

Minutes of the Meeting of the **BOATPARK**
COMMITTEE held at the **Town Hall** on
Monday 24th November 2003 at **2.15 p.m.**

Present:-

Councillor AH Miller – Chairman
Councillor CBright
Councillor Mrs J Farrow
Councillor Mrs CGainsborough
Councillor MTyrer

Also in attendance:-

Mr AJ Leeson	Town Clerk
Mr GBrookes	Operations Manager
Mr MCiantar	Boat Park User
Mr ALander	Swanage Fisherman's Association

1) **Apologies**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor Agelink.

Members of the Committee welcomed Mr Ciantar to the Meeting. The need for the Boat Park Users Group to be reformed was outlined and how its co-operation would be crucial to taking the Boat Park forward. The Committee requested that Mr Ciantar reconstitute the User Group. Mr Ciantar agreed to initiate a Boat Park Users Group, provided that administrative support would be given by the Council.

2) **Review of Minutes held 3rd November 2003**

Referring to Minute 2) and Minute 5), the Chairman reported on the possibility of funding through the Crime and Disorder Partnership of the South Purbeck Task Group for the barrier entry system, however funding would not be available for CCTV. The need to make the area secure due to the loss of fishing equipment, the theft of boats and the inability of many boat owners to get insurance should be highlighted.

ACTION: The Clerk will make an application to South Purbeck Task Group for funding of the barrier entry system.

The Operations Manager reported that he is awaiting quotes for the installation of CCTV at the Boat Park and that he needed to clarify the positioning of the camera and also the siting of the receiver and video equipment. The need to have access to the receiver was noted. Several possible locations were suggested and after a brief discussion:-

It was AGREED:

That permission to locate monitoring equipment in the RNLB building be sought by the Town Clerk.

With reference to Minute 3), the Town Clerk reported that letters will be sent out to the tenants of the Fisherman's Huts by the end of the week and that the deadline for allowing access will be set for 15th December 2003, giving a minimum of two weeks notice of the intent of entry.

The ongoing dispute over the ownership of the slipway area was discussed at great length and it was noted that all reasonable approaches had failed. It was recognised that the current situation is the result of historical inaccuracies and the Town Clerk reiterated the fact that the Town Council holds the deed to the land and therefore, unless the Fisherman can provide information to the contrary, then the

matters should be closed.

The Operations Manager reported on costs from a Poole contractor for the removal of boats from the slipway. The cost of removal was quoted at £125.00 with a storage fee of £12-£15 per day. After further debate:-

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Bright and AGREED UNANIMOUSLY:
That the Town Clerk writes to all users to inform them that if boats are left on the slipway above the specified time for stress of weather that the boat will be removed and that all costs for removal and storage will be incurred by the boat owner.

Referring to Minute 5), the control of jetskis, it was recognised by the Committee that the need to regulate the use of jetskis, with regard to insurance and identification, had not been properly addressed.

It was AGREED:
That the regulation of jetskis be formally adopted in the Boat Park Rules & Regulations.

With further reference to Minute 5), the Operations Manager reported that the skip had been removed from the Boat Park. The skip will be placed in the Boat Park once a month and the Fishermen will be given notice of the dates and times that this will occur. Due to reasons of Health & Safety and the lifting of heavy items, the Operations Manager advised that multiple small bins be situated in the Boat Park. After a brief discussion:-

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Tyrer, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Farrow and AGREED UNANIMOUSLY:
That the Operations Manager purchase litter bins for the Boat Park.

It was recognised by the Committee that the majority of waste results from the Fisherman's Huts. The cost of the removal of hazardous waste from the Boat Park and the additional charge above the normal cost of the skip and how these costs could be recharged was considered. After a lengthy debate:

It was AGREED IN PRINCIPLE:
That the Fishermen are recharged for the costs of the removal of hazardous waste from the Boat Park.

3) **Review of Rules and Regulations**

A revised copy of the Rules and Regulations was distributed by the Clerk and the contents were discussed by the Committee. With reference to clause 2.8, it was agreed that it should read, "The Town Council reserves the right to close the slipway for launching at any time by reason of stress of weather."

The insertion of a clause to cover Health & Safety issues was noted, in clause 2.13, "In the interest of Health & Safety, the trailing of electrical cables and hoses are prohibited within the Boat Park".

The Clerk suggested that clause 6, the Scale of Charges be removed from the Rules and Regulations and be replaced with, "The Scale of Charges are set annually by the Town Council and the current tariffs and fees will be published and displayed prominently at the Boat Park. The Council has the right to alter or amend the scale of charges at its own discretion at any time."

With reference to section 7, it was noted that the seasonal dates should be included. The Committee agreed that in clause 7.3, the word "impounded" be deleted and replaced with "removed".

This will also apply to clause 2.10 and 8.4.

The opening hours of the slipway were reviewed subject to the request to allow 24-hour launching from the slipway. The difficulties of allowing for 24-hour launching in view of the proposed introduction of a barrier at the entrance of the Boat Park were highlighted. The main difficulty is the retrieval of boats and jetskis once the Boat Park Attendant has left, as entry with a car into the Boat Park will not be possible. After a lengthy discussion:-

It was AGREED:

That until more detailed information with regard to barrier entry system to cater for day users was available that the slipway opening hours would remain in place.

ACTION: The Operations Manager will investigate barriers that will allow for daily launching.

The need to include a clause to allow for the need for reasonable changes to the Rules & Regulations was highlighted. The Committee also felt that the right to refuse entry should also be included.

4) **Grid Layout and Design Proposals**

Consideration was given to the proposed redesign of the Boat Park. The Committee recognised the need to change the layout as the present design was not working. Concern was expressed over the loss of seven grids, particularly in view of the expected increase in usage owing to jetskis.

The parking of jetski trailers was discussed with the possibility of setting aside an area on the Downs for parking trailers. The Operations Manager stated that Broad Road had already been reviewed as part of a Car Park Best Value Review and that there was a possibility of parking on a small section of the Downs, close to fishermen's car park.

The charges to be levied on the grids in the Boat Park for the 2004/2005 year were discussed in relation to the maximum potential income available. It was recognised that in order to attain best value at the Boat Park the projected loss as a result of decreasing the number of grids in the Boat Park had to be taken into account when setting the fees. The potential loss is approximately 10% of the maximum potential income. The general feeling was that users would accept an increase in charges providing that changes were visible and conveyed in a positive way. It was also suggested that the rows and grids be more clearly marked. After a lengthy discussion:-

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Tyrer, SECONDED by Councillor Bright and AGREED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the redesign of the Boat Park be implemented and that grid fees be increased by 10%, plus 3% inflation, to reflect the loss in potential income.

5) **General Issues**

Mr Cianciar PROPOSED that the Boat Park Attendant, Mr Leach, be thanked for his work at the Boat Park. Mr Lander SECONDED the proposal and it was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY by the Committee.

6) **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next Meeting was not set. Members of the Boat Park Committee will be notified once the date has been set. The date of the site Meeting will be set to coincide with a site Meeting of the Car Park Best Value Review Working Group.

The Meeting closed at 4.45 p.m.

