

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council, held at the Town Hall, Swanage, on
MONDAY, 16th DECEMBER 2002 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT: -

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

Councillor Mrs. C.A. Bartlett
Councillor G.A. Baume
Councillor Mrs. J. A. Farrow
Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough
Councillor Mrs. G. A. Marsh
Councillor Mrs. H. O'Donovan
Councillor J Roscoe
Councillor W.S. Trite
Councillor Mrs. J.D. Wheeldon
Councillor M. R. Woolley

Before the commencement of the Meeting, the Town Mayor announced the retirement of Mrs. Pat Brown, a long serving member of the Council's staff at the Caravan Park. He expressed his appreciation of her long and loyal service, and made a small presentation to mark the occasion.

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

103. **APOLOGIES**

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

104. **MINUTES**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and

RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 25th November 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Arising from Minute No. 93, Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough referred to the festive lights in the town, and expressed her appreciation of the sterling work undertaken by the Town Mayor, Town Clerk, Operations Manager and members of the Lights Committee in achieving such a display.

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss planning and other matters on 29th November 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh,

and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters on 9th December 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.

105. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was RESOLVED:-

That the notes on the Public Participation Time held on 25th November 2002 be accepted.

106. **CARAVAN PARK BEST VALUE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Best Value Review Committee held on 25th November 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.

107. **TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tourism and Environmental Committee held on 2nd December 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.

108. **CAR PARKING BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by the Town Mayor, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Car Parking Best Value Working Group held on 2nd December 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b)

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Car Parking Best Value Working Group held on 9th December 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.

109. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor endorsed the comments already expressed earlier in the Meeting regarding the festive lights and the voluntary work undertaken by members of the Committee. He then reported on the very successful "Switch On Swanage" evening, and wished to record his personal thanks to Messrs. Mike Dimarco, Rufus Stimpson, Dave Barrow, David Pike and Kevin Wells, who had installed the lights and provided all the materials at cost price.

110. **TOURISM REPORT**

Miss Alison Stockley, the Tourist Information Centre Manager, reported on recent changes that had been introduced to bring Swanage in line with

national services standards for networked TICs. One of the most significant changes in this regard was the opening of the TIC on Saturdays throughout the winter season.

The TIC Manager then reported on the following matters:-

- (a) Charity Christmas Cards for Good Causes was a new venture for the TIC. It was proving very popular and attracting a good number of additional visitors to the Centre.
- (b) Staff at the TIC were working closely with the Wareham Centre, and updating each office with accommodation vacancies on a regular weekly basis.
- (c) Approximately 600 guides per day were currently being despatched.
- (d) Bookings for the beach bungalows in 2003 were going well, with Carnival week already being fully booked.
- (e) As part of "Purbeck Aware Month" and one of the initiatives for the "Blue Flag" award, a display highlighting various aspects of beach safety would be staged at the Information Centre for one week during the 2003 summer season.

111. **SWANAGE BAY VIEW HOLIDAY PARK**

The General Manager of the Holiday Park gave a brief summary of matters concerning the Park, including amendments to the Rules and Regulations. Overall, caravan owners were generally appreciative of the changes and refurbishment plans that would be taking place during the closed season.

112. **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND POLICE ACT, 2001**

The Clerk reported on a letter received from the Administrative Services Manager of Purbeck District Council outlining the legislation and requirements for the introduction of a bye-law restricting alcohol consumption in public places.

It was noted that a "blanket ban" could not be introduced throughout the town, but that specific areas and roads must be separately identified.

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

That the Clerk compile a detailed schedule of roads/areas to be covered by the bye-law and circulated to all Members for approval before being submitted to Purbeck District Council.

The Clerk also reported that the Council's request for the whole of the Parish of Swanage to be designated under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 had been acknowledged, and the introduction of an appropriate bye-law was progressing.

With regard to the proposed bye-law regarding "Urinating and Defacing in Public Places", it was anticipated that legislation would be introduced early in the New Year.

113. **TRANSFER OF JUSTICES' LICENCE**

A Notice of Application for the Transfer of the Justices' Licence in respect of Co-op Leos was submitted for consideration.

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

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

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

There were no additional matters in need of urgent attention.

115. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of November 2002 were submitted, and it was noted that rainfall had been recorded on 28 days during the month.

116. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

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

That the accounts specified in the Order on Treasurer Nos. 9, 9a and 9b, amounting to £58,003.14, £27,762.32 and £24,755.96 respectively, be paid and that cheques be drawn therefor.

117. **STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCE**

The Clerk submitted a statement of cash balance as at 30th November 2002 (copies having been circulated to all Councillors), a copy attached at end of these Minutes.

Before moving into private session, Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough expressed her appreciation of the comprehensive report on the DAPTC Annual General Meeting, presented by Councillor Mrs. Marsh.

118. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, 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.

119. **STAFFING MATTERS**

The Clerk reported on a staffing matter that had been considered at the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters earlier in the day, and advice received from the Council's legal advisers.

Following discussion, it was RESOLVED:-

To endorse the decision reached at the Meeting held earlier in the day.
