

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND RESOURCES**
matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 24th MARCH**
2003 at 9.30 a.m.,

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor Mrs. C.A. Bartlett

Councillor G.A. Baume

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Farrow

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. H. O'Donovan

Councillor J. Roscoe

Councillor Mrs. J.D. Wheeldon

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Mrs. O'Donovan, Suttle, Trite and Woolley.

2. **BUDGET REVIEW**

The Clerk submitted a statement of seasonal income to date, and the position was noted.

Concern was expressed at the reduction in income from the facilities at Beach Gardens, with particular reference to the Putting Green. The introduction of "Crazy Golf" was mooted, and it was agreed:-

That the Operations Manager investigate this proposal and prepare a scheme, together with a schedule of estimated costs.

Details of income received to date at the Holiday Park was also submitted for information, and the Park General Manager gave a brief report on income received. Members noted from the report that caravan sales of £67,000 during the last quarter, had exceeded the original estimate by £37,000.

It was RESOLVED:-

That caravan sales performance be included as part of future budget monitoring reports.

It was also reported that caravan stock purchased in September, valued at £125,000 was due for payment at 31st March 2003, and that new stock, valued at £86,000, had been ordered for April delivery, with payment due in six months.

The Clerk reported on the equipment requirements of the Operations Department, and the need for a trailer to transport plant and equipment.

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

That a trailer be purchased for the sum of £1,800.

The Clerk reported that Minute No. 121 of the Council Meeting held on

13th January 2003, had been incorrectly recorded, and it was AGREED:-

That the Resolution of Minute No. 121
be deleted and replaced with the following:-
“That the Estimates be approved, subject to
a further £85,000 be contributed to the Repairs
and Renewals Fund in 2002/03 (totalling £150,000)
and that a contribution of £100,000 be allocated
in 2003/04.

Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon declared her interest in the following matter under the Model Code of Conduct, by reason of being a Member of the Swanage Regatta & Carnival Committee, but as her interest was non-prejudicial, remained in the Meeting during the discussion.

3. **SWANAGE REGATTA & CARNIVAL**

A letter dated 12th March 2003, was submitted from the Swanage Regatta and Carnival Committee requesting the use of the following facilities during Carnival Week from 25th July to 4th August 2003:-

- (a) Sandpit Field.
- (b) Closed section of Shore Road, including the former shelter area for live music.
- (c) Former shelter area on Shore Road for Carnival sales and information caravan from 19th July to 3rd August.
- (d) New Jetty for firework displays on Saturdays 26th July and 2nd August.
- (e) The old stone Quay.
- (f) Beach between Mowlem and new jetty.
- (g) King George’s Playing Field for parking of bands vehicles on Carnival Procession Day (Sunday 27th July).

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

That permission be granted, subject to the approval of Purbeck District Council in respect of item (d) and the approval of the King George’s Field Trust for item (g).

4. **NORTH BEACH CAR PARK**

A letter dated February 2003 was submitted from the Joseph Allnatt Centre requesting that reserved parking facilities be made available for use by their staff in North Beach Car Park.

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

That, having regard to the usage of the car park, 8 parking spaces be allocated to the Allnatt Centre at a concessionary charge of £100 per space per annum.

During the discussion, it was noted that the North Beach Car Park would be used for coach parking on Market days (Tuesdays) during the summer, and it

was AGREED:-

That a reduced charge of £3.50 per day
be levied for coach parking on Market days.

5. **GRANT CONTRIBUTIONS**

(a)

Special Folk Project – Dorset County Council

A letter dated 24th February 2003 was submitted from the Disability Arts Co-ordinator of Dorset County Council seeking financial support to the “Special Folk Project”.

During the ensuing discussion, Members were sympathetic to the cause, but felt unable to make a contribution, having regard to the financial constraints affecting the Council.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. O’Donovan, and RESOLVED:-

That the Council adheres to its existing policy
to support only small local charitable organisations.

