

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 22nd January 2015  
at the Springhead pub.**

Item no.	Content	Action
1	<i>Present:</i> John Crisp; John Sutherland; Bill Egerton; Jez Cunningham; Peter Riley; Hilary Davidson; Jacqui Atkinson; Sue Wintle; Chris Hubbard, plus Peter Dye observing <i>Apologies:</i> Tamzin Hyde	
2	<i>Minutes of previous meeting:</i> The minutes of the meeting on 17 December 2014 were agreed and signed.	
3	<i>Matters arising:</i>	
a	<u>Meeting with Trees Officer:</u> BE will arrange a date with Graham Cox, and then seek participants.	BE
b	<u>Society archive:</u> BE will arrange delivery to the County History Centre. The question of whether the documents should be gifted or loaned was discussed; it was agreed that BE would investigate and decide, with help from Peter Dye.	BE
c	<u>Letter of thanks to Paul Marsh:</u> To be written by the Secretary.	BE
d	<u>Underground cables:</u> An exhibition had been organised by National Grid and the Dorset AONB, at the Colliton Club, Dorchester from 2 to 8 p.m. on the 18 <sup>th</sup> February. Villagers would be informed. BE had registered the Society's interest. It was agreed that a letter be written to our MP, and also that we contact the Omington Society and Upwey Society for support and coordination.	JC BE
4	<i>Planning:</i>	
a	<u>WP/TP/14/00141:</u> Tree at Sutton House. This had already been approved by the Council.	
b	<u>WP/CA/15/00008:</u> Trees, Greendown House. This application to fell 6 trees in the back garden of Greendown House lacked any form of justification for the proposed felling. It was noted that a Supporting Document belonging to a totally different planning application had been attached – the Secretary had already contacted the Council to see if there was a missing Supporting Document for this application. It was also believed that the Planning Application for the building of the new house might have been approved with some conditions relating to the conservation of trees. It was agreed that the Secretary would distribute a Supporting Document if it proved there was one, but if there was none, a representation would be submitted strongly opposing this application, and if possible noting any protection given by previous planning decisions.	BE

5	<i>Other village matters:</i>	
a	<u>Springhead car park</u> : BE reported on the removal of the skip. As expected, Mr Skinner had taken no action in response to our letter requiring him to remove the skip from our land. A meeting had been held between JS, JC, BE, Mike Ayling and Mike Nixon, to plan the next step. On Paul Marsh's advice, a Solicitor's Letter could be written (at a cost) making it difficult for Mr Skinner to ignore us. However it was agreed that, before committing this expenditure, we should contact Portland Stone to see if the skip was theirs, and if so to request that they remove it from our land. This had been done, with totally positive results – they agreed that it was their skip, and agreed to have it removed, which was done early on 14 <sup>th</sup> January. Nothing has been heard since from Mr Skinner, and it was hoped he had finally understood that this was the end of the matter. For further protection, letters had been written to other skip companies in the area requesting them not to deliver skips to our land without our express authorisation.	
	The question of funding of future Sutton Poyntz Limited costs was then discussed. The Committee agreed in principle that future SPL costs would continue to be funded by the Society; when costs were necessary, the Directors (currently JS and BE) would submit a proposal to the Society Committee, for the Committee's decision.	
	There was also a discussion of the question of whether to amalgamate the Society and Limited Company. It was agreed that the Directors would assemble a team to investigate and report on the pros and cons of such a move. It was hoped that John Allen would be willing to join this working party.	JS/BE
	The Treasurer will contact the Society's insurers to obtain a cost for public liability insurance for the car park.	JS
b	<u>Margaret's Seat</u> : The total cost of replacement with the suggested design, at around £2000, was considered far too great a risk for the Society's accounts, although there was still hope that the next Street Fayre would agree to put funds towards it. It was agreed that publicity information would be assembled for local publications, in order to try to attract subscriptions towards the cost. If the amount promised as a result of such a campaign falls far short of what is needed, then it may become sensible to consider alternatives to the suggested design.	JC/CH
6	<i>Village events/ activities:</i>	
a	<u>AGM arrangements</u> : JC will draft an annual report, to include a section (already circulated) on actions on the Village Survey and Village Plan. Various possible events to go with the AGM were discussed, including a talk on pylons by an AONB representative, or a talk on the history of the Street Fayre. After discussion, it was decided that we would put together a quiz on Sutton Poyntz.	JC JC/JeC
b	<u>Coffee mornings</u> : The last two coffee mornings of the winter were planned. For the February coffee morning, people would be invited to bring along Programmes for interesting events they had been to. In March, we would have Fredy Litschi's slides available as a rolling computer display.	
c	<u>Open Gardens</u> : A written report provided by JeC would be circulated. The Open Gardens committee was reminded that gardeners must do risk assessments to satisfy our insurers' requirements.	
d	<u>Baking evening</u> : JeC will liaise with Chris Balfe on the planning of this.	JeC

7	<p><i>Treasurer's Report:</i></p> <p>This had been circulated, and shows a current balance of £4506.60 after the last payment to the Car Park solicitors.</p> <p>Income from the last two coffee mornings was about £50, a bit down on last year. It was noted that the History Evening the evening before had made a profit of about £45 as well as being much enjoyed.</p>	
8	<p><i>Correspondence:</i></p> <p>None.</p>	
6	<p><i>AOB</i></p>	
	<p><u>Newsletter:</u> CH reported on the expected content of the next Newsletter, due in February. This would include a report on the Street Fayre fund distribution evening, notices for the AGM and Baking Evening, news on the Car Park and on the Scutt Hall, a section on the Open Gardens, and an update on recent planning applications including a reminder of how the Society uses its policy to make decisions. A short paragraph was suggested requesting email addresses for the occasional email Updates.</p>	
14	<p><i>Date of next meeting:</i>     <b>19<sup>th</sup> February</b> in the Springhead, at 19:30 (note place!).</p>	

***Minutes agreed and approved :***

***Date:***