

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 23rd FEBRUARY 2004 at 7.15 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.

130. **APOLOGIES**

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

131. **MINUTES**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 26th January 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) 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 planning and other matters on 6th February 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters on 16th February 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed, subject to it being

recorded that it was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That matters relating to the private beach hut
sites be considered at the next meeting of the Beaches &
Foreshore Best Value Working Group to be held
on 25th February 2004 at 2p.m.

132. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs.
O'Donovan, and RESOLVED:-

That the notes on the Public Participation
Time held on 26th January 2004 be accepted.

133. **BOAT PARK COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Boat Park
Committee held on 6th February 2004 be approved
as a correct record and signed.

134. **CAR PARK BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP**

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

That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Car
Park Best Value Working Group held on 9th
and 16th February 2004 be approved as a correct
record and signed, subject to the Proposal in
paragraph 5 of page 2 being amended to read:-

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by
Councillor Tyrer and AGREED, with TWO Members
voting IN FAVOUR, ONE AGAINST and ONE ABSTENTION:-
That the Town Clerk defer the advertisement for six
weeks to allow for the views of property owners to be
sought.

135. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

The Mayor had no matters to report at the present time.

136. **TOURISM REPORT**

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

- (a) Footfall figures at the Tourist Information Centre during February to date,
were approximately 700 upon the corresponding period in 2003.
Once again, the school half-term holiday, which is spread over two

week period, had attracted a large number of visitors to the town and many local attractions had staged special events during this period.

- (b) The “Fair Trade Fortnight” was running from 1st March 2004, and during this time samples of “Fair Trade” tea and coffee would be available at the Information Centre.
- (c) Demand for the holiday guide was still strong, with over 3000 copies having been despatched from the Information Centre during February to date.
- (d) Tickets for the 2004 Jazz Festival (9th to 11th July) were now on sale at the Information Centre – 200 tickets having already been sold.
- (e) Finally, the Information Centre Manager reported that the bungalow on Shore Road were already fully booked from 24th July to the end of August, which hopefully, could result in future enquirers being accommodated at the newly refurbished Spa.

137. **HOLIDAY PARK REPORT**

The General Manager reported that:-

- (a) The upgrading of the water system at the Holiday Park was progressing well, with many of the water meters to the individual caravans having now been installed.
- (b) The Holiday Park was re-opening on 1st March, and the staff are looking forward to another busy season ahead.

138. **USE OF FORMER SHELTER AREA, SHORE ROAD**

A schedule listing requests to operate Teddy Bear and other stalls in the area of the former shelter on Shore Road during the 2004 summer season was submitted.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and

RESOLVED:-

That the requests be granted.

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

(a) **Prince Albert Gardens**

A letter dated 10th February 2004 was submitted on behalf of A.C.T.S. notifying the Council of the intention to hold their annual “March of Witness” through the town on the morning of Good Friday, 9th April 2004, and requesting the use of Prince Albert Gardens for a short ecumenical service after the procession.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That permission be granted.

Before consideration of the next item, Councillor Bright declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct, by reason of a family member being a private beach huts site hirer, and as his interest was prejudicial, left the Meeting during the discussion.

(b) **Private Beach Hut Sites**

Arising from the decision of the Council to consider matters relating to the private beach huts sites at the Meeting of the Beaches and Foreshore Best Value Working Group (See Minute No. 131(c) above, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To suspend invoices issued in respect of the private beach huts sites, pending a recommendation from the Beaches and Foreshore Best Value Working Group.

140.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS

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

141. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Order on Treasurer Nos. 11, 11a, and 11b, amounting to £124,051.11, £21,078.70 and £232,360.44 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

142. **STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCE**

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