

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND RESOURCES**
matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 16th**
FEBRUARY 2004 at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor H.J.F. Agelink

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Farrow

(Left at 12.30 p.m.)

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough

Councillor Mrs. H. O'Donovan

Councillor M. W. Pratt

Councillor M.A. Tyrer

1. **APOLOGIES**

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

2. **BUDGET REVIEW**

a) **Seasonal Income-General**

The Clerk submitted a statement of seasonal income to date, and consideration was given to the information provided. Most trading activities were static at this time of year, but a reasonable return was still being received from the car parks. The overall position was noted with satisfaction.

b) **Swanage Bay View Holiday Park**

Details of seasonal income received to date at the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park were also submitted for information, and the position was noted.

Members were appreciative of the additional information that had been included on the schedule, regarding caravan sales and the bars and catering trading, but expressed concern that some figures were misleading as certain expenses had not been offset against the income. Particular mention was made of the entertainment costs at the Vista Bars. The Town Clerk explained the difficulties in providing such detailed information on a regular basis with the limited resources available, but any specific queries could be addressed individually at any time in the office.

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**:-

In view of the requirement to provide detailed trading statements including exempt information, matters relating to the Budget Review and Capital Programme be dealt with at the end of each meeting to enable matters to be transacted as "Exempt Information", if required.

3. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

a) **Swanage Bay View Holiday Park**

Further to Minute No. 3 of the meeting of the Caravan Park Best Value Working Group held on 19th January 2004, the Clerk reported that the timescale relating to the tender documents had not been honoured by the design consultants. As a consequence, the date for receipt of the completed tenders at the Town Hall had been amended to Tuesday, 24th February 2004. Having regard to the above, it was **AGREED**:-

That the meeting of the Caravan Park Best Value

Working Groups scheduled for Monday, 23rd February

2004becancelledandre-scheduledforMonday,1st March2004at9.00a.m.(MrGerryRutter,from LeisureConcepts,tobepresentattheMeeting). Thecompletedtenderstobeopenedinthe presence oftheTownClerk,theTownMayorandDeputyMayor onTuesday,24thFebruary2004andpassedtoMrRutter forassessment.Thematterwouldthenbereferredfor considerationattheSpecialMeetingoftheCouncil scheduledforFriday,5thMarch2004.

b) **The Spa**

TheOperationsManagerreportedonconditionsthathadadverselyaffectedtheprogramme ofworksattheSpasite.Duetotheinclementweatherconditions,andstaffingshortages,the workswereapproximately5-6weeksbehindschedule,andwiththeapproachofthebeach hutlettingseason,theurgentneedtoaddressthesituationwasacknowledged. Arequirementforhigherfencingonthesite,tocomplywithhealthandsafetylegislation, wasalsoreported. Duringtheensuingdiscussion,itwasnotedthat£20,000hadbeenallocatedformaterials, anditwasagreedthattheaditionalcostofthefencingcouldbemetfromthisbudget. CouncillorMrsO'DonovanreferredtothesensitiveareaoftheSpasite,andexpressed concernatthevisualaspectofthefencing.

ItwasAGREED:-

Thatfurtherinformationregardingcostsanddesign ofthefencingbeobtainedandsubmittedtothe SpecialMeetingoftheCounciltobeheldon 5thMarch2004.

Considerationwasthengiventotherequirementforadditional skilledlabourtocarryoutthe necessaryworks,andtheneedforacarpenter,roofingcontractorandelectricianwas acknowledged.

Followingdiscussion,itwasproposedbyCouncillorBright,secondedbyCouncillorMrs. Bartlett,andAGREEDUNANIMOUSLY:-

Thatapprovalbegivenforadditional labourto beengageduptoamaximumcostoff£4,500.

TheTownClerkreferredtotheapprovedlistofcontractorscompiledbyPurbeckDistrict Council,whichhadpreviouslybeenavailabletotheTownCouncil.However,dueto changesaffectingthatauthority,theinformationmaynotbeavailableinthefuture,andit maybeneficialfortheTownCounciltocompiletheirownscheduleaspartofits impendingreviewofStandingOrdersandFinancialRegulations.

c) **Burlington Chine**

TheClerkupdatedMembersonthe proposedworksatBurlingtonChine.Planningconsent hadnowbeenreceived,andtheCouncil'sappointedsurveyorwasseekingtoprogressthe matter.

ItwasproposedbyCouncillorBright,secondedbyCouncillorMrs.Bartlett,and

RESOLVED:-

ThatStandingOrdersbewaivedtoenablethe workstoprogress.

d) **Seafront Enhancement**

TheClerkupdatedMembersontheSeafrontEnhancementproposals,andreportedthat practicalproposalsregardingthedifferentgroundlevels affectingtheareahadbeenreceived fromtheCouncil'sappointedsurveyor.Itwasreportedthatthematterhadnowbeenreferred toMr.R.Pearce,alocalarchitect,todrawup"artist'simpressions"ofthesiteforfurther consideration.

e) **Crazy Golf, Beach Gardens**

Further to Minute No.2 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 24th March 2003, the

Operations Manager reported that an area at the western end of Beach Gardens had been identified as a possible site for a "Crazy Golf" course. Following a lengthy discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That a specialist contractor be invited to prepare a scheme, together with associated costs, for the provision of a "Crazy Golf" course on the proposed site at Beach Gardens.

