

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 26th APRIL 2004 at 7.20 p.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 Mrs. H.O'Donovan
Councillor M.W. Pratt
Councillor G.M. Suttle
Councillor W.S. Trite
Councillor M.A. Tyrer
Councillor Mrs. J.D. Wheeldon

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

Before officially opening the Meeting to commence the business on the Agenda, the Town Mayor welcomed Mrs. Hancock to the Meeting. He wished to publicly thank her for her sterling work to raise funds for his chosen charity – “Play in Swanage”. Mrs. Hancock had knitted over 400 “Easter Chicks”, the proceeds from which (£425.00) she was donating to this very worthy cause.

161. **APOLOGIES**

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

162. **MINUTES**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 29th March 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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

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

Arising from the above, Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan referred to planning application no. 6/2004/0277, and before reconsideration of the matter, Councillor Suttle declared a pecuniary interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of his business association with the applicant, and left the Meeting during the discussion.

Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan expressed concern at the late notification of the application by Purbeck District Council, which had left little time for neighbours to submit their observations. Her concerns were noted.

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matter on 19th April 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

163. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

That the notes on the Public Participation Time held on 29th March 2004 be accepted.

164. **CAR PARKS BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Car Parks Best Value Working Group held on 29th March 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

165. **TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tourism and Environmental Committee held on 29th March 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

166. **PUBLIC BUILDINGS BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Public

Buildings Best Value Working Group held on 16th April 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

167. **CARAVAN PARK BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Best Value Working Group held on 16th April 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

168. **CARAVAN PARK COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Committee held on 19th April 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

169. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

(a) The Mayor reported that on Saturday, 24th April 2004 he had been delighted to attend a surprise party to celebrate the 80th birthday of Mr. Ken Moore, along-serving employee of the Town Council. Mr. Moore had recorded the weather in Swanage for many years, and, at the party, a letter of congratulations was read from the directors of the Meteorological Office.

(b) On Sunday, 25th April 2004, he had attended the annual Classic Car Rally in Victoria Avenue Car Park (organised by Mrs. Jenny Lazenbury). Once again, the event had been very successful and well-attended.

(c) Finally, the Mayor reported that the re-furbishment works at Burlington Chinetoilets, and the construction of the beach huts, were progressing well, and it was hoped that the facilities would be available from approximately mid-June 2004.

170. **TOURISM REPORT**

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

(a) Footfall figures at the Tourist Information Centre during the year 2003/04 were approximately 27,000 upon the previous year, and April figures had again exceeded those for the corresponding period in 2003.

- (b) Over the Easter holiday period most visitors seemed to have booked their accommodation in advance. This was attributed to the early despatch of the holiday guides in response to the Christmas advertising campaigns.
- (c) The new comprehensive Purbeck “Where To Eat” guide had been produced by the Purbeck Tourism Group, and copies of the Guide were circulated to all those present.
- (d) “Purbeck Aware” month was due to commence on 15th May 2004, and the “Beach Awareness” campaign on 29th May.
- (e) Finally, following the success of the TIC staff in achieving the “Partners in Success” business accreditation, the staff had now achieved the “Partners in Success Plus”. As a result, they would be featured in the Dorset and New Forest Newsletter, as an example for other Dorset TICs.

Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough reported that, due to their previous success in the Southern England in Bloom Competition on more than two occasions, Swanage was not eligible to enter the competition in 2004. However, as usual, “Swanage in Bloom” would be holding their own competitions.

171. **HOLIDAY PARK REPORT**

The General Manager reported that trading at the Holiday Park had been busy during the Easter holiday period, and they were now looking forward to a good season ahead.

The upgrading of the water system at the Holiday Park had now been completed, with individual meters being installed to each caravan.

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

There was one additional item in need of urgent consideration, but having regard to the nature of the business to be discussed, it was agreed that the matter be deferred for consideration later in the meeting when the public and press had been excluded.

173. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

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

174. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

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

That the accounts specified in the Order on
Treasurer Nos. 13, 14, 14a, 1 and 1a amounting

to£7,124.51,£70,353.90,£38,659.18,£143,391.39
and£65,001.13respectivelybepaid,andthatcheques
bedrawntherefor.

175. **STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCE**

The Clerk submitted a statement of cash balance as at 31st March 2004 (copies
having been circulated to all Councillors), a copy attached at end of these
Minutes.

176. **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
matters.

177.

LEASE

Further to Minute No. 9 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 16th
February 2004, a letter was submitted from the Ice Cream concessionaire
expressing concern at the detrimental effect of this decision may have on her
business.

It was noted that the primary use of kiosk A was as a nice cream kiosk, and
the proposals would not detract from the principle trade.

It was further noted that no trading would be permitted from either
concession between the hours of 10.30 p.m. and 8.00 a.m.

Further to the above, Members acknowledged the difficulties being
experienced in the operation of kiosk B, sited opposite the Spa. Alternative
arrangements were considered, and following discussion, it was RESOLVED
UNANIMOUSLY:-

i) That no alternative site be offered at the Weather Station
Field and that no permanent structure be constructed
on the beach and

ii) That the terms of the lease be strictly adhered to.

