# Monitoring of the Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Plan Report Date: August 2022

The Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Plan (SPNP) was made on 05 May 2020 following a lengthy and detailed process led by the Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Forum (SPNF).

The monitoring and any refresh of the plan now falls to Weymouth Town Council (WTC) and the Council wishes to do this with reference to the SPNF and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Dorset Council (DC) does not monitor made Neighbourhood Plans however they have provided guidance and advice in the drafting of this report. <u>Locality guidance is helpful on this matter</u>.

To highlight some of the key points, monitoring of the NP is considered a useful process as it allows the qualifying body (WTC) to assess the effectiveness of the Plan and its policies.

#### **Review Process:**

- WTC to draft a review document
- Review document sent to SPNF for additions/comments
- Review document signed off by WTC officers
- Review document submitted to WTC Planning and Licensing Committee

### The SPNP review January 2022

- 1. Use of policy to shape planning decisions
- 2. Are actions and projects being achieved?
- 3. What level of CIL / S106 is being raised?
- 4. Are there any changes to national or local policy that would affect the Plan? Local Plan, Neighbourhood plan (The Weymouth NP process will need to consider the policies in the Sutton Poyntz plan.)
- 5. Are there any local changes? House process
- 6. Does the Plan require reviewing?
- 7. SP planning applications since May 2020.

#### 1. Use of policy to shape planning decisions

The standard DC Officer report was modified in June 2020 to include all Neighbourhood Plans, to then be deleted out if not relevant.

<u>Action:</u> WTC to similarly change Planning and Licensing Committee agendas to remind Councillors of the need to check the SPNP.

# 2. Progress on actions and projects within the plan

Following a review in April 2022 an update on the status of Aspirations within the SPNP is provided. It is proposed that this status report is publicised on the Sutton Poyntz Village web site and will be periodically reviewed and open to public feedback.

The Vision and Objectives were developed based upon feedback from stakeholders obtained following the Stage One public survey in October 2016 (10)

#### Vision:

"By the end of the plan period we want Sutton Poyntz to be somewhere that makes the most of its strengths. It will therefore be a thriving and friendly community, whose residents can enjoy an attractive village centre, can reach nearby shops and facilities, and can easily access the beautiful surrounding countryside. Issues which otherwise detract from residents' quality of life will be less evident.

"By the end of the plan period housing will better suit local needs, any new development will add to the village character, recreation facilities will exist, more people will work locally, and traffic or parking concerns will be better managed."

#### Policies:

Objective	Changes impacting policy	Issues arising from policy	
	e.g. NPPF, Local Plan etc	application	
BNE 1 - Protection and enhancer	ment of wildlife habitat in relation	to new development.	
BNE 1.1 Development	None	None	
proposals that protect or			
enhance wildlife habitat			
onsite and along their			
boundaries will generally be			
supported.			

