

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Swanage  
Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND RESOURCES**  
matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**NOVEMBER 2002** at 9.30 a.m. \_

PRESENT:-

Councillor A.H. Miller (Town Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett

Councillor G.A. Baume

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Farrow

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough

Councillor Mrs. H. O'Donovan (From 10.00 a.m.)

Councillor Mrs. J.D. Wheeldon

1. **APOLOGIES**

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

2. **BUDGET REVIEW**

The Clerk submitted details of seasonal income received for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2002, and the overall position was noted with satisfaction.

A statement of seasonal income to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2002 at the Caravan Park was also submitted for information. A brief discussion followed, during which it was acknowledged that fewer people had visited the Park this season, and this was reflected in the seasonal income figures submitted.

Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon declared a personal interest in the following matter under the Model Code of Conduct, as a Trustee of the Conservative Club, and as it was a prejudicial interest, left the Meeting during the discussion.

3. **PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE**

A letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> October 2002 was submitted from the Administrative Services Manager of Purbeck District Council seeking the Council's views on the granting of an Occasional Public Entertainments Licence in respect of the Swanage Jazz Festival 2003. The events would be held during the period 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2003 at Sandpit Field and the Conservative Club function room.

Following discussion, during which reference was made to issues that had arisen during the 2002 Jazz Festival, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Baume, and RESOLVED:-

That no objection be raised to the granting of the licence, subject to agreement on the siting of the marquees.

It was further AGREED:-

That a meeting be held with representatives from the Swanage Jazz Festival to address various matters of concern.

Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon declared a personal interest in the following matter under the Model Code of Conduct, but as it was non-prejudicial, remained in the Meeting during the debate.

4. **RNLI FLAG WEEK CELEBRATIONS 2003**

A letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2002 was submitted on behalf of the RNLI – Swanage Branch outlining their proposals for the “RNLI Flag Week 2003”, and requesting the use of the beach for a Raft Race on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2003 and Sandpit Field for a Pig Roast later that evening.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Baume, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and RESOLVED:-

That permission be granted for the use of the beach for the Raft Race, but the use of Sandpit Field be deferred pending further information on the proposals for the Pig Roast.

5. **COUNTRYSIDE AGENCY – ACCESS RIGHTS**

A letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2002 was submitted from the Countryside Agency, summarising the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, which gives the public a new right to walk and remain on certain types of land for the purposes of outdoor recreation.. A draft map, identifying open country, was also enclosed for public consultation.

A lengthy discussion ensued, during which concern was expressed at the management problems that may arise if the Council’s foreshore in the vicinity of Ballard Down and Durlston Bay were identified as areas of common land or open country for the purpose of the public “Right to Roam”.

It was RESOLVED:-

That these concerns be conveyed to the Countryside Agency, with a request the areas of foreshore be not identified on the Draft Map.

6. **BEACH GARDENS – TENNIS CLUB**

Further to the recent meeting held with members of the Tennis Club, consideration was given to the proposals, as submitted.

(a) **Use of the Pavilion for Indoor Short Tennis/Ball Skills.**

It was RESOLVED:-

That the request be granted.

(b) **Exterior Signage.**

Consideration was given to the wording of the draft sign submitted by the Tennis Club.

Councillors were concerned that members of the public may think that the tennis facilities were for the exclusive use of Tennis Club members only, and it was RESOLVED:-

That the sign should include the wording “The courts are available for public use at all other times”.

(c) **Achievement Boards.**

It was RESOLVED:-

That no objection be raised to the fixing of the Achievement Boards.

(d)

Kids Zone.

Consideration was given to the proposals for the painting of a “Kids Zone” on Court Number 7, and the “Awards for All” lottery bid that had been submitted.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Baume, and RESOLVED:-

That the proposals be agreed in principle, and that a contribution of £250 be made towards the project.

(e)

Internal Alterations.

Plans for internal alterations had been submitted.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred, pending a joint meeting with representatives from the Bowls and Tennis Clubs.

(f)

The item for the Council’s Newsletter was noted with satisfaction.

7. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Clerk reported on the progress of the Festive Lights Committee, and the proposals to “Switch on Swanage” on the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2002.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That car parking charges be waived for the evening in the Council-owned car parks, and that in case of any objection, Co-op Leos be notified of the Council’s decision.

8. **MEMORIALS**

(a)

The Clerk reported on the sad death of employee Mr. John Stockley, and a request received from his colleagues on the Council’s staff for permission to plant a tree (with an appropriate plaque) in the vicinity of Day’s Park in his memory.

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

That permission be given to plant an oak tree (in an informal location) to replace a large tree that had been lost.

(b)

The Clerk reported on a request received for permission to site a stone seat in memory of Helen and Joan Muspratt, who had run a photography studio in the town for many years.

Consideration was given to the design of the proposed seat, and, following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Baume, and RESOLVED:-

That the request be granted, subject to suitable siting being agreed at the top of the Spa (adjacent to Cliff Cottage).

9. **ANY OTHER MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

There were no additional matters in need of urgent attention.