supported by the majority of members.

b) Committee membership.

The Chairman reported that John Sutherland had agreed to become the Secretary after the AGM. It was agreed that he should be invited to the next

Committee meeting.

4) Arrangements for the AGM.

Refreshments would be served at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Roy Adam would be met at the Springfield at approximately 8-0pm. The Chairman would make the main report on the Society's activities. The minutes of the last AGM would be printed and placed around the room rather than being read out by the Secretary.

5) Planning

Northdown Farmhouse. The Chairman read out a letter from Mr. & Mrs. Egerton in which they asked if the Society was prepared to withdraw its recommendation to WPBC made in a letter of 28th December that the barn development should be thatched. It was agreed that having written to make such a recommendation it would be inappropriate to write again to say that the Society had changed its mind. The Secretary was asked to reply to Mr. & Mrs. Egerton's letter to say that the recommendation about thatch in the letter of 28th December to WPBC would stand and to also point out that the ~~Society's~~ final decision depended far more on the opinions of the officers of WPBC than on those of the Society.

6) Social events

8th March. Richard Backwell will speak on the activities of the Dorset Expeditionary Society. Refreshments will be served at 7-30 before the start of the talk. MH and J.L. offered to help with the setting out of the chairs. MM, J.A. will as usual serve the refreshments.

7) Treasurer's report.

a) S.E. had received a letter from the National Savings people about the signatories for the account. Apparently this records had been lost. He would arrange for the new documentation to be completed. The Committee agreed that the signatories should be the Treasurer (S.E.), the Chairman (J.L.) and the new Secretary designate (John Sutcliffe).

b) It was agreed that the Society should pay the increased affiliation fee of £5 (p. #1) to the Weymouth Civic Society.

8) AGO

a) Brolan & Bloom. It was agreed not to enter the competition this year.

b) Stone sign. S.E. would require help to clear up the area around the sign. Mike Dooks is in the process of making a box to fit near the sign. No action would be taken until after the dogwoods had faded.

c) Lost at the pub. S.E. was hoping that the new landlord would pay for the flowers and plants as the previous one had done.

d) The Secretary reported that the Society had not been awarded a prize in the Dorset Community Action Millennium book competition.

e) Plaques on the oak trees. The Chairman asked if S.E. had obtained the plaques. S.E. said it was in hand but he was waiting for the trees to mature before placing the plaques, as he feared that they may be vandalized if it was done while the trees still were established.

f) The Chairman was concerned about the public footpath across the fields behind Maister's lane becoming dis-used. It was agreed not to walk the path until the foot and mill problem is resolved.

- g) The Chairman read out a letter from Lucy Emery asking for sponsorship for her humanitarian expedition to Kenya. It was agreed to give her £50. Members were very impressed by Lucy's commitment.
- h) It was agreed that JA would replace MM. on the Planning sub-committee.
- i) It was agreed that SE would replace PJ as the Society's representative on the Weymouth & Poole's Environmental Partnership.
- j) Feeding the ducks. RM. would arrange for a piece to be put in the Echo about the dangers of attracting rats.
- k) Silt up of the pond. The Society was asked to contact Mr. Gallivert of WPBC to ask for the pond to be dredged.
- l) Local Plan. RM. would be ~~speaking~~^{representing} to WPBC on behalf of the Society. He would welcome any comments from the members. He also gave details of a meeting at the Purbeck Valley Hall at which Councillor Hollins would be talking about the local plan and changes proposed in the structure of local govt. The meeting would be at 7-30pm on 6th March.
- m) Members were concerned about the state of the White Horse but no recommendations were made.

9) Date of next meeting. 4th April at K.F. house

Thanks were given to Mrs David Morris for their hospitality and the meeting closed at 9-20pm.

P SEinfh
S T. Hughes

Chairman
Joyce H.B. Litchie