

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor W.S. Trite (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox

Councillor M. Hadley (until 9.20 pm)

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor M.W. Pratt

Councillor M. Whitwam

Councillor A. Wiggins

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 22 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Public Participation Time

MR. M. JONES, Swanage Boat Charters, referred to the proposals to sink a diving barge in Swanage Bay. The indemnity issue was to be raised at a meeting of Purbeck District Council the following day, and he requested that members of the District Council gave their support to the project.

MR. E. HUDSON, a resident of Manwell Road, expressed his concern at the proposal to introduce parking restrictions in Osborne Road. He was of the opinion that the introduction of double yellow lines in this vicinity would increase the traffic congestion in neighbouring roads which would impede access for emergency vehicles, refuse collection etc.

Presentation – “Save Herston Fields”

At the invitation of the Mayor, **MRS. K. GALLAGHER** gave a presentation on behalf of the “Save Herston Fields Group” on their campaign to retain Herston Fields as an open space for recreational purposes.

She reported that the Group intended to register the land for “village green” status, and explained the process and qualifying criteria for the “village green” application under the following headings:-

- Definition
- Why Register Land as a Green
- Conditions for Registration
- Applying to Register the Land
- Pitfalls

In concluding the Presentation, Mrs. Gallagher thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to address the Meeting and invited questions from the audience.

MR. HOLMAN enquired how long the registration process would take. He was informed that there was no timescale – the process being “open ended”.

It was noted that on 5th October 2010, Purbeck District Council would consider its Core Strategy for the District for the period up to 2026, and would include the identification of potential sites for housing development within the Swanage area.

The Mayor welcomed Dr Mike Davis, from the Kings Church, who offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.45 p.m.

58. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Audley and Suttle.

59. **MINUTES**

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

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 2nd August 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 16th August 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(c) Proposed by Councillor Whitwam, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 20th August 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

60. **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.

**Delegated
Applications**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Hadley declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a friend of the applicant, and left the Meeting during the debate.

6/2010/0503 **Mr & Mrs C Haw**

Roof over existing single storey to provide accommodation in the roofspace. Add emergency escape stair. Extend in parts South (rear) elevation. Insert two dormers on South (rear) elevation with two added rooflights – remove existing large dormer. Insert two dormers and reduce existing dormer to match on North (front) elevation – add two additional rooflights. Alterations and extension of porch. Retile roof and render walls. New walls in stone (random rubble).
Southerd Farmhouse, Townsend Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to there being no separate occupation or commercial use of the extension to the premises.

6/2010/0513 **Mr R Turner**

Sever land and erect a pair of 3 bed semi-detached houses with associated parking; form new vehicular accesses. (Amended scheme to PP 6/2007/0649) Reserved Matters.

Adj 2 Holmes Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: Application withdrawn.

6/2010/0516 **Mr R Denton**

Replace existing timber windows, doors, patio doors, cladding and fascia boards with mahogany finished uPVC units.

Marina View, 29 Park Road Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to the approval of the Conservation Officer.

6/2010/0524 **Mr Bright**

Insert dormer window in north and south elevation roof slopes to facilitate loft conversion.

3 Hill Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2010/0526 **Mrs R Daler**

LISTED

Change utility room to kitchen and create an internal doorway giving access to the utility room from the main house. Insert inner structural wall, replace existing door, make repairs to roof and insert conservation rooflight.

2 Chapel Lane, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to approval of the rooflight by the Conservation Officer.

61. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported on the following events he had attended during the past month on behalf of the Town of Swanage:-

- (a) Swanage Regatta & Carnival events on Sandpit Field.
- (b) Opening of the Dorset Arts & Craft Exhibition at Bovington.
- (c) Borough of Poole Civic Day.
- (d) Chairman of Purbeck District Council's Civic Day.
- (e) Ferndown Town Council Civic Service.
- (f) Swanage Festival of Flowers Preview Evening at St. Mary's Parish Church.
- (g) Swanage Lifeboat Week – Raft Race.
- (h) "Proms Concert" in Prince Albert Gardens in aid of "Heroes Haven".
- (i) Durlston Castle to view refurbishment works.

Finally, the Mayor was pleased to announce that 211 people had attended the Swanage Civic Service at St. Mary's Parish Church on Sunday, 29th August 2010. The collection taken at the Service had resulted in approximately £518 being donated to the Mayor's Charity Fund.

62. **HERSTON FIELDS – RESPONSE TO PRESENTATION**

The Mayor thanked Mrs. Gallagher for making the Presentation on behalf of the "Save Herston Fields" Group, and noted the action being taken to retain Herston Fields as an open space for recreational purposes.

63. **SWANAGE ROWING REGATTA**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Wiggins declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a beach concessionaire, and as his interest was prejudicial, left the Meeting during the debate.

Councillor Poultney also declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of a family relationship to the beach concessionaire, and as his interest was prejudicial, left the Meeting during the debate.