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BNE 1.2 Development	None	None
proposals will demonstrate		
that they have sought to		
protect existing wildlife		
habitat and should seek		
opportunities to enhance		
wildlife habitat and pursue		
opportunities for securing		
measurable net gains for		
biodiversity. Where they fail		
to address wildlife habitat		
protection, development		
proposals will not be		
supported.		
BNE 1.3 Development will not	None	None
lead to or cause serious risk of		
environmental harm to the		
Green Corridor in Sutton		
Poyntz which follows the		
River Jordan and its		
tributaries.		
BNE 1.4 All development	None	None
proposals within the area		
defined as the Green Corridor		
that meet the requirements		
of the Dorset Biodiversity		
Appraisal Protocol, will be		
expected to include a		
Biodiversity Appraisal and		
Biodiversity Mitigation and		
Environmental Plan.		
Policy BNE 2 – Local Green Space	2S	
The sites shown on Maps 3		
and 3a are designated as Local		
Green Spaces and afforded		
additional protection due to		
their demonstrable value to		
the local community in terms		
of their recreation or beauty		
or wildlife or historic value.		
POLICY BNE 3 – Tree Preservatio	n	1
Development proposals	None	None
should retain and protect		
existing trees and hedges		
which contribute to the		
distinctive character (1) of the		
Neighbourhood Plan area or		
which contribute biodiversity		
value to the area. Where		
there is no practical		
alternative to the removal of		
atternative to the removal of		
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such a tree it will be replaced						
with an indigenous species of						
a type appropriate to the						
location.						
POLICY GA 1 – Transport Needs						
	erates additional traffic flow shoul					
GA 1.1 Seek to minimise	None	None				
dependency on private car						
usage.						
GA 1.2 Apply the hierarchy of	None	None				
road users to identify suitable						
access routes						
GA 1.3 Where it forms part of	None	None				
the development, include						
street lighting of a suitable						
type and footways so						
designed as to retain the						
character of the immediate						
surrounding area.						
GA 1.4 Provide suitable access	None	None				
links to existing pedestrian						
and cycle routes where such						
opportunities exist.						
POLICY GA 2 - On-Street Traffic (	Congestion					
GA 2.1 Development proposals	None	None				
that do not comply as a						
minimum with the off street						
parking criteria contained						
within the Bournemouth Poole						
and Dorset Car Parking Study						
will not be supported.						
GA 2.2 Any development will	None	None				
be designed to discourage						
additional on-street parking						
on the existing road network,						
especially near junctions or						
where the road is narrow.						
POLICY GA 3 – Impact Of Traffic Density On Current Infrastructure						
Proposals for new or	None	None				
improved transport						
infrastructure will be						
supported.						
POLICY GA 4 – Pollution Reduction						
The provision of adequate	None	None				
ultra-low emission vehicle						
charging facilities for all new						
residential units will be						
supported.						
POLICY HE 1 – Protecting Archae	ology	1				
Development proposals on	None	None				
previously undeveloped land						
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should be accompanied by		
the results of an		
archaeological assessment of		
the development site.		
POLICY H&P 1 – Building Style ar		T
H&P 1.1 Development will	None	None
seek to preserve or enhance		
the character or appearance of		
the Conservation Area, taking		
account of traditional building		
style or materials.		
H&P 1.2 Subject to H&P1.4	None	None
below, new development		
within the village should take		
account of nearby building		
style and materials, as		
described for five defined		
character areas which have		
their own design guidance		
described in the accompanying		
text below. The five character		
areas, shown on Maps 8/8a,		
are: • Historic Core • West		
Side • Plaisters Lane North •		
Gateway • Puddledock South		
H&P 1.3 New development	None	None
and extensions or alterations		
to existing buildings will not		
detract from the local		
character of the AONB.		
H&P 1.4 Development will be	None	None
supported which enhances		
the character and appearance		
of the village at locations		
where existing development		
has not been in a style that is		
complementary or		
sympathetic to the area's		
traditional building styles.		
POLICY H& P 2 - Housing Number	rs and Size	
H&P 2.1 New residential	None	None
development within the		
defined development		
boundary will normally be		
supported. This will lead to		
higher density and smaller		
homes within the defined		
development boundary.		
H&P 2.2 There is a preference	None	None
for smaller (2 or 3 bedroom)		
homes to meet local needs.		

