

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND RESOURCES**
matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 23rd**
JANUARY 2006 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor A.H. Miller (Town Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor Mrs. C.A. Bartlett

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Farrow

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough

Councillor M. Hadley

Councillor M.W. Pratt

Councillor G.M. Suttle

(Until 11.50 a.m.)

Councillor M.A. Tyrer

Councillor Mrs. J.D. Wheeldon

1. **APOLOGIES**

An apology for his inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillor Trite.

2. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Suttle, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That, as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

3. **ANY OTHER MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

(a) **Minutes – Caravan Park Committee**

Having regard to timescales and the urgent need to progress matters, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Committee held on 11th January 2006 were presented for ratification.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, seconded by Councillor Suttle, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Committee held on 11th January 2006, be approved as a correct record and signed.

Arising from Minute No. 4, the Clerk updated those present on matters relating to a former employee of the Council.

Consideration was then given to the recommendations of the Committee as reported in the Minutes, and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough and seconded by Councillor Suttle:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Committee held on 11th January 2006, be approved and adopted.

Upon being put to the Meeting, NINE Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition, and there was ONE ABSTENTION, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

4. **FINANCIAL REVIEWS**

(a) **Scale of Charges**

i) **Boat Park**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon declared her interest under the Model Code of Conduct, by reason of a close family connection with the Boat Park. She remained in the Meeting during the debate, but did not vote on the matter.

Further to the Estimates Meeting held on 5th December 2005, and a subsequent meeting of the Boat Park Committee held on 9th December 2005, consideration was given to the Grid Fees to be charged for 2006/07.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and RESOLVED:-

That the following Grid Fees be charged for 2006/07:-

Boats and trailers

Up to 13ft (G)

Summer – 1 May to 31 October	
Season	205.00
Weekly	85.00
Daily	15.00
Winter – 1 November to 30 April	95.00

Up to 16ft (D)

Summer – 1 May to 31 October	
Season	240.00
Weekly	85.00
Daily	15.00
Winter – 1 November to 30 April	100.00

Up to 22ft (A,C,E,F)

Summer – 1 May to 31 October	
Season	395.00
Weekly	105.00
Daily	15.00
Winter – 1 November to 30 April	165.00

Up to 29ft (B)

Summer – 1 May to 31 October	
Season	575.00
Weekly	105.00
Daily	15.00
Winter – 1 November to 30 April	240.00

Annual Tickets paid by 30th April 2006 are subject to a discount of 10%.

ii) **Private Beach Hut Sites**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Bright declared his interest under the Model Code of Conduct, by reason of being a private beach hut owner, and left the Meeting during the debate.

Further to Minute No. 3 of the Estimates Meeting held on 5th December 2005, the Clerk reported on information received regarding the business rates chargeable on the private beach hut sites.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough:-

To adhere to the previous decision of the Council
i.e. that a charge of £260.00 (incl.VAT) be levied
for private site rent for 2006.

Upon being put to the Meeting, SIX Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition, TWO Members voted AGAINST, and there was ONE ABSTENTION, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

iii) **Town Hall Lettings**

The Clerk reported on a request received from the “Pub Watch” group for the use of the Council Chamber for periodic meetings.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the request be granted, free of charge,
subject to reasonable care being taken of the
facilities provided.

iv) **Rent Reviews**

The Clerk reported that the longstanding rent review in respect of the ice cream concession had recently been determined, and also updated Members on negotiations relating to other outstanding rent reviews.

(b) **Estimates 2006/07**

Further to the Annual Estimates Meeting held on 5th December 2005, the Clerk reported on a number of changes that had been incorporated within the content and structure of the Council’s accounts. The changes were aimed at assisting budget setting, maintaining and review, as well as interpretation and understanding.

Members endorsed the changes, and were appreciative of the sterling work undertaken by the Town Clerk and his staff in implementing the amendments to the accounting system.

(c) **Precept 2006/07**

Having approved the Estimates and seasonal charges for 2006/07, careful consideration was given to the level of precept to be set.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon and seconded by Councillor Pratt:-

That the precept upon the Purbeck District Council
for the financial year commencing 1st April 2006
be £324,500 – an increase of approximately 3%.

Upon being put to the Meeting, SIX Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition, and THREE AGAINST, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

5. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2006/07**

A programme of capital works had been circulated to all Members prior to the Meeting, and detailed consideration was given to the timescale and costings of each proposal.

Stone Quay:	Urgent Repairs - £7,500	Approved.
Town Hall:	Urgent Repairs - £2,115	Approved
Bandstand:	Committed - £2,500	Approved
	Non Urgent Repairs - £22,500	
	Approved, in principle – investigate grant funding.	
Crazy Golf:	Non Urgent Scheme - £12,500	Approved
Mermond Place Toilets:	This was considered to be a priority scheme, and it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-	
	That the sum of £25,000 be allocated for re-conversion works and the sum of £15,000 for the installation of turnstiles.	
Car Parks:	Machines – Priority - £7,000	Approved
	Signs – Priority - £20,000	Approved
CCTV Equipment:	Committed - £5,000	Approved
Seafront Enhancement:	Design scheme	
	Committed - £3,500	Approved
TIC: Alterations/Repairs	Non Urgent Scheme - £20,000	Approved

Arising from the above, it was proposed by Councillor Suttle and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow:-

That consideration be given to the possible future re-location of the Tourist Information Centre.

Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon requested that a named vote be taken, and voting was recorded as follows:-

In Favour: Councillors Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Farrow, Hadley, Miller, Pratt, Suttle and Tyrer.

Against: Councillors Bright, Mrs. Gainsborough and Mrs. Wheeldon.

The Proposition was declared CARRIED.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred for consideration to the next meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters on 20th February 2006.

A revised programme of Capital Works is attached at the end of these Minutes.

6. **HOLIDAY PARK AND STAFFING ISSUES**

The Clerk gave a brief synopsis of staffing issues and associated matters relating to the Holiday Park, following which Members re-affirmed their decision that the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk be given delegated powers to act on the Council's behalf in these matters.

7. **LEASES**

The Town Mayor referred to previous discussions during which the possibility of introducing an additional ice cream concession in the vicinity of Ocean Bay had been mooted.

Consideration was again given to this suggestion, and it was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That an ice cream concession be introduced in the vicinity of Ocean Bay (adjacent to the Ulwell Stream), the exact location to be determined at the next meeting of the Council to be held on 30th January 2006.

8. **2006 EVENTS**

(a) **Swanage Regatta and Carnival 2006**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon declared her interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a member of the Swanage Regatta and Carnival Committee. She remained in the Meeting during the debate, but did not vote on the matter.

A letter dated 12th January 2006 was submitted on behalf of the Swanage Regatta and Carnival Committee requesting the use of Sandpit Field for the 2006 Regatta and Carnival during the period 29th July to 5th August 2006. The use of the closed off section of Shore Road and the former shelter area was also requested for various events during the week.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the requests be granted.

A request for permission to hold Bingo sessions at the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park during the period April to September was also submitted, but, having regard to the impending changes at the Holiday Park, Members were unable to accede to this request.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That a letter be sent to the Swanage Regatta and Carnival Committee informing them of the impending tenancy arrangements for the bars and catering function at the Holiday Park.

(b) **Swanage Jazz Festival 2006**

A letter dated 9th January 2006 was submitted from Mr F Lindop requesting the use of Sandpit Field for the 2006 Swanage Jazz Festival during the period 7th to 9th July 2006.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the request be granted.

(c) **Swanage Hospital Fete**

A letter dated 11th January 2006 was submitted on behalf of the Friends of Swanage Hospital requesting the use of Prince Albert Gardens for the Annual Hospital Fete on Saturday, 3rd June 2006.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the request be granted.

(d) **The Hardy Hike**

A letter dated 9th January 2006 was submitted from the Dorset Wildlife Trust giving details of "The Hardy Hike" on 10th September 2006, and requesting that concessionary car parking be made available in North Beach Car Park for registered walkers and organisers of the event.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That North Beach Car Park be made available for use by the Dorset Wildlife Trust on Sunday, 10th September 2006, subject to the payment of the agreed sum of £100, and that the services of the Council's Enforcement Officers be suspended at North Beach Car Park on that day.

(e) **Classic Car Display 2007**

A letter dated 15th January 2006 was submitted from Mrs. J. Lazenbury requesting the use of Main Beach Car Park for the Classic Car Display and Charity Day on Sunday, 29th April 2007.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the request be granted.

9. **FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION**

A letter dated 13th January 2006 was submitted from "Victim Support Dorset" seeking a financial contribution towards the cost of providing their confidential service.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That no contribution is made by the Town Council, but to suggest that an approach for funding be made to the Purbeck Partnership.

10. **PANORAMA ROAD**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Mrs. Bartlett declared her interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a resident in Panorama Road, and Councillor Pratt declared his interest under the Model Code of conduct by reason of being a member of the Purbeck Housing Trust. Both Councillors left the Meeting during the debate.

(a) The Clerk reported on a planning application by the Purbeck Housing Trust Ltd to erect two houses on land adjacent to 32 Panorama Road. Approval for access rights to the plot over land in the Town Council's ownership was requested.

Following discussion, during which it was suggested that a stipulation be made that the houses should be for local people, it was resolved:-

That the Town Mayor and Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate on the Council's behalf in the matter.

(b) The Clerk reported on a request received from Miss L. Wall of 38 Quarry Close seeking access rights onto Panorama Road across land in the Town Council's ownership.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred, pending advice from the Council's valuer.

11. **OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

The Operations Manager submitted a detailed programme of repairs/maintenance works for information, and the position was noted.

12. **SEASONAL INCOME**

The Clerk submitted a statement of seasonal income for the period to 31st December 2005, and the position was noted.

13. **MONTHLY TRADING STATEMENTS**

Monthly trading statements relating to caravan stocks and sales were submitted for information, and the position was noted.