(b)

Blandford Choral Society

A letter dated 24th February 2003 was submitted from the Chairman of the Blandford Choral Society seeking sponsorship of a forthcoming concert at Langton Matravers.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Baume, and RESOLVED:-

That no action be taken in the matter, and that the
Council adheres to its existing policy to support
only small local charitable organisations.

(c)

Air Cadets

The Clerk reported on a verbal request received from the local branch of the Air Cadets seeking financial support towards securing premises for their use.

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

That the matter be deferred, pending a formal
written application.

6. **LICENCES**

(a)

Justices’ Licence – Alfie’s, 1 Institute Road

A Notice of Application to apply for a Justices’ Licence in respect of Alfie’s, 1 Institute Road was submitted for consideration.

During the ensuing discussion, concern was expressed at the scope of the licence i.e. hours and take-away facilities, bearing in mind the high incidence of alcohol-related anti-social behaviour in the vicinity of the premises.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the Council’s concerns be forwarded to
the Licensing Justices, and that the Town Clerk
attend the Hearing on the Council’s behalf.

(b)

Transfer of Justices’ Licence – The Ship

A Notice of Application for the Transfer of the Justices’ Licence in

respect of “The Ship” was submitted for consideration.
It was RESOLVED:-

That no objections be raised to the transfer
of the Licence.

(c)

Gaming Licence – “Top Nosh” Takeaway, 3 High Street

A letter dated 4th March 2003 was submitted from the Administrative Services Manager of Purbeck District Council seeking the Council’s comments on the granting of a Gaming Licence in respect of the above premises.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Baume, and RESOLVED:-

That no objections be raised to the granting
of the Licence.

(d)

Gaming Licence – “Playland”, 6a High Street

A letter dated 20th March 2003 was submitted from the Administrative Services Manager of Purbeck District Council seeking the Council’s comments on the renewal of the Gaming Licence in respect of the above premises.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and RESOLVED:-

That no objections be raised to the renewal
of the Licence.

7. SITE FOR INFORMATION TRAILER

A letter dated 17th March 2003 was submitted from the Environment Agency requesting a site for their information trailer on Saturday, 31st May 2003. The trailer would give information on the Environment Agency’s take over of the Swanage Flood Defence Scheme, set to take place during May and June 2003.

During the ensuing discussion, Members acknowledged the importance of public consultation, and welcomed the opportunity of providing information in this regard.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and RESOLVED:-

That the area of the former shelter on Shore Road
be made available for the information trailer.

8. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

(a)

Parish Plan

The Clerk reported on the progress of the Swanage Town Partnership and the preparation of the Parish Plan. He explained the roles of the Town Mayor and himself in the Town Partnership and also the support of the Council’s administrative staff in providing clerical and office duties. The Town Council had previously agreed to contribute the sum of £500 towards the funding of the Development Officer post, and further financial support was actively being sought.

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

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

That no additional financial support be given at the present time, but that the administrative services continue to be made available.

(b) **Swanage Lights Committee**

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Mayor and himself were actively involved with the newly-reformed Swanage Lights Committee, and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Baume, and RESOLVED:-

That administrative and office facilities be made available to the Committee.

9. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, 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.

Councillors Roscoe and Mrs. Wheeldon declared their interest in the following matter under the Model Code of Conduct, by reason of being Members of the Purbeck District Council's Planning Board, and left the Meeting during the discussion.

10. **LANDLORDS CONSENT – SWANAGE RAILWAY**

Further to Minute No. 5 of the Council Meeting held on 16th December 2002, a letter dated 3rd March 2003 was submitted from the General Manager of Swanage Railway, seeking the Council's consent (as Landlord) to construct an inspection pit in the vicinity of the Goods Shed in the Station Yard.

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

That the Council agrees to give landlord consent and to advise the Swanage Railway that it would exclude the proposed works, if undertaken, from Clause 13 of the lease.