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These include providing for					
families, for older residents					
wishing to downsize, and for					
young people wishing to					
continue living in the					
neighbourhood.					
POLICY H&P 3 – Key Views		<u></u>			
H&P 3.1 The following views	None	None			
into, out of and within the					
village are designated as Key					
Views: 1. The iconic view of					
the village's Mill Pond 2. From					
the Mill Pond towards White					
Horse Hill 3. From the Sutton					
Poyntz stone towards the					
junction outside the Cart Shed					
4. North from the path below					
Chalbury 5. From the Beacon					
below West Hill 6. From					
Margaret's Seat above Spring					
Bottom 7. From Winslow					
H&P 3.2 New development	None	None			
should respect the key views.					
Any development which					
would obstruct or significantly					
detract from them will not be					
supported.					
Policy H&P 4 - Flood Prevention					
Development proposals will	None	None			
be required to make use of					
sustainable drainage design					
features including porous					
(permeable) surfaces and					
demonstrate that the volume					
and rate of surface water run-					
off onto adjacent land and					
traffic routes is either at a					
lower or equal level to that					
prior to the development.					
POLICY SR 1 – Protection Of Community Assets					
SR 1.1 Development proposals	None	None			
which would result in the loss					
of the following buildings as					
community assets in Sutton					
Poyntz will not normally be					
supported. • The Mission Hall					
Springhead Public House					
SR 1.2 Change of use of these	None	None			
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facilities will only be					
facilities will only be supported where it has been					
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there is no local need for		
them or they are no longer		
viable; and - no appropriate		
alternative community use is		
needed or would be viable.		
SR 1.3 Proposals designed to	None	None
modernise or extend		
community facilities for public		
use, including increasing their		
capacity, will generally be		
supported.		
POLICY SR 2 – Enhancement of C	Community Recreation Facilities.	
Proposals to use land within,	None	None
or adjacent to the historic		
centre of the village for		
recreational purposes, such as		
a public children's play area,		
will be supported.		

# Aspirations:

Several aspirations emerged from the Neighbourhood Plan public consultation surveys in October 2016 (10) and December 2017/January 2018 (11, 36) which do not relate directly to land use and development aspects of planning. These cannot therefore form policies but are included as action points for the community.

Aspiration	
AP 5.1 Biodiversity and natural environment	
AP 5.1.1 - When planting trees and hedges	Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group to provide
in private gardens residents are	relevant information in a future newsletter with
encouraged to plant indigenous native	examples of suitable species. Seek to also
species with due regard to location and	include information on the Sutton Poyntz Village
long term management.	web site and village noticeboards.
AP 5.1.2 - Where a significant tree is felled	Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group are able to
due to it being diseased, dying or	provide guidance upon request when individual
dangerous, at least one replacement will be	situations arise.
planted in a suitable location and will be of	
a species appropriate to the local area.	Diina sila sandisa ta satawa ta sa sa Masa sa
AP 5.1.3 - Tree Preservation Orders will be	Primarily applies to veteran trees on Wessex
sought as appropriate on trees located in designated areas of local green space.	Water land to the north of the village. This will be considered as part of the Management Plan
designated areas of local green space.	agreed between Wessex Water, Natural England
	and the Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group./
	Sutton Poyntz Society.
AP 5.1.4 - The village will be consulted on	A link has been created on the Sutton Poyntz
all tree applications, notifications and	Village web site to the Dorset Council web site
planning applications where trees, orchards	planning section for ease of notification and
and hedges may be adversely affected.	monitoring by the public.
AP 5.1.5 - Seek opportunities to work,	Significant progress has been made such as the
through appropriate community groups	Management Plan agreement with Wessex
such as the Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity	Water and Natural England referenced above
Group, with residents and a wider group of	and butterfly transect surveys ( started in 2021)
landowners on community biodiversity	Recent initiative to make better use of the Village

projects and the promotion of biodiversity knowledge and awareness. These will build upon well-established community involvement projects such as the monthly Garden Bird Watch (17). web site and news bites to improve residents' information and participation on biodiversity matters, including leaflets on the work of the Biodiversity Group and garden pollinators. Presentation given to the Sutton Poyntz Society AGM on 27th April 2022 by a founding member of the Biodiversity Group. All survey data is submitted for national and local (DERC) verification and recording.

AP 5.1.6 - The Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group to review the 2009 Biodiversity report and include a section on guidance to residents on pro-active measures that could be adopted in gardens and homes to improve habitat and encourage wildlife as well as encouraging farmers and landowners to adopt wildlife friendly methods.

