

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage  
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on  
**MONDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2004** at 7.25 p.m.

PRESENT: -

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

Councillor H.J.F. Agelink  
Councillor Mrs. C.A. Bartlett  
Councillor C.R. Bright  
Councillor Mrs. J.A. Farrow  
Councillor Mrs. C Gainsborough  
Councillor Mrs. H. O'Donovan  
Councillor M.W. Pratt  
Councillor W.S. Trite  
Councillor M.A. Tyrer

In the absence of a clergyman, Councillor Bright offered a short prayer  
before the commencement of the Meeting.

80. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from  
Councillors Suttle and Mrs. Wheeldon.

81. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, seconded by Councillor Mrs.  
Bartlett, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held  
on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2004 be approved as a correct record  
and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Pratt,  
and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the  
Council held to discuss planning and other matters  
on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2004 be approved as a correct  
record and signed.

(c) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Agelink,  
and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the  
Council held to discuss policy and resources  
matters on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2004 be approved as a  
correct record and signed.

(d) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Mrs.  
Gainsborough, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the  
Council held to discuss policy and resources  
matters on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2004 be approved as  
a correct record and signed.

82. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

That the notes on the Public Participation  
Time held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2004 be accepted.

83. **TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tourism  
and Environmental Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup>  
September 2004 be approved as a correct  
record and signed.

84. **CARAVAN PARK COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by the Town Mayor, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan  
Park Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2004 be  
approved as a correct record and signed.

85. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had no matters to report this month.

86. **TOURISM REPORT**

The Tourist Information Centre Manager reported on the following matters:-

- (a) Unfortunately, the Tourist Information Centre did not win the South West Tourism Excellence Award, but it was considered to be a very good achievement to be one of the five finalists on the first year of entering.
- (b) The 2005 Caravan and Camping leaflet was currently being compiled and had attracted a good response from advertisers.
- (c) The half term holiday had attracted a good many visitors to the town, with a high demand for accommodation over the weekend.

87. **HOLIDAY PARK REPORT**

The General Manager reported on the following matters at the Holiday Park:-

- (a) The survey of the water supply at the Holiday Park had now been completed, and areas of particular concern had been identified. The matter had been considered at a recent Meeting of the Caravan Park Committee, and it had been agreed to recommend that tenders be sought from three specialised companies for the complete renewal of the water supply at the Holiday Park.

- (b) There had been a down-turn in trade at the bars due to the refurbishment works that had commenced, and the catering facility was no longer functioning.
- (c) The Park was fully booked during the half term holiday.
- (d) Caravan sales had remained steady.
- (e) The Holiday Park Newsletter was currently being prepared.

88. **JUSTICES' LICENCES**

(a) **The Anchor Inn, High Street**

A Notice of Application for the transfer of the Justices' Licence in respect of the Anchor Inn was submitted for consideration.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Agelink, and RESOLVED:-

That no objection be raised to the transfer of the Licence.

(b) **The Red Lion, High Street**

A Notice of Application for the transfer of the Justices' Licence in respect of the Red Lion, Swanage was submitted for consideration.

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

That no objection be raised to the transfer of the Licence.

89. **ANY OTHER MATTERS WHICH THE TOWN MAYOR DECIDES ARE URGENT**

There were no additional matters in need of urgent attention.

90. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of September 2004 were submitted for information.

91. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 7, 7a and 7b, amounting to £251,496.02, £54,071.27 and £85,093.01 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

92. **STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCE**

The Clerk submitted a statement of cash balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004 (copies having been circulated to all Councillors), a copy attached at end of these Minutes.

93. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, and RESOLVED:-

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 items.

94. **SWANAGE BAY VIEW HOLIDAY PARK**

Copies of the Council's "Prudential Code" for capital finance had been circulated to all Members prior to the Meeting. The Town Clerk explained that the Prudential Code had replaced the stringent controls and formal credit approvals (known as Loan Sanction) that previously had to be adhered to.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Prudential Code be formally adopted.

The Mayor acknowledged the amount of work required in preparing this, and other documents, and expressed his appreciation of the efforts afforded by the Town Clerk and his staff.

Further to Minute No. 3 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2004, the Clerk reported on the valuations and independent financial advice received from Charles F. Jones & Son. The Clerk also reported on a letter received from the District Auditor advising that the Council should seek counsel's opinion on the matters he had highlighted.

A lengthy discussion ensued, following which it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Council, having recently committed to the extensive enhancement of the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park and Vista Complex, considered it inappropriate to pursue, at the present time, the purchase of Priest Way Holiday Park at the value that it deemed to be overstated.

In determining this matter, the Councillors acknowledged their role as custodian of the town's assets and re-affirmed their commitment not to sell or dispose of any land or buildings, and to maintain these for future generations.

It was then proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Clerk be authorised to seek counsel's opinion, in accordance with the District Auditor's recommendation.