

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND RESOURCES**
matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 15th APRIL**
2002 at 9.30 a.m. -

PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs. J. D. Wheeldon (Deputy Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor Mrs. J. A. Farrow

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough

Councillor Mrs. G. A. Marsh

Councillor A. H. Miller

Councillor Mrs. H. O' Donovan

Councillor J. Roscoe

Councillor C. R. Sutton (to 11.15 a.m.)

Councillor M. R. Woolley

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor Suttle (Town Mayor), and Councillors Baume and Trite.

2. **OPEN AIR CONCERT**

Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon welcomed Inspector N. Maton of Dorset Police and Mr. T. Heritage of Purbeck District Council, who had been invited to attend the Meeting.

The Clerk reported on a request received from an independent television company to film a TV documentary. The documentary would be a "fly on the wall" account of the preparation and staging of a large open air concert, which would culminate in a grand firework display. The use of Council-owned land for the event had been requested.

Mr. Mark Rogers, on behalf of Gabriel Media, had been invited to present his proposal to the Meeting, and the matter was adjourned pending his arrival.

Following a brief discussion, it was AGREED:-

That, in the absence of Mr. Rogers, no action be taken in the matter.

3. **SWANAGE RAILWAY**

It was AGREED:-

That, as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, this matter be deferred for consideration when the public had been excluded from the Meeting.

4. **JUSTICES' LICENCE**

A Notice of Application for the Transfer of the Justices Licence in respect of Tower Lodge Hotel, 17 Ulwell Road, Swanage was submitted for consideration.

It was proposed by Councillor Sutton, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and RESOLVED:-

That no objection be raised to the transfer of

theLicence.

5. **QUARRYSITE**

ItwasAGREED:-

ThatasitevisitbeheldonMonday,10thJune2002
ontheconclusionofthePolicyandResources
meeting.

6. **FINANCIALASSISTANCE**

(a) **ChernobylChildrenLifeline–PurbeckLink**

Aletterdated6thMarch2002wassubmittedonbehalfoftheChernobyl
ChildrenLifelineseeekingacontributontowardsthecostofbringing12
childrenfromBelarusforarecuperativeholidayinSwanage.
Followingabriefdiscussion,itwasproposedbyCouncillorMrs.
Wheeldon,secondedbyCouncillorRoscoe,andRESOLVED
UNANIMOUSLY:-

Thatthesumof£50bedonated,
underSection137oftheLocal
GovernmentAct.

(b) **DorsetCountyCouncil–SoundofSunshine**

Aletterdated18thMarch2002wassubmittedfromDorsetCounty
Councilrequestingacontributontowardsestablishingfurtherfinancial
partnershipsfor2002/03.

ItwasproposedbyCouncillorMrs. Wheeldon,secondedbyCouncillor
Mrs.Farrow,andRESOLVEDUNANIMOUSLY:-

Thatnoactionbetakeninthematter.

7. **SWANAGEBAYVIEWHOLIDAYPARK**

(a) **NationalBloodService**

FurthertoMinuteNo.5x)a)oftheSpecialMeetingoftheCouncilheld
on1stFebruary2002,aletterdated26thMarch2002wassubmittedfrom
theNationalBloodServicerequestingpermissiontoholdBloodDonor
SessionsfreeofchargeattheVistaHallthreetimesperyear.

ItwasRESOLVED:-

Thattherequestbeapproved.

(b) **SwanageRegatta&CarnivalAssociation**

TheClerkreportedonarequestreceivedseekingpermissiontoholdthe
CarnivalQueenCompetitionattheVistaHall(freeofcharge)on17th
May2002.

ItwasRESOLVED:-

Thatpermissionbeganted.

8. **BEACHHUTSPROPOSAL**

Considerationwasgiventoproposaltositehutsonthegrassedareaon
ShoreRoadinthevicinityoftheTouristInformationCentre.Theconditionof
thebeachwasconsideredtobeunsuitableforbeachhutsfortheforthcoming
season,andthisalternativesitewassuggestedbyCouncillorMiller.

Followingalengthydiscussion,itwasproposedbyCouncillorMiller,
secondedbyCouncillorMrs. Wheeldon,andRESOLVEDUNANIMOUSLY:-

Thatupto12beachhutsbeerected,subjectto

any necessary planning approval being obtained.

