

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 1st MARCH 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox

Councillor M. Hadley

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor G.M. Suttle

(until 9.30 pm)

Councillor W.S. Trite

Councillor M. Whitwam

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, over 50 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Public Participation Time

MR. B. BARKER, on behalf of the Swanage Chamber of Trade and Commerce, raised concerns regarding the Radio Link connection with the police authority.

MR. M. NORRIS referred to the Meeting of the Dorset County Council Cabinet, scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 3rd March 2010, at which the proposed closure of James Day Home was to be considered. He confirmed that a letter in support of retaining James Day Home had been submitted from the local medical practice and requested that a similar letter be sent from the Town Council.

MR. L. FLETCHER also requested the support of the Town Council in any way possible to secure the future of James Day Home for the care of the elderly and dementia patients.

COUNCILLOR W. TRITE informed the Meeting that a strong letter in support of retaining James Day Home had been sent from the Town Council on 17th February 2010. As a member of the Dorset County Council, he would be attending the Cabinet Meeting on Wednesday, and would submit any representations presented to him. A further meeting had been arranged with representatives from Dorset County Council, Purbeck District Council and Swanage Town Council on Friday, 5th March.

MRS. G. NORRIS enquired whether there were any covenants applicable to the site of James Day Home, and if so, whether these had been waived without public consultation. **DR. M. AYRES** advised that this enquiry should be directed to Dorset County Council under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

127. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Audley, Bright and Wiggins.

128. **CLOSURE OF JAMES DAY HOME**

Further to Minute No. 2 of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 15th February 2010, detailed consideration was given to a response to be submitted to the Dorset County Council Cabinet Meeting on Wednesday, 3rd March 2010, in support of retaining James Day Home.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and
RESOLVED:-

That Standing Order No.69 be invoked to allow members of the audience to participate in the debate.

During a lengthy debate, the following points were highlighted and discussed:-

- Cabinet Members had not been advised on the likely provision of future residential care places in Swanage.
- The market had not been tested to determine if the option outlined in 2.1.2.b of the Cabinet Report was viable. (Option 2.1.2.b – To work with Care South on alternative arrangements for the future management of the Home – the council to take over management of the home in the interim and seek an alternative care provider to take over the management of the home for the longer term).
- The rent did not seem unreasonable when compared with the property costs of other private sector providers.
- Cabinet members had not been advised on or received recommendations to cater for the changing scope of residential care.
- Staffing implications and strategic cost control had not been fully considered.

It was proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Mrs Marsh and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That a letter outlining the points above be sent to Dorset County Council in advance of Wednesday's Cabinet Meeting.

A question was also posed regarding the possible instigation of a judicial review of the decision process.

It was proposed by Councillor Pratt and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick:-

That, mindful of the present distress and future dislocation that would be caused by the closure of James Day Home, Swanage Town Council calls upon Dorset County Council to take over the operation of James Day Home until such time as the need for dementia care in the Swanage area has been fully investigated, future demand for dementia places established, and suitable alternative local arrangements put in place.

Councillor Hadley requested that a named vote be taken.

In favour of the Proposition:

Town Mayor and Councillors Gloyn-Cox, Hadley, Mrs.Marsh, Mrs.Patrick, Poultney, Suttle, Trite and Whitwam.

Against the Proposition:

None.

The Proposition was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY.

129. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Hadley, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 1st February 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by Councillor Hadley, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 15th February 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

130. **REVIEW OF RESOLUTION – EVENTS SUMMER 2010 – LIVE MUSIC**

Before consideration of this item, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED:-

That Standing Order No. 36 (a) be suspended to allow a review of the resolution regarding the finishing time of events (Minute No.8 (b) of the policy and planning meeting held on 15th February 2010).

