

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 22nd DECEMBER 2008 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough JP

Councillor M. Hadley

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor W.S. Trite

Councillor M. Whitwam

Public Participation Time

In addition to Members and officers there were 16 members of the public present at the meeting.

MR. M. TYRER thanked the Town Council staff for their assistance over the past year.

MR P. CLARK was pleased to note that Dorset County Council had announced that a Household Recycling Centre would be retained in Swanage. He requested that the role of the Town Council, Purbeck District Council and all those who had campaigned to save the facility for the town be placed on record. However, he also stated that vigilance was needed at every step to ensure that the County Council's commitment was implemented.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR D. HIETT also recorded his thanks to all those who had supported the campaign to preserve the facility. Additional remarks were made in respect of the active role of individuals and political groups.

Councillor Mrs Marsh offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.15 p.m.

92. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Audley and Gloyn-Cox.

93. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, seconded by Councillor Bright, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 24th November 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed, subject to the inclusion, under minute 80)c), of the sentence 'It was noted that reference was made to the cost of implementation'.

Arising from minute 80)c) it was requested that the Town Clerk bring forward to a future meeting information regarding the cost of providing tools instead of the payment of tool allowance.

Further to an issue raised at Public Participation Time on 24th November 2008, Councillor Hiatt was requested to report to the relevant officer at Dorset County Council that the wall along the southern boundary of Battlegate had still not been repaired.

- (b) Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 20th November 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed.
- (c) Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 5th December 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed.
- (d) Proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 8th December 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed, subject to the amendment of the final sentence of the first paragraph of minute 4) to read 'The requirement to draw up an asset management plan and to make adequate provision for capital works by way of a maintenance fund was also highlighted'.

94. **GENERAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Operations Committee held on 19th November 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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

- (a) **Future Operation of Boat Park**
Councillor Mrs Patrick declared a personal interest in this matter by reason of a business association with a prospective interested party, and as this was a prejudicial interest left the Meeting during discussion of this item.

It was noted that the recommendation to explore the leasing out of the Boat Park had been approved under minute 86) of the Monthly Council Meeting held on 24th November, and that there was nothing further to report.

- (b) **Adoption of Tree Management Policy**
It was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the Tree Management Policy be adopted.

Arising from this item, the staff of the Operations Department were praised for the planting of new trees at Godlingston Cemetery.

95. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor wished all those present a "Happy Christmas", and invited them to stay for the festivities to follow the close of the Meeting.

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

(a) **Pier Trust**

It was reported that the Annual General Meeting of the Pier Trust had recently been held, but that little business had been conducted.

97. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

There were no delegated matters to report at the present time.

98. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Marsh, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 9, 9a and 9b, amounting to £171,868.70, £56,343.34, and £26,141.26 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

99. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of November 2008 were submitted for information.

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

- (a) Sadness was expressed at the closure of Woolworths in Station Road, after more than 50 years.
- (b) Notification was received of a public meeting to be held on Friday 16th January 2009 at the Corn Exchange, Dorchester, to promote the use of the Sustainable Communities Act by parish and town councils.
- (c) Members were informed that Victoria Avenue would be closed between the railway bridge and Prospect Crescent from Monday 12th to Friday 16th January 2009 to enable carriageway reconstruction to take place.
- (d) Notification was received of a consultation event regarding Planning Control being held by Purbeck District Council at Harmans Cross Village Hall on 7th January 2009

The Meeting concluded at 7.40 p.m.