Review process begun in February 2022 and is on-going. The most recent survey data, for example on bats, mosses and lichens, fungii, birds, etc. will be incorporated a revised report which will be accessible on the Sutton Poyntz Village web site and as hard copy by arrangement.

#### AP 5.2 Employment, Business and Tourism

AP 5.2.1 - Provision of a Village Shop. A small majority of people support the provision of a village shop and this needs to be balanced against the views of many in the community that this is not economically viable. It is therefore appropriate that opportunities are sought to establish a small retail outlet, initially on a limited basis within existing premises and staffed by community volunteers for example a pop-up shop in the Springhead Pub or Waterworks Museum (subject to operational and safety considerations).

Any such facility would have a limited product range in view of the strong public support for local shops (Co-Op, SPAR). Initiatives to facilitate this provision will be supported. Discussions with Wessex Water have been unsuccessful to date due to health and safety concerns of public access on an operational site.

To consider the option of local crafts, art, etc. being available for sale at a suitable existing retail outlet such as the Springhead Pub.

AP 5.2.2 - Encourage the development of small scale business through support for home working. We will liaise with third parties to help improve the viability of low key home working\*, for example through further improvements in communications. \*Any business activity will not generate a regular flow of visiting clients or parked vehicles outside or near the premises, will not result in a building frontage which has a shop front style window or features, and will not involve the installation of business signage which is visible from outside the premises.

Home working has expanded since March 2020 as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic. We are not aware of any specific issues arising from home working including communications to date.

AP 5.2.3 - Support for Local Employment. We will co-operate with local businesses and residents to assist the creation of additional jobs through appropriate business expansion. We are mindful of the need to ensure that the infrastructure can accommodate such expansion including, for example, better public transport services.

No specific issues have arisen.
The recent loss (Service 4A) and reduction (Service 4) of public transport routes and operating times/frequency is a concern and a matter of on-going contact with First Bus by the Sutton Poyntz Society.

AP 5.2.4 - Small Scale Tourism. Promote small-scale non-commercial tourism through the provision of information on history, literary connections and nature within Sutton Poyntz. We will work with local businesses to enhance such tourist facilities, for example through sponsorship of information leaflets, guided walks, extended opening of the Waterworks Museum and greater use of the Springhead Pub as a drop-in point	Local History and Thomas Hardy literary walk leaflets have been published by the Sutton Poyntz Society. These are available from the Information Point (former Telephone Box) and Springhead Pub. The Biodiversity Group have produced information for notice boards and the village web site.  Aspirations to open the Waterworks Museum more frequently to the wider public are on-going and have not been possible to date due to health and safety liability issues associated with the location on an operational site.
AP 5.3 Getting around	
AP 5.3.1.1 Work with commercial bus operators, and other service providers, to sustain and improve a village bus service and retain other local services such as the Preston – Weymouth and Preston-Dorchester/Poole services.	The loss of the Service 4A in March 2020 and the reduction of the frequency and operating hours of the Service 4 are of concern. Sutton Poyntz Society to maintain contact with First Bus and seek support of County and Town Councillors and the respective Councils. Several residents provided feedback in August 2021 to the Dorset Council Bus survey.
AP 5.3.1.2 As a community promote the use of the village bus service by residents and visitors to reduce dependency on the private motor car and the associated problems of pollution and congestion.	Weymouth Town Council and Dorset Council to note the failure to re-instate the Service 4A following suspension of services during the pandemic lockdowns and restrictions. Also the reduced Service 4 as above.
AP 5.3.2.1 To work with the Dorset County Council in seeking a sustainable solution to maintaining safe open access along the Puddledock Lane public footpath.	The Sutton Poyntz Society failed to find a satisfactory solution as reported at the 2021 AGM partly due to multiple land ownership issues. Signs have been erected at each end of Puddledock Lane. The priority remains to keep a safe public footpath open and free from erosion.
AP 5.3.2.2 Establish a community monitoring and reporting scheme to ensure that public rights of way are maintained in accessible condition and are kept clearly signposted.	Local residents report issues on the Dorset Council web site. To consider a section on the Sutton Poyntz Village web site providing a direct link to the relevant Dorset Council site for ease of reporting.
AP 5.3.3.1 To work with the Dorset County Council to resolve current congestion issues at the south end of Sutton Road between Winslow Road and Preston Road, for example through the provision of vehicle passing areas and to seek measures to mitigate the hazards of the blind bend on Plaisters Lane below Wyndings.	On-going review, a short term solution is not envisaged. Would require action by Dorset Council Highways Department. Views of County Councillors sought.
AP 5.3.3.2 To co-operate with businesses to address issues related to on street parking and congestion, such as those areas around the village pond and the bus stop without recourse to road markings or similar obtrusive measures. Sufficient access for emergency and public service vehicles must be a priority	The Cartshed garage business has not been active since 2020 which has for the time being resolved the main issue in that area. Future business activity at this site will need to take account of this issue.  The situation around the pond has eased with use of the field adjacent to the Springhead pub as a temporary overflow car park.