Further to Minute No. 8 (b) of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 15th February 2010, and subsequent representations from members of the Swanage Regatta and Carnival, consideration was again given to the finishing time of live music events held on Swanage seafront.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor and seconded by Councillor Poultney:-

That live music events held on Swanage seafront should have the following finishing times:

i)	Saturday	31 st July	11 pm
	Wednesday	4 th August	11 pm
	Saturday	7 th August	11 pm
	Saturday	14 th August	11 pm
	Saturday	21 st August	11 pm
	Saturday	28 th August	11 pm
ii)	Monday	2 nd August	10.30 pm
	Tuesday	3 rd August	10.30 pm
	Thursday	5 th August	10.30 pm
	Friday	6 th August	10.30 pm
	Sunday	8 th August	10.30 pm

An AMENDMENT was moved by Councillor Mrs. Marsh and seconded by Councillor Suttle:-

That the existing practice whereby live music events held on Swanage seafront finish by 11 pm, should continue for the 2010 summer season, and that consultations be held with the events' organisers with a view to reducing the length of the events for the 2011 summer season.

Upon being put to the Meeting, FIVE Members voted IN FAVOUR of the AMENDMENT and ONE AGAINST, whereupon the Amendment was declared CARRIED.

The AMENDMENT was then put as a SUBSTANTIVE MOTION and CARRIED with FIVE Members voting IN FAVOUR and THREE AGAINST.

131. **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 5th February 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

132. **TOURISM COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by Councillor Hadley, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tourism Committee held on 8th February 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

133. **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport Committee held on 17th February 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Consideration was given to the recommendations contained in the Minutes, as follows:-

Traffic Flow – Northbrook Bridge

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Town Council inform Dorset County Council of its support for the making of Northbrook Road one-way northbound between Gilbert Road and Court Road.

Parking Restrictions – Iminster Road

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and RESOLVED, with ONE ABSTENTION:-

That the Town Council inform Dorset County Council of its support for the removal of seasonal parking restrictions in Iminster Road.

134. **PLANS**

Under the Model Code of Conduct, Members declared a formal interest in the capacity of Corporate Trustee of the De Moulham Estate Trust in applications relating to the Trust.

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.

6/2010/0066 **Mrs C Pollard**
Demolish existing dwelling and erect new dwelling with detached garage/store.
17 Ballard Estate, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal on the grounds of potential overlooking and loss of light.

Councillor Trite declared a personal interest in the following application under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being County Councillor for the Swanage ward.

6/2010/0081 **Dorset County Council**
Relocation of studio/workshop building (Approved 6/2007/0876) and change of use in ranger's bungalow.
Durlston Country Park, Lighthouse Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2010/0083 **Mrs M Williams**
Insert two new dormers in front roof elevation.
5 Richmond Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

Councillors Suttle and Mrs Patrick declared personal interests in the following application under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of a business association and as these were prejudicial interests left the meeting during its discussion.

6/2010/0094 **Mr J Wray**
Demolish garage and store rooms. Erect single storey garage and utility room extension and replace existing first floor flat roof with a pitched roof. Insert additional windows in the east elevation. Install rainwater collection system.
59 Kings Road West, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2010/0096 **Mrs K Layland**
Raise and extend existing roof; insert dormer windows. Erect side and rear extensions and front porch. (Revised scheme following approval of 6/2009/0094).
55 De Moulham Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No comment pending possible future discussion by the De Moulham Trust.

6/2010/0097 **Ms S Robinson**
Insert dormer window to front elevation and erect roof extension to rear to facilitate loft conversion, including roof lights and a Juliette balcony at rear. Demolish and rebuild chimney. Alterations to doors and windows.
140 Kings Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2010/0105 **Davine Developments**
Relief of condition 6 to PP 6/2007/0700 to convert loft space to form 2 additional bedrooms serving flats 5 and 6, retain five rooflights.
Known as Flats 1-6, Davine Lodge, Cranborne Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No comment pending possible future discussion by the De Moulham Trust.

6/2010/0110 **Mrs J Piesse**

Erect dormer window in southern roof slope.
2 Sunnydale Villas, Durlston Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2010/0115 **Mr Lovell**

Alterations and additions to form kitchen/dining area and utility room with two bedrooms and bathroom in roofspace and create new vehicular access and parking area.
49 Bay Crescent, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

135. **EAST STOKE WIND TURBINES**

A letter dated 9th February 2010 was submitted from the Development Control Manager of Purbeck District Council inviting the Town Council's comments on a planning application for the erection of 4 wind turbines (up to 125m high to the tip of a rotor blade in a vertical position) at land off Puddletown Road, East Stoke.