Concerns had been raised regarding the congestion on Shore Road and the main beach during the Swanage Rowing Regatta. Health and safety issues were also highlighted as the event had become more popular over the years, attracting a larger number of competitors and boats. The event had traditionally been held during the Swanage Regatta & Carnival Week, but it was suggested that, bearing in mind the above concerns, an alternative date for the Rowing Regatta be considered.

This suggestion had met with approval from the organisers of the Swanage Rowing Regatta, although a strong objection to the proposal had been received from the Swanage Regatta & Carnival Committee.

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

That the Swanage Rowing Regatta be held on
2nd July 2011.

64. **REVIEW OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS**

A letter dated 5th August 2010 was submitted from the Traffic Management Section of Dorset County Council seeking the Town Council's comments on proposals for inclusion in the Review of Parking Restrictions.

The proposals included a fairly extensive increase in the "cars, motorcycles only" restriction in the north Swanage area, and limited parking restrictions in Osborne Road to enable access for refuse collection vehicles etc.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Town Council fully supports the proposal
in respect of Osborne Road, but does not wish to
comment on other proposals at the present time.

65. **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

(a) **Local Referendums to Veto Excessive Council Tax Increases**

Further to Minute No. 7 (a) of the Council Meeting held on 16th August 2010, consideration was again given to the consultation document entitled "Local Referendums to Veto Excessive Council Tax Increases", published by the Department for Communities and Local Government.

A draft response had been prepared to those questions posed in the consultation that had the greatest relevance to town and parish councils.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the draft response be approved, (subject to the inclusion
of reference to the need to review the rules regarding parish
polls), and forwarded to the Department for Communities
and Local Government.

(b) **District Councils Electoral Cycles Review**

Further to Minute No. 7 (b) of the Council Meeting held on 16th August 2010, consideration was again given to the electoral cycles review for Purbeck District Council.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the matter be referred back for determination by Purbeck District Council.

(c) **Draft Countywide Common Housing Allocations Policy**

A letter dated 17th August 2010 was submitted from Purbeck District Council outlining the draft Countywide Common Housing Allocations Policy which had been drawn up by all the local authorities in Dorset together with Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole.

A series of consultation events were being held to discuss the draft policy.

During a brief discussion, Members considered that the policy should be for the benefit of local people.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by the Town Mayor, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That Councillor Mrs. Marsh be nominated to attend the consultation event on behalf of the Town Council and to draft an appropriate response to the document.

66. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

Councillor Mrs. Patrick reported that members of the PACT Panel had been putting out police cones in the Lower High Street at weekends in order to deter illegal parking in the area.

67. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

The Acting Town Clerk reported that the assignment of the lease of the Santa Fe Amusement Park had now been completed.

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

(a) **Lease – Swanage Town & Herston Football Club**

An update on lease negotiations with the Swanage Town & Herston Football Club was requested.

(b) **Local (Parish and Town) Council Elections 2011**

Reference was made to a Bill currently before Parliament on holding a referendum on changing the UK voting system. Concern was expressed at any impact this may have on the local council elections due on 5th May 2011.

69. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, 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.

70. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Land South of Holiday Park**

Further to Minute No. 57 (b) of the Council Meeting held on 2nd August 2010, the Acting Town Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the occupation of land south of the Holiday Park.

(b) **Deckchair and Pedalcraft Concessions**

It was AGREED:-

That this matter be deferred for consideration later in the Meeting.

71. **TOWN HALL ANNEXE**

Further to Minute No. 41 of the Council Meeting held on 5th July 2010, consideration was given to a letter dated 24th August 2010 from Dorset Police regarding potential joint working arrangements.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick:-

That meaningful discussions be continued with Dorset Police.

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

Councillor Hadley left the Meeting at 9.20 pm.

72. **LEGAL ISSUES**

Before consideration of this item Councillor Wiggins declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being one of the deckchair and pedalcraft concessionaires, and as his interest was prejudicial, he left the Meeting during the debate.

Councillor Poultney also declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of a family relationship to the deckchair and pedalcraft concessionaires, and as his interest was prejudicial, he left the Meeting during the debate.

Deckchair and Pedalcraft Concessions

(a) **Request for Licence**

A letter dated 31st August 2010 was submitted from the deckchair and pedalcraft concessionaires requesting that consideration be given to the renewal of the licence for a further period of 7 seasons beyond 2011.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That a Working Party, comprising of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Bright, be set up in order to progress the matter.

(b) **Request for Rent Reduction**

A letter dated 31st August 2010 was submitted from the deckchair and pedalcraft concessionaires requesting a reduction in rent due to the restricted area available to operate the concessions during the Swanage Rowing Regatta 2010.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the request for a reduction in rent for the deckchair and pedalcraft concessions in 2010 be not granted.

The meeting concluded at 9.40 pm.