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AP 5.3.3.3 An assessment of non-obtrusive measures such as psychological traffic calming (21) and a review of vehicle monitoring data (20) is undertaken to seek a reduction in the speed of traffic along roads.	Traffic calming study conducted during the development of the Neighbourhood Plan including a formal traffic survey by Dorset Council. The latter concluded that traffic speeds and volumes did not meet the criteria for further measures (see full report on the Sutton Poyntz Village web site). 20mph zones may arise from the Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan as part of a general area policy
AP 5.3.3.4 Proposals to provide an area for off street car parking within the neighbourhood area will be supported, provided that the car park does not exceed one thousand square metres in size, does not detract from the character of the village or its setting, considers the impact on biodiversity and is located so that vehicles using it are unlikely to impede the flow of traffic on adjoining roads.	It is noted that the temporary overflow car park adjacent to the Springhead Pub appears to have demonstrated that this option is viable and is helping the situation to some degree.
5.4 Heritage	
AP 5.4.1 – We will seek to provide more information within the village on the village's heritage and history, for the benefit of residents and visitors.	History meetings have been promoted by the Sutton Poyntz Society and Local History Group. A sign board and leaflets have been produced and talks on local history topics are given in the Mission Hall.
AP 5.4.2 – We will work with the Local Planning Authority to try to find a way of producing a revised Appraisal document for the Sutton Poyntz Conservation Area	Seek to progress this through the wider Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan Communities Theme Group
AP 5.4.3 – We will work with the Local Planning Authority to try to find a way of producing a Local List of locally important heritage assets for the Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Area.	The Heritage Asset report produced during the creation of the Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted on 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2022 for consideration by Dorset Council consultants as part of the Heritage List Project.
5.5 Housing and Planning	
AP 5.5.1 To promote information and advice to residents which encourage the use of measures to reduce surface water runoff from properties such as by creating porous driveways and taking steps to retain and manage surface water on-site, such as the use of soakaways	Propose the provision of a link to information sources on the Sutton Poyntz Village web site. Policies and aspirations on this issue may also form part of the wider Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan.
AP 5.5.2 To engage with Natural England and other third parties to ensure that consideration of water retention and run-off impact is considered in land management practices.	This links into the agreed Management Plan for Wessex Water involving the Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group, Wessex Water and Natural England. All parties are aware of the issue.
5.6 Sports and Recreation	
AP 5.6.1 – Nomination of Assets of Community Value The following facilities should be registered as Assets of Community value with the Local Authority under the provisions of the Localism Act 2011. • The Mill Pond • The Mission Hall •	To be progressed with Dorset Council by Weymouth Town Council.

