

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Swanage Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND PLANNING** matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 16th NOVEMBER 2009** at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor M. Pratt (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor B. Audley
Councillor C.R. Bright
Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox
Councillor M. Hadley
Councillor Mrs A. Patrick
Councillor S. Poultney
Councillor G.M. Suttle
Councillor M. Whitwam

Public Participation Time

In addition to Members and Officers there were two Members of the Public present at the Meeting.

MRS W. CLARK wished to ensure that every Councillor had received a letter from the Tennis Club prior to discussion of agenda item 3.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Mrs. Marsh and Trite.

2. **PLANS**

Plan No

**Delegated
Applications**
6/2009/0602

Mr A Corben

Insert two dormer windows and one rooflight in south elevation to facilitate loft conversion.

29 Osborne Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2009/0610
LISTED

Mr I Hollingum

Replace battens and re-roof.

1 Benlease Way, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2009/0618
LISTED

Mr T Hovey

Block up internal doorway and install external/internal drain.

2-4 Church Hill, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2009/0619 **Miss S Buckley**
LISTED Replace two wooden windows at front and two at rear.
Tarapoto, 3 Benlease Way, 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 with the applicant, and as these were prejudicial interests, left the Meeting during its consideration.

6/2009/0620 **Mr R Forte**
Demolish existing garage and side utility room. Sever land and erect detached three bedroom dwelling with new garage. Form new vehicular access.
36 Queens Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Defer for consideration at the Monthly Council Meeting to be held on 7th December 2009.

6/2009/0627 **Mr & Mrs J Flynn**
LISTED Replace rotten dormer window with new frame and fit cast iron guttering and down pipe to front elevation.
203 High Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2009/0630 **Mr & Mrs P Carle**
Erect single storey front extension, raise ridge height to form accomodation in roof with dormer windows and roof lights.
6 Hill View Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Defer for consideration at the Monthly Council Meeting to be held on 7th December 2009.

6/2009/0633 **Mrs J Owens**
Remove existing porch and erect a two storey extension.
West End Cottage, Belvedere Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Defer for consideration at the Monthly Council Meeting to be held on 7th December 2009.

3. **BUDGET REVIEW WORKING PARTY**

Further to Minute No. 5 of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 19th October 2009, it was reported that the Budget Review Working Party had met on three occasions, 23rd and 30th October and 6th November 2009. The deliberations of the Working Group had been incorporated in a Report entitled "Future Functions and Services", and detailed consideration was given to the suggestions contained therein.

The Clerk reported that, acting under delegated powers, the net proceeds from the sale of the Holiday Park had been invested with the Council's bankers, Lloyds TSB, in the following manner:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Notice Period</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>
£5m	12 Months	3.0%
£1.8m	6 Months	1.6%
£357k	3 Months	1.3%

Discussion ensued as to the accounting process regarding the expenses incurred in the disposal of the Holiday Park, and the impact that this would have on the Council's balances should this be deemed to be revenue expenditure. Members wished to see the appropriate regulations defining the accounting practice to be followed in this instance, and it was proposed by Councillor Suttle, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred to enable further information to be obtained.

The Clerk reported that the District Auditor had indicated that he would review the use of his discretion regarding repayment of the unsanctioned borrowing according to the Town Council's financial position.

Consideration was then given to the "Issues to Explore" contained in Appendix 5, and it was proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED:-

That the following be added to the list of "Issues to Explore":
Waterborne transport
Marine facilities
Shelter for boats

Further discussion ensued, during which Members considered that several achievable options be prioritised from the list of "Issues to Explore".

Following further discussion, including clarification on the option regarding Northbrook Copse (Item No.17), it was proposed by the Town Mayor and seconded by Councillor Suttle:-

That options 1, 3, 13, 14 and 17 be progressed.

Leases relating to Beach Gardens (Item No.6) were identified as an "achievable" option, and following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by the Town Mayor, and RESOLVED:-

That a Working Party, comprising of the Town Mayor, and Councillors Mrs. Patrick and Suttle, meet with representatives of the Swanage Bowls Club and Swanage Tennis Club on Friday, 20th November 2009 in order to determine and progress the lease options.

4. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

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

Arising from the above, the Clerk reported that £222,959 was currently held in a liability account for VAT on car parking.

5. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 8 and 8b, amounting to £70,759.53 and £5,798.29 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

Arising from Order No. 8a, a question was raised regarding an item of expenditure amounting to £14,714.25. It was noted that this was capital expenditure

and had been approved under the delegated authority of the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

It was proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Order on Treasurer No.8a, amounting to £59,737.25 be paid and that cheques be drawn therefor.

Two Members ABSTAINED from voting.

6. **USE OF TOWN HALL AS WEDDING VENUE**

The Clerk reported on a request received from the Dorset Registration Service for consideration to be given to the registering of the Town Hall for civil ceremonies.

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

That the matter be deferred, pending further discussion regarding the future use of the Town Hall.

7. **SEAFRONT STALL**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Whitwam declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being Chairman of the Swanage Railway Trust, but as his interest was non-prejudicial he remained in the Meeting during the debate.

A letter dated 27th October 2009 was submitted from Mr. Tony Kitchen requesting permission to hold a stall on the seafront on Saturdays and Sundays from mid-November 2009 to sell handmade scarves and hats. A percentage of the proceeds would be donated to Swanage Railway Trust.

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

That the Council's existing policy not to permit seafront stalls for commercial purposes be upheld.

8. **PURBECK DISTRICT COUNCIL – CORE STRATEGY**

Further to minute 87 of the Monthly Council Meeting held on 2nd November 2009, further consideration was given to the Town Council's response to Purbeck District Council's draft Core Strategy. It was RESOLVED:

That the Town Council's response to the Core Strategy be agreed, subject to the inclusion of additional comments in respect of the following:
Question 9 - refer to online shopping;
Question 25 – challenge the robustness of the draft policy regarding cliff erosion;
Questions 31/32 – draw attention to possibilities for seaborne transport and the development of the Dorset County Council Transportation Plan.

9. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of October 2009 were submitted for information.

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

(a) **Community Safety Initiative**

A verbal report was given on a Community Safety Initiative carried out by Dorset Police in Swanage on Saturday, 14th November 2009.

(b) **Dorset County Council - Urban Design Project**

A report on the "Traffic Flow Survey" was expected to be published by Dorset County Council in spring 2010.

11. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

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.

12. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Holiday Park Disposal - Update**

The Clerk reported on matters relating to the disposal of the Holiday Park, including contractual obligations regarding the transfer of various items of equipment.

(b) **Cow Lane – Settlement Proposals**

The Town Clerk updated those present on matters relating to Cow Lane and advice received from the Council's legal advisers.

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

To dispose of the asset in line with legal advice received.

The Meeting concluded at 11.50 a.m.