Members noted the information, but did not wish to comment on the planning application.

136. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had no specific announcements to make at the present time.

137. **PROPOSAL TO SINK BARGE IN SWANAGE BAY**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Mrs. Patrick declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct.

Further to Minute No. 15 (b) of the Tourism Committee held on 8th February 2010, consideration was given to a request received for a statement of support for a proposal to sink a barge in Swanage Bay.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick:-

That the Town Council gives a statement of support for a proposal to sink a barge in Swanage Bay.

Upon being put to the Meeting, EIGHT Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and there was ONE ABSTENTION, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

138. **CORE STRATEGY**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Mrs. Marsh declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a member of Purbeck District Council's Planning Board.

Further to Minute No. 9 (a) of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 21st December 2009, an e-mail dated 22nd February 2010 was submitted from the Planning Policy Manager of Purbeck District Council informing the Council that settlement extensions had been identified at Swanage for a mixture of affordable housing, open market housing, employment and other community services and facilities. He offered to address the Council on the proposals prior to public consultation.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Suttle, and RESOLVED:-

That, having regard to the importance of the matter and the limited timescale for consultation, a meeting be arranged with the Planning Policy Manager of Purbeck District Council as soon as possible.

139. **PURBECK SCHOOLS REVIEW – EDUCATION IN SWANAGE**

Further to Minute No. 124 (d) of the Council Meeting held on 1st February 2010, a letter dated 10th February 2010 was submitted from Dorset County Council in response to the Town Council's earlier objections regarding the lack of consultation with the residents of Swanage on the County Council's intentions towards the future provision of secondary school education in the town and the fact that no Economic Impact Study had been carried out.

Members were disappointed at the response received, which failed to adequately address the points raised by the Town Council. Concern was also expressed regarding the impact of the proposals on after-school activities.

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

That the Town Clerk be instructed to send a further letter, in simple but strong terms, reiterating the Council's concerns at the proposals for the future provision of secondary school education in Swanage.

140. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

There were no reports from representatives on outside organisations at the present time.

141. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

The Clerk reported that authority had been given for urgent works to be carried out to the heating system at the Town Hall and for roofing works on the toilets at Main Beach.

142. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDAS**

(a) **Swanage Tennis Club**

It was reported that quotations had been received for the refurbishment of tennis courts 1, 2, and 3, and also for the floodlights. Work was scheduled to commence on the courts on 8th March 2010.

A meeting was to be arranged with representatives of the Swanage Tennis Club to consider financial matters relating to the use of the facilities.

(b) **Monitoring of Efficiency Savings**

There were no matters to report regarding the monitoring of efficiency savings at the present time, but this item would be considered at the next meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee to be held on 5th March 2010.

(c) **New Swanage Community Hospital**

A request had been received from Savills for permission to make a presentation of proposals for a new community hospital in Swanage. Suggested date - 6th April 2010.

(d) **Swanage Mainline Railway Connection**

Councillor Whitwam declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a director of the Swanage Railway Company. It was reported that the deadline for the funding commitment for the re-signalling project to reconnect Swanage and Corfe Castle to the national rail network had been extended to 30th April 2010.

143. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

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.

144. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Cow Lane**

The Clerk updated those present on matters relating to Cow Lane. Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor and seconded by Councillor Suttle:-

To instruct the Council's surveyor to explore the option of the disposal of the land at Cow Lane to the relevant Housing Association, ensuring compliance with Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Upon being put to the Meeting, EIGHT Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and ONE AGAINST, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

(b) **Holiday Park Disposal – Update**

The Clerk reported on a letter sent from the District Auditor to an elector dismissing an objection to the Town Council's accounts for the year ended 31st March 2008 (copies circulated to all Members). The position was noted.

Councillor Suttle left the Meeting at 9.30 p.m.

The meeting concluded at 9.32 p.m.