Toilets, Day's Park

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 21st July 2003, and subsequent concern expressed by Dorset Police, it was RESOLVED:-
That no action be taken regarding the construction of a single, unisex toilet in Day's Park.

In response to a request by Councillor Bright, it was agreed that the "Exempt Information" be circulated to all Members of the Council, in support of the above decision.

Consideration was then given to the possible re-instatement of the toilets in Mermond Place Car Park, and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and RESOLVED:-
That quotations be obtained for the cost of re-instating the toilet facilities in Mermond Place (including drainageworks), and submitted to a future meeting of the Council.

4. **FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION**

A letter dated 20th January 2004 was submitted from the organisers of the Swanage Blues Weekend seeking a financial contribution towards the costs of publicising the event.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Bright and seconded by Councillor Tyrer:

That the Council continue to support the Swanage Blues Weekend through the facilities provided at the Tourist Information Centre, but no direct financial contribution be made.

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

5. **LICENCES**

a) **Public Entertainment/Community Premises Licences**

A letter dated 28th January 2004 was submitted from the Administrative Services Manager of Purbeck District Council seeking the Council's views on the renewal of Public Entertainment/Community Premises Licences in respect of the following premises:- Anchor Inn, Gillan Hotel, Grand Hotel, Harrow House International School, Kings Bar, Mowlem Theatre, Peveril Inn, Pines Hotel, Purbeck House Hotel, Royal British Legion, Swanage Middle School, Victoria Club, Vista Bar/Hall and the White Horse Inn. It was RESOLVED:-

That no objection be raised to the renewal of the licences.

Justices' Licence

A Notice of Application for the transfer of the Justices' Licence in respect of The Victoria Club was submitted for consideration. It was RESOLVED:-

That no objection be raised to the transfer of the licence.

6. **USE OF SANDPIT FIELD/RECREATION GROUND**

- a) Requests for the use of Sandpit Field during the 2004 summer season were received from the following organisations:-

Swanage Jazz Festival	9 th to 11 th July
Lions Club of Swanage	29 th July
Swanage Regatta & Carnival	31 st July to 7 th August
Swanage Triathlon	8 th August
Rotary Club of Swanage & Purbeck	12 th August

It was RESOLVED:-

That the requests be approved.

During the discussion, concern had been expressed at the siting of marquees on Sandpit Field, and it was AGREED:-

That marquees should be sited near the De Moulham Road entrance to the Field (as a condition of letting).

b) **Swanage Regatta and Carnival**

A letter dated 15th October 2003 was submitted from the Secretary of the Swanage Regatta and Carnival requesting the use of the following facilities during 2004 Carnival Week:-

Closed section of Shore Road for various events;
Former shelter area for Carnival sales and information caravan;
Jetty on Shore Road for firework displays;
Stone Quay for various events;
Section of the beach between the Mowle and jetty;
King George's Field for the parking of bands vehicles on Carnival Day.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the requests be approved.

c) **RNLIFlag Week 2004**

A letter dated 5th December 2003 was submitted from the Swanage Lifeboat Management Team outlining their proposals for their Flag Week celebrations from 11th to 18th July 2004, and requesting the use of the following facilities during that period:-

Use of the beach for a Raft Race during late afternoon of 17th July;
Use of beach and former shelter area on Shore Road in connection with Gig Racing event on 18th July.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the requests be approved.

c) **Bible Society**

A letter dated 22nd January 2004 was submitted from the Chairman of the Bible Society Action Group requesting permission to hold a "Picnic in the Park" in the vicinity of the Bandstand on Sunday 20th June 2004.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the request be approved.

During the discussion, Councillor Bright referred to the Annual Civic Service that had been provisionally agreed for 20th June 2004, and requested confirmation of this date.

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

That the Civic Service be held on 20th June 2004.

7. **ANY OTHER MATTER THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

There were no additional matters in need of urgent attention.

8. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, 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.

9. **LEASE – SANTA FE AMUSEMENT PARK**

A letter dated 31st January 2004 was submitted from the lessee of the Santa Fe Amusement Park requesting an extension to the existing lease, which is due to expire in 2008.

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

That, having regard to these front enhancement proposals, which had yet to be determined, no action be taken in the matter at the present time.

Consideration was then given to a further letter from the above lessee, requesting permission to site a kiosk on the former First Aid Hut site for the sale of hot and cold drinks, candy floss, hot dogs and burgers.

A lengthy discussion ensued, following which, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan, and RESOLVED:-

That delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk, Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor to negotiate in the matter and report to a future meeting of the Council.