

**Minutes of the Sutton Poyntz Society Committee Meeting of 8th November 2017
at the Mission Hall.**

1. *Present:* Mike Blee, Terry Pegrum, Bill Egerton, Peter Riley, Jill Kelsey, Peter Dye, Liz Balfe, Chris Hubbard.
Apologies. Jez Cunningham, Hilary Davidson, Jackie Greet, Sue Wintle.
2. *Minutes of previous meeting*
The Minutes for the meeting of 11th October were agreed and signed.
3. *Additional items (new and repeat) not on the Agenda*
None.
4. *Neighbourhood Planning*
 - a. Update
PD reported that the contents of the Place Appraisal and of the next village Survey would be finalised by the Steering Group meeting on the 21st November. The plan was that these would be rolled out at the Coffee Morning on the 1st December, and the Survey (plus a Housing Needs Survey which had been written for us by our Consultant) would be distributed around the village over the next few days after that. The closing date for responses to the two Surveys was 5th January.

The Timetable for the Neighbourhood Plan process had been revised, with the key objective being to submit the Plan to the Borough Council before April 2019 (the earliest date that the Borough might be absorbed into a new Unitary Authority).

There was some discussion in the Committee of how housing need could be established for a small area. The Housing Needs Survey would help to measure need within the Neighbourhood, and work by West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland would measure local need. For the Neighbourhood Plan to be accepted there was a suggestion that we should avoid taking too narrow a view that might be interpreted as “Not in My Backyard”.

The question of a Tree Survey was discussed. This had initially been suggested by TP, and passed to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, who had decided to wait until after the village Survey, when the village’s attitude to tree preservation might become clearer. There was some debate of whether the Society Committee had agreed that the Tree Survey should be done; to get better clarity it was agreed that the wording of the question on tree protection in the village Survey should be circulated [**Action BE**], and that the quote for a Tree Survey should be circulated [**Action PD**].
 - b. Possible National Park designation for Dorset AONB
This idea is being developed by Natural England. Dorset CPRE are keen that local bodies such as the Society should be seen to support the proposal. Before expressing an opinion, it was thought important to understand exactly what the boundary of the proposed National Park would be – whether it is the same as the AONB boundary. In addition, clarification was to be sought on a suggestion that the consultation period might be shortened. Information will be sought from Sandra Brown who is a member of the local “Dorset National Park” body working to progress the idea [**Action BE**].
5. *Planning*
 - a. WP/CA/17/00172 and /00173 – Tree works at 1 Sutton Road – No action needed.
6. *Sutton Poyntz Ltd*
No matters to report.

7. *Other village matters*

- a. The Pond – History Boards – Being looked at by the Neighbourhood Plan Heritage subgroup.
- b. Top of the Pond drainage – No response to our email from the developers at Hunt’s Yard. It was agreed we would discuss possible solutions with Bill Davidson.
- c. Bus Service – Remove from Agenda.
- d. Springhead car parking – It was noted again that the gate to the field had been closed for the last month. Remove from Agenda.
- e. Traffic at top of pond – This matter is being dealt with in the Neighbourhood Plan survey. Remove from Agenda.
- f. Ideas for telephone box – It was agreed that Sutton Poyntz Ltd should be converted to a “Community Interest Company” (CIC), so that it can take over the telephone box. The Directors were requested to investigate the mechanism, and it was agreed to commit £25 of Society funds to enable the transition [**Action MB/BE/TP**].
- g. Bench near Brookmead – The seat timber that had been bought and assembled some time ago to repair the memorial seat for Ernest Saunders, but then not used as the seat was removed, was exactly right for the seat near Brookmead. It was agreed to reimburse BE the £105.60 he had spent on the timber, and then to use it to replace the rotting seat. At the same time the back, whose timber is satisfactory, could be sanded down.

8. *Village Events / Activities*

- a. Coffee Mornings: 32 people attended the November coffee morning, which made a profit of £39. Rita Oxby had provided an excellent exhibit of wool weaving equipment and samples; the Committee’s thanks would be sent [**Action BE**]. Helpers (men) were requested for the December coffee morning, when the refreshments would be mince pies and stollen cake. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group would have material relating to the Place Appraisal and village Survey available at this coffee morning. February’s coffee morning would have Neighbourhood Watch material being coordinated by Peter Jones.
- b. Winter events: A “Pop in 4 Pudsey” event was being planned by Maureen Morris and others for 25th November. No further events planned at present – remove from Agenda.

9. *Communications*

The November Newsletter had now been printed, although with pages out of order. Extra material had been included in the version distributed by email.

10. *Other Village Activity reports*

No reports.

11. *Committee Reports*

No reports

12. *Treasurer’s Report*

TP had distributed a report before the meeting, showing coffee morning income of £22.40 and no outgoing. The current account and cash balance stands at £3327.92.

The SPLtd account had sent a cheque for £4957.60, reimbursement for unspent Neighbourhood Plan grant. This left a zero balance. A new grant application was being submitted for the period November to March, but in the meantime there were invoices that needed paying, £605 for Consultancy, £300 for a traffic survey, and about £30 for printing. It was agreed that the Society would pay these in the meantime, in the expectation that the Society would be reimbursed when the next round of grant funds were received.

13. *Correspondence*

A CPRE Newsletter had been received, including a report on the Dorset National Park proposal.

BE reported that he had received a phone call from Wessex Water, who wanted help with publicity for some major water main works on Sutton Road early in 2018. They intended to hold a drop-in session to allow people to see what was being planned.

14. *Date of next meeting*

Wednesday 6th December in the Blue Duck Bar at the Springhead **N.B. Note change of date and venue.**

Minutes agreed and approved:

Date: