

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER, 2003 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor H.J.F. Agelink
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.

59. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for inability to attend the Meeting.

60. **MINUTES**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 1st September 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss planning and other matters on 5th September 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed

(c) Proposed by Councillor Pratt, 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 22nd September 2003 be approved
as a correct record and signed.

61. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

That the notes on the Public Participation
Time held on 1st September 2003 be accepted.

62. **SWANAGE TOWN MARKET COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Swanage
Town Market Committee held on 1st September
2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

63. **SWANAGE SEA ROWING CLUB WORKING GROUP**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Swanage
Sea Rowing Club Working Group held on 17th
September 2003 be approved as a correct record
and signed, subject to apologies for his inability
to attend the Meeting being recorded from
Councillor Bright.

64. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

September had been a very busy period in the civic calendar, and the
Mayor reported on the following events that he had attended during the past
month:-

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| 5 th to 7 th September | Swanage Folk Festival – Once again, a very popular and
colourful event. |
| 7 th Sept. | A Civic Service at Shaftesbury. |
| 8 th Sept. | A “Civic Walkabout” in Dorchester. |
| 9 th Sept. | A “Civic Day” in Blandford Forum. |
| 10 th Sept. | A “Civic Day” in Poole. |
| 10 th Sept. | An Evening Reception at Lulworth Castle. |
| 12 th Sept. | A “Civic Day” in Weymouth and Portland. |
| 13 th Sept. | “Beating the Bounds” in Poole. |
| 13 th Sept. | Presentation of Prizes for the South Coast Rowing
Championships. |

- 14thSept. Service at St. Mary's Parish church.
- 18thSept. Demonstration by the Purbeck Flower Club at the Mowlem, Swanage.
- 19thSept. A Concert at the Swanage Methodist Church in aid of the Chernobyl Children Life Line.
- 21stSept. A Civic Service at Ferndown.
- 26thSept. Swanage Regatta & Carnival Presentation Evening.
- 28thSept. Official Opening of Louisa Lodge at Purbeck House Hotel.
- 28thSept. "Harvest of the Sea" service at the Salvation Army.

Finally, the Mayor reported on his own "Civic Day" held on Friday, 19th September, attended by civic dignitaries from neighbouring authorities. He wished to thank all those who had helped to make the days so successful, with particular mention of Mr George Willey, who had given an interesting and informative commentary to the guests throughout the day.

65. TOURISM REPORT

The Tourist Information Manager reported on the following matters:-

- (a) September had been another busy month, due mainly to the very good weather. As a result of this, Swanage had reaped the benefit of an influx of late visitors, and footfall figures at the Tourist Information Centre were approximately 7000 upon September 2002.

(b) The Swanage Folk Festival, held during the weekend 5th to 7th September, had again proved a very successful and colourful event. The Festival is enjoyed by entrants and spectators alike, and attracts a large number of visitors to the town.

- (c) The paddle steamer Waverley had been operating various cruises from Swanage pier during the period 5th to 24th September. This is always a popular attraction, which again had been helped by the very good weather conditions.

- (d) The Purbeck Film Festival was being held during the period 10th to 31st October, and programmes were now available at the Swanage and Wareham Information Centres.

- (e) The staff at the Information Centre had now completed a database of over 250 coach companies nationwide, which could be used for future marketing campaigns.

- (f) Finally, "Cards for Good Causes" Charity Christmas Cards would again be available at the Information Centre, and trading would commence on Friday, 3rd October.

66. HOLIDAY PARK REPORT

The General Manager reported that September had been a very good month at the Holiday Park, helped, of course, by the weather.

Bartakings at the Vista Complex were approximately 100% upon the corresponding period in 2002, although there had been a general decline in takings on a Saturday evening.

The General Manager had attended a Caravan Exhibition at Beaulieu on Sunday, 28th September, which had proved very worthwhile regarding new caravan sales.

67. **TELEPHONE KIOSKS**

A letter dated 24th September 2003 was submitted from BTPayphones, informing the Council of a review of the provision of payphones currently being undertaken throughout the country. It was designed to align payphone provision with current customer requirements, and proposals to remove four kiosks with low usage in Swanage were submitted for consideration. At least one other payphone nearby would remain at the same location.

During the ensuing discussion, Councillor Suttle expressed concern at the possible loss of a service that was used by elderly residents, and visitors during the summer period.

It was proposed by Councillor Suttle, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**:-

That BTPayphones be requested to retain the existing public facilities.

68. **BURLINGTON CHINE – TOILET FACILITIES**

Further to Minute No. 2(b)iii) of the Council meeting held on 19th May 2003, and a subsequent site meeting held on 12th June 2003, the Town Mayor updated those present on the current position at Burlington Chine. A single unit “portaloo” had been installed during the summer season, and there had been a high demand for this facility. The pump had again failed during the Bank Holiday weekend, and costs for emergency repairs and drain clearance had been incurred. He reminded Members that £20,000 had been earmarked by the Town Council for capital works, and consideration was given to the options available, bearing in mind a planning requirement that any proposal to alter the external dimensions of the toilet block would need to be evidenced by a qualified reporter statement regarding the stability of the cliff.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**:-

That the Town Council pursue option 2) to redesign the toilet block, adding a new storey to include additional retaining walls and incorporating permanent beach hut units.

Before consideration of the next item, Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon declared her interest in the matter, under the Model Code of Conduct, by reason of being

Chair of the Purbeck District Council Planning Board and due to the nature of the business about to be discussed chose to leave the meeting during its discussion.

69. **SWANAGE SEA ROWING CLUB**

Further to the meeting of the Swanage Sea Rowing Club Working Group held on 17th September 2003, the Town Mayor updated Members on the current position.

Boresamples had been carried out earlier that day, and these were confirmed as being satisfactory, thereby allowing for the proposed scheme of work to be explored further.

Sketch drawings and artistic impressions were circulated for information, and it was acknowledged that these were initial impressions only.

The Clerk explained the terms of a legal agreement with Purbeck District Council that would require the approval of that Council before any works could be considered, and it was recommended that this permission be sought before any further detailed action with the Swanage Sea Rowing Club.

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

That, subject to the agreement of Purbeck District Council, the initial concept be agreed in principle and that the Swanage Sea Rowing Club be required to submit, to the satisfaction of the Town Council, design proposals, prior to planning consent being sought.

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

There were no additional matters in need of urgent attention.

71. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of August 2003 were submitted.

Councillor Pratt expressed concern that the sunshine recorder may not provide an accurate record of the sunshine since the construction of high buildings in close proximity to the Weather Station. He was informed that alternative locations were being considered.

72. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

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

That the accounts specified in the Order on Treasurer Nos. 6, 6a, and 6b, amounting to £126,348.45, £68,004.59 and £58,542.45 respectively be paid, and that cheques be

drawn therefor.

73. STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCE

The Clerk submitted a statement of cash balance as at 31st August 2003
(copies having been circulated to all Councillors), a copy attached at end of these
Minutes.
