

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Swanage Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND PLANNING** matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 15th JUNE 2009** at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor M. Pratt (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough

Councillor Mrs. G. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor W.S. Trite

(until 10.45 a.m.)

Councillor M. Whitwam

Public Participation Time

There were no members of the public present at the Meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES**

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

2. **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

6/2009/0279

CONSERVATION
AREA

Mrs S Rouffiac

Form new back door and insert additional rooflight.
64 Park Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2009/0284

Mr & Mrs T Clark

Install dormer windows to facilitate formation of rooms in roof and raise height of existing boundary wall to 2 metres.
7 Russell Avenue, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

3. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 31st May 2009 was submitted for information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

The Clerk gave a brief summary of outstanding items that reflected in the Statement of Cash Balance, and confirmed that monies held on behalf of the De Moulham Trust had now been transferred to a separate bank account.

In answer to a question raised, the Clerk confirmed that the Cash Flow Statement, with explanatory notes, would in future be submitted to meetings of the Finance and Performance Management Committee.

4. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

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

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 3, 3a and 3b, amounting to £147,421.15, £71,092.14 and £28,539.59 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

5. **OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

A Programme of Works being undertaken by the Operations Department during May/June 2009 was submitted for information, and the position was noted.

It was reported that there had been several acts of vandalism recently whereby fires had deliberately been started. As a result of this vandalism, a piece of equipment in the childrens' play area on the Recreation Ground had being seriously damaged.

During the ensuing discussion, Members were appalled by the wanton damage caused by vandals in the town, and it was suggested that the Town Council give consideration to offering a reward for information that resulted in successful prosecution of the culprits.

It was AGREED:-

That the matter be raised with Dorset Police at a meeting scheduled to be held on 1st July 2009.

6. **PROPOSALS FOR ADDITIONAL CAR PARKING**

Councillor Poultney, Chairman of the Transport Committee, highlighted the difficulties experienced by motorists in parking during particularly busy periods i.e. Carnival and Festival events, and reported on discussions held with the Operations Manager with a view to alleviating the problems.

It was AGREED:-

That the proposals, when formulated, be circulated to all Members and referred to a future meeting of the Council.

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

(a) **Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2009**

Further to Minute No. 2 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 20th April 2009, and a subsequent e-mail dated 3rd June 2009 from Purbeck District Council, it was AGREED:-

That the matter be considered at the meeting of the Council to be held on 6th July 2009.

(b) **Site Meeting – Newton Grange**

It was reported that Purbeck District Council's Planning Board were holding a site meeting at Newton Grange on Thursday, 18th June 2009, and it was AGREED:-

That the Clerk represents the Town Council at the meeting in order to explain why under procedural roles, it was not possible for direct

representation to be made in the planning process.

8. **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2008/09**

The Clerk submitted a draft of the Annual Governance Statement 2008/09, a comprehensive document produced to comply with statutory requirements. Included within the Statement were the six core principles of effective governance, which relate to the manner in which, as a publicly accountable body, the Council would conduct all aspects of its functions.

The Clerk highlighted specific areas contained within the document that were in need of detailed consideration.

Having regard to the timescale, and the demands currently placed on the Clerk in prioritising matters relating to the disposal of the Holiday Park, Members were invited to submit comments on the document, prior to its formal adoption at the Meeting scheduled to be held on 26th June 2009.

9. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

That, under Standing Order 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 legal issues.

10. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Holiday Park Disposal**

The Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the disposal of the Holiday Park. In accordance with Minute No. 3 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 29th May 2009, it was noted that the Council had now entered into an exclusivity agreement and a period of due diligence with the preferred bidder.

Councillor Trite left the Meeting at 10.45 a.m.

The Meeting concluded at 10.50 a.m.