Springhead Public House • Veterans Wood If any of these facilities are offered for sale, the community shall undertake a public consultation to decide whether to exercise the right to bid.	
AP 5.6.2 – Provision of a Children's Play Area To explore the provision of a children's play facility in the short term in cooperation with the Springhead Pub to assist the delivery of Policy SR 2.	An informal arrangement with the Springhead Pub has not caused any issues to date of which we are aware. Recreational facilities are one of the aims within the wider Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan.
AP 5.6.3 – Visitor Guides Develop guides for local history, nature, literature trails and consider provision of personal guidance through the services of registered local volunteers.	See AP 5.2.4. and AP 5.4.1. Guided walks have been undertaken by the Sutton Poyntz Biodiversity Group in the past and the Sutton Poyntz Society is considering guided walks in the village.
AP 5.6.4 – Promote the Use of Public Rights of Way for Recreational Purposes	Walk maps have been produced and information is available on the Village web site and at the Information Point (former Telephone Box)
AP 5.6.4.1 Provide maps and guides to promote the use of the network of public rights of way and incorporate these into themed walk guides.	Completed as above.
AP 5.6.4.2 To identify suitable cycle routes in the area and link these into the National Cycle Network	Opportunity to action this within the wider Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan.
AP 5.6.5 – Waterworks Museum: Promote in consultation with Wessex Water extended opening of the Waterworks Museum through community volunteers and greater community use of the visitor area facilities, for example as a small café, outlet for local arts and crafts, subject to operational and safety considerations	See AP 5.2.4
AP 5.6.6 – Provision of Community Allotments and Village Green. Suitable sites are sought for the lease or purchase of land to provide a village green and community allotments. Possible sites include land immediately to the north of Mission Hall Lane (currently owned by Wessex Water) and adjoining land in private ownership to the east of Plaisters Lane.	Discussions continue with Wessex Water for lease of land as a Community Orchard and access to a recreation area adjacent to the Waterworks.

# 3. What level of CIL / S106 is being raised?

There is one CIL payment for the area covered by the SPNP. This amounts to £3,600.50 (15%) for Hunts Timber Buildings at White Horse Lane. And was paid on 13/11/18 before the plan was made.

**4. Changes to national or local policy that could affect the Plan**A future review will need to consider the Local Plan when it is agreed, due in the Winter of 2023.

A future review will also need to consider and be done alongside the Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan, which will include the SPNP, combining the two into a single document. The WNP is due to go to referendum towards the end of 2023/beginning of 2024.

# 5. Local changes

Local house prices have risen as is the case nationally.

# 6. Does the Plan require reviewing?

Not at this stage. A review can be swept into the emerging Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan work.

# 7. Sutton Poyntz Planning Applications since Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Plan was made on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Link to detailed map of Sutton Poyntz Neighbourhood Plan area - West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan: Maps (planvu.co.uk)

Planning ref	Address	Date (Valid)	Brief Description	DC use of SPNP	WTC ref to SPNP	WTC Response
P/HOU/2021/ 04042	97 Sutton Road	10/11/21	Installation of solar panels to the South side of main roof and alterations and additions to windows and doors. Conversion of garage to annex and erection of a garden annex	Not yet determined – no Officer report available	No	This application has been reviewed by members of the Planning and Licensing Committee. The Council has no objection to the proposals.
WP/21/0013 8/FUL	89 Sutton Road	30/04/21	Erection of summerhouse	Officer report references: Policy BNE 1: Protection and Enhancement of Wildlife Habitat Policy HE 1: Protecting Archaeology Policy H&P 1: Building Style and Design Policy H&P 4: Flood Prevention	No	This application has been reviewed by members of the Planning and Licensing Committee. The Council has no objection to the proposals.
WP/20/0091 9/VOC	Sutton Road Evangelical Church	14/12/20	Change of use & conversion from redundant evangelical church to dwelling house & erection of domestic garage (Removal of condition 4 of planning approval WP/19/00762/FUL requirement to retain the diamond shaped red	Officer's report refers to policy: H & P1 – Building Style and Design	No	Unable to locate planning notification to WTC and therefore no response was submitted to DC as WTC was not aware of the application for variation of conditions.