

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 1st JUNE 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor M.W. Pratt (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor B. Audley

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough JP

Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox

Councillor M. Hadley

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor W.S. Trite

Councillor M. Whitwam

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 14 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Public Participation Time

MR. C. TOMES made representations on behalf of Swanage Regatta and Carnival in favour of the proposed Kwahadi American Indian dance show, to be discussed later in the meeting. Attention was drawn to the way in which the show promotes scouting, guiding and volunteering in the community.

MR. I. SAUNDERS questioned whether any progress had been made in respect of extending the Safe Bathing Zone. He was informed that in recent months discussions had focussed on the extension of the 5-knot zone, but that enquiries would be made to ascertain the latest position.

Councillor Bright offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.10 p.m.

14. **APOLOGIES**

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

15. **MINUTES**

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

That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 11th May 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by the Town Mayor, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the held to discuss policy and planning matters on 18th May 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed.

16. **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and
RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport Committee held on 7th May 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Arising therefrom, consideration was given to the following recommendations:-

5) **Consideration of Options for Advertising on Reverse of Town Council Car Park Tickets**

The possibility of selling advertising space on the reverse of the Town Council's car park tickets was proposed as a source of revenue.

It was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and
RESOLVED:-

That advertising be actively sought for the reverse of the Town Council's car park tickets.

8) **Bus Shelter Refurbishment – Ulwell Road**

Complaints regarding the condition of the bus shelter near to All Saints Church in Ulwell Road were discussed. It was noted that Dorset County Council had provided assurance that the structure was not dangerous, although it remains an unsightly feature on one of the principal entry routes into Swanage.

It was reported that the estimated cost of replacing the shelter was £2,500 and that Dorset County Council could offer a grant of £800. It was noted that if Swanage Town Council replaces the shelter then it will become responsible for future maintenance.

It was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the De Moulham Trust be approached to contribute to the repair/replacement of the bus shelter.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Chairman consult with a representative of the Wilts and Dorset bus company regarding possible funding.

It was suggested that enquiries be made regarding the possibility of making use of a redundant bus shelter on a former bus route, and it was AGREED:-

That enquiries be made regarding the possible recycling of the old shelter.

17. **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 27th May 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Arising therefrom, consideration was given to the following recommendation:-

7. **Bad Debt Provisions**

Consideration was given to the Briefing Note dated 22nd May 2009, and the Summary of the Aged Debtors Analysis as at 31st March 2009, amounting to £47,643.87 (copies having been circulated to all Members prior to the Meeting).

It was noted that the Town Council did not have a formal policy in place to deal with bad debts. After due consideration, bearing in mind the Council's excellent track record in recovering all of its debt (less than 0.1% in each year between 2005/06 and 2007/08), it was considered unnecessary to change the Council's established practice. Members felt that each outstanding debt should be considered individually and action taken as deemed appropriate.

The historic debtors list included a large debtor, and, following careful consideration, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and RESOLVED:-

That a debt of £28,004.16 be written off.

18. **PLANS**

Councillor Mrs. Marsh did not vote on, or propose, or second any of the motions on the following planning applications, by reason of being a Member of the Purbeck District Council's Planning Board.

Plan No
Delegated
Applications

The following four applications were not discussed by the Town Council as it was considered that a conflict of interest existed, given that the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park is in the Council's ownership.

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|-------------|--|
| 6/2009/0236 | Mr A Vandenburg
Erect timber decking.
Plot 234, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Swanage. |
| 6/2009/0237 | Mr P Richardson
Erect timber decking.
Plot 27, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Swanage. |
| 6/2009/0238 | Mr G Poar
Erect timber decking.
Plot 85, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Swanage. |
| 6/2009/0239 | Mr J Grecian
Erect timber decking.
Plot 173, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Swanage. |
| 6/2009/0240 | Mr J Moloney
Insert dormer window at front and a rooflight on side to facilitate loft conversion.
46 Ulwell Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection. |
| 6/2009/0242 | Mrs White
Install solar panels on the south facing roof.
11 Stafford Road, Swanage.
NO OBSERVATION |

The following application was not discussed by the Town Council as it was considered that a conflict of interest existed, given that the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park is in the Council's ownership.

- 6/2009/0256 **Mr M Batt**
Erect timber decking.
Plot 280B, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Swanage.
- 6/2009/0259 **Mr Mitchard**
CONSERVATION Replace existing wooden windows with uPVC windows.
AREA Flat 8 Springhill House, 74 High Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No comment.
- 6/2009/0260 **Mr B Lightbown**
Erect rooftop extension to flats 1, 2 & 3 to form additional
living accommodation with roof terrace and make alterations to
windows on east elevation at first floor level.
Ocean Bay, 2 Ulwell Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal. The application
represents overdevelopment of the site.
- 6/2009/0273 **Mr J Massey**
Create plant room to allow the installation of biomass boiler
(wood pellet) associated plant, fuel storage, flue and chimney.
Penlu, 8 Taunton Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No comment. The Town Council strongly
believes that this application should be referred to the District
Council Planning Board.

19. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh and
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer
Nos. 2, 2a and 2b amounting to £242,455.00, £98,754.71
and £84,375.17 respectively be paid, and that cheques be
drawn therefore.

20. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor was delighted to report on events held during the weekend of
30th/31st May 2009.

- (a) The sterling work undertaken by the Railway Trust and the 11th Signal
Regiment on the platform at Herston Halt had culminated in the official
opening of the new platform on Saturday, 30th May 2009.
- (b) During the afternoon of the 30th May 2009, the 11th Signal Regiment exercised
the "Liberty of the Town", which had been granted in 2005. Approximately
500 soldiers had taken part in the Parade.
- (c) A "Veteran's Weekend" had been organised by the Royal British Legion, and
various events had taken place on both Saturday and Sunday. These included
demonstrations, stalls etc. on Sandpit Field and a "Veteran's Parade" along
Shore Road on Sunday afternoon.

21. **CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

(a) **Purbeck Heritage Strategy**

Further to Minute No. 4 (a) of the Council Meeting held on 18th May 2009, consideration was given to a draft response to the Purbeck Heritage Strategy 2009-2014.

Members were appreciative of the sterling work undertaken by Councillor Gloyn-Cox and the Deputy Town Clerk in recording the Town Council's observations and comments, and it was proposed by Councillor Trite, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the draft response to the Purbeck Heritage Strategy be accepted.

(b) **Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site Management Plan**

Further to Minute No. 4 (b) of the Council Meeting held on 18th May 2009, consideration was given to a draft response to the Dorset and East Devon Coast (Jurassic Coast) World Site Management Plan.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Hadley, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the draft response to the consultation draft of the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site Management Plan be approved.

22. **SWANAGE REGATTA AND CARNIVAL – REQUEST FOR USE OF RECREATION GROUND**

Consideration was given to a request received from the Swanage Regatta and Carnival Committee for the use of the Recreation Ground for Indian tribe dancers, Kwahadi Troop, during Carnival Week.

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

That the request be agreed in principle, subject to detailed arrangements being agreed with Councillor Poultney, the Operations Manager and a representative of the Swanage Regatta and Carnival Committee.

23. **SWANAGE GRAMMAR SCHOOL ASSOCIATION – REQUEST FOR COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE AT SWANAGE RAILWAY STATION.**

Before consideration of this item, the Town Mayor declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a former pupil of Swanage Grammar School, but as his interest was non-prejudicial, he remained in the Meeting during the debate.

Councillor Whitwam declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being the Chairman of the Swanage Railway Trust, and Councillor Trite also declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a member of the Swanage Railway Trust. As their interest was non-prejudicial, they remained in the Meeting during the debate.

A letter dated 27th April 2009 was submitted on behalf of the Swanage Grammar School Association seeking the Council's approval (as Landlord) to fix a commemorative plaque to the station building.

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

That permission be granted, subject to suitable siting to be agreed with the Operations Manager.

24. **HARROW HOUSE – REQUEST FOR FUNDING COACH TRIP**
A letter dated 14th May 2009 was submitted from the Marketing Manager of Harrow House International College giving details of a “Familiarisation Trip” for Foreign Education Agents, and seeking a contribution towards the cost of the transport.
Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**
That, having regard to the Council’s limited resources, and the fact that this was a commercial enterprise, no contribution be made to the cost of providing transport for the “Familiarisation Trip”.
25. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**
(a) Councillor Mrs Patrick reported that she had attended a recent meeting of PACT (Partners and Communities Together) as a representative of Purbeck District Council. It was noted that the Town Council representatives on PACT (Councillors Audley, Mrs.Gainsborough and Hadley) had not been notified of the Meeting, and it was agreed that this matter be followed up.
(b) Councillor Mrs. Marsh reported that she had attended a conference at Portland at which “marine litter” and its effects on wildlife and the environment had been discussed.
26. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**
There were no delegated matters to report at the present time.
27. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**
The revised meteorological records for the month of April 2009 were submitted for information.
28. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDAS**
(a) The Clerk reported that a notice had been received from Purbeck District Council for the removal of hedgerow at the Purbeck Business Centre.
(b) A request was received for the Notice of Council Meetings and additional planning information to be displayed on the Council’s website.
(c) It was reported that appeals against the refusal of planning permission in respect of 3 Lighthouse Road, 2 Drummond Road and 58 Park Road (application numbers 6/2008/0606, 6/2009/0157 and 6/2008/0628, 6/2008/0629, 6/2008/0632) had been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.
(d) Attention was drawn to the delays that occurred at the Sandbanks/Shell Bay ferry, and with the approach of the busy holiday season, it was suggested that an approach be made to the appropriate authorities for notices to be displayed indicating the approximate waiting time. It was **AGREED:-**
That this matter be referred for consideration at a future meeting of the Transport Committee.
29. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**
Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough and **RESOLVED:-**

That, under Standing Orders Nos. 67 and 68, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

30. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Holiday Park Disposal**

The Clerk updated those present on matters relating to the disposal of the Holiday Park.

The meeting concluded at 8.15 p.m.
