



Sutton Poyntz Society

Affiliated to the Council for the Protection of Rural England

Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society AGM

Meeting held at the Mission Hall 7.30 pm Thursday 23 April 2004; Simon Emblen in the chair.

- 1) **Apologies** - Mr & Mrs Meech, Mrs Wynne Williams, Mr F Litschi, Mr R Birch, Mr and Mrs Brierley, Mr Hogg, Mr and Mrs Tebbut, Mr Waghorn, Mr Tyson.
- 2) **Previous minutes** - The minutes of the AGM held on 3 April 2003 (previously tabled) were approved. Proposed Mr Ken Knight and seconded Mrs Hazel Hogg.
- 3) **Matters arising** - There were no matters arising – any further discussion on the Bus Stop was deferred to AOB.
- 4) **Chairman's report** - The Chairman, Mr Simon Emblen, reported that there was much happening at the moment.
We were conducted on a tour of the recent Wessex Water construction at Spring Bottom on 21st April and everyone in the group was most impressed on the appearance – there were no adverse comments. He commented that it was a pity that it was not open to the public as it would make a very pleasant area. The old Great Eastern funnel has been removed and is currently standing within the waterworks site. It was a surprise that the removed item was only about 6 feet tall – not quite like the picture that used to be on the Springhead sign.
The other major item that the Chairman identified was the planned development at the Springhead where plans have been submitted to create what he described as two houses. This additional potential hotel accommodation of 6 bedrooms had caused concern not the least because it exceeded the development boundary. It is understood that the plans have been referred back to the architect before being presented. The Chairman understood that some 9 letters of objection had been sent and he felt that we should oppose the plans. The Chairman also highlighted the oak tree that had recently been felled at Old Orchard and he pointed out that whilst the SPS had been happy to accept the recommendation of the W&PBC, we have written to ask what was the basis of their approval.
Other than these highlighted items, the committee has done what was required of them throughout the year.
Any comments were deferred to AOB.
- 5) **Secretary's report** – The Secretary, Mr John Sutherland, advised that some 246 items of correspondence had been dealt with during the 9 committee meeting held. Over half of the correspondence was with the W&PBC – mainly planning notices that were also discussed at several ad hoc meeting of the Society planning group. Conclusions and summaries have been included in the 5 newsletters published during the year together with any relevant details of the other committees on which the Society is also represented.
He concluded by reminding members of the future events planned which included two more walks (which were being organised by Richard Backwell) and the biennial

Victorian Fayre where members are requested to give particular assistance to the tombola stall. A matter of several recent local burglaries was drawn to the attention of all.

- 6) **Treasurer's report** - The Treasurer, Mrs Sara Knight, presented the Financial Statement which showed a growth from last year and (when two existing commitments were included) has a balance of £2825. After highlighting any small variations from the previous year, the Treasurer concluded by recommending that the current contribution level be maintained for the ensuing year. Proposed by Mr P Jones and seconded Mrs J Litschi – carried.

7) **Resolutions**

- a) Introduced by the committee from the previous years meeting -
In the event of a split decision within the committee, the Chairman shall have an additional (casting) vote. Proposed Mr P Jones, seconded Mr J Reynolds – carried.

- 8) **Election of Officers and the Committee** – The following officers and committee were elected (Proposer – P; Seconder – S):-

Chairman	Mr Simon Emblen - (P - Mr J Reynolds, S - Mrs A McCready)
Secretary	Mr John Sutherland – (P - Mrs J Litschi, S - Mr D Wyn Williams)
Treasurer	Mrs Sara Knight – (P - Mr J Allen, S - Mrs E Noden Wilkinson).
Committee Members	Mr M Haine, Mrs J Allen, Mr A Bugler, Mr D Emery, Mr P Riley, Mr K Knight, Mrs Joyce Litschi (P - Mrs P Bugler, S - Mrs D Emblen)

9) **AOB** –

- a) Mrs Litschi asked if we could request that WW take SPS round the waterworks area again – perhaps in the evening. The secretary to write accordingly.
- b) There was some general discussion on tree maintenance with general concern on any felling. It was understood that the Trees Officer for W&PBC (Mr Slatter) had a record of all protected trees within Sutton Poyntz. It was recommended that the W&PBC be notified before planning the removal of any tree (including dead specimen).
- c) Mr Jones advised that he will be removing two dead elms from the area of his driveway. He also stressed that the Society should not be too negative on the business plan of the publican.
- d) There was some extended discussion on the siting of the bus stop – currently adjacent to the Cart shed. Points raised included – leave well alone, helps traffic exit Puddledock, do not irritate First Bus, safer relocated into Plaisters, two possible relocations identified. Discussion was concluded by a vote of 7 to move the bus stop and 21 to leave it where it is.
- e) Mrs Brown raised the problem of access caused by parking on both sides of the road between the Springhead and the Waterworks – and bad parking in the small car park at the end of the pond. It was concluded that as most parking is the result of local residents, a solution should be sought amicably by the local residents with a mention in the next Newsletter.
- f) Mrs Kemp asked when it was planned to prune the willows around the pond.
- 10) An amusing and informative talk was given by Mr B Burke, on his career over some 30 years as a “sound man” within the TV industry.
- 11) The meeting closed just after 9.30 p.m.