It was FURTHER AGREED:-

That the huts be available for hire from May until mid/late September at a charge of £80 per week.

9. **TOILETS – BURLINGTON CHINE**

The Clerk updated Members on the latest position regarding the toilets at Burlington Chine. He reported that, despite numerous attempts, he had been unable to contact Mr. Blogg, of the Cesspit Company, to finalise the details of the Agreement, and the facilities remained closed and in need of repair.

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

That the Council's Operations Manager be requested to obtain 2 or 3 quotations for the cost of refurbishment/renewal of the pumps.

Further discussion ensued, regarding the overall condition of the toilet building, and it was AGREED:-

That the Operations Manager prepare a general report for consideration.

10. **MARKET PROPOSALS**

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 9 July 2001, the Clerk submitted a detailed report of the Working Group formed to investigate the feasibility of staging a market in Swanage (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

The Working Group had visited markets at Dorchester and Wimborne, and undertaken surveys at both locations.

Detailed consideration was given to the report and the results of the surveys, with particular attention being paid to the type of market and suitable location. During the discussion, concern was expressed at the lack of consultation with local traders in Swanage, and the setting up and operation of the market. It was noted that the markets visited were operated by experienced Auctioneers, and it was agreed that further information be obtained in this regard.

It was proposed by Councillor Miller and seconded by Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan:-

To agree, in principle, to the holding of a market in Victoria Avenue Car Park for a trial period of one year.

Upon being put to the Meeting, SIX Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition, and THREE AGAINST, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

It was FURTHER AGREED:-

That the legal implications of the proposal be clarified before the matter is pursued, together with the status of market towns i.e. "charter".

Councillor Sutton left the Meeting at 11.15a.m

11. ADVERTISING BOARDS

The Clerk outlined a suggestion from the Town Mayor that consideration be given to the siting of advertising panels in the shelter on Shore Road.

There was currently a waiting list for advertising boards at the Tourist Information Centre, and this could be reduced by making additional advertising sites available.

During the ensuing discussion, concern was expressed that the advertising panels would be susceptible to vandalism and graffiti, although it was acknowledged that extra revenue could be generated from additional advertising space.

It was proposed by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That no action be taken regarding advertising panels in the shelters, but that alternative advertising sites be investigated.

12. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and **RESOLVED:-**

That, as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

13. SWANAGE RAILWAY

Councillor Woolley declared a personal interest in the matter under the Model Code of Conduct, as the matter to be transacted related to Swanage Railway and, as it was a prejudicial interest, left the meeting before its consideration.

Letters were submitted from the Swanage Railway Company Ltd. seeking the Council's permission to renew the fencing along the boundary between the Railway and Gilbert Road, and also to install a new gate to provide access to the signal box.

During the discussion, Members expressed concern at the pruning/removal of vegetation that would be necessary for the installation of the fence, and it was proposed by Councillor Miller, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and **AGREED:-**

That the matter be deferred, and as it is a meeting beheld in conjunction with the Public Buildings Best Value Review meeting later in the afternoon.

14. PURBECK BUSINESS CENTRE

A letter dated 4th March 2002 was submitted from Purbeck District Council outlining the need to appoint a part-time estates manager to manage the Council's business premises, and seeking the Town Council's approval to the proposals.

It was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

To agree the amended Management Agreement.

15. **INSURANCE POLICY RENEWAL**

The Clerk reported on the increased premium for the renewal of the Council's insurance for the forthcoming year, and requested that provision be made for a supplementary estimate of £3,000. He also drew attention to the requirement for a "Risk Assessment" to be undertaken, and it was RESOLVED:-

That provision for a supplementary estimate of £3,000 be made, and that a "Risk Assessment" be undertaken by Zurich Municipal.

16. **TENDERS**

(a)

Catering Concession

Consideration was given to tenders submitted for the catering concessions in Victoria Avenue and Main Beach Car Parks.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the tenders submitted from "Nice Bites" for the catering concession at Victoria Avenue Car Park be accepted.

(b)

Town Hall Annexe

It was RESOLVED:-

That no action be taken in this matter at the present time.

(c)

Office - Railway Station

It was RESOLVED:-

That no action be taken in this matter at the present time.

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