

Minutes of the **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Swanage Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND RESOURCES** matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER 2003** at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Farrow

Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough

Councillor M.W. Pratt

Councillor M.A. Tyrer

1. **APOLOGIES**

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

2. **BUDGET REVIEW**

(a) **Seasonal Income-General**

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

ii) **Swanage Bay View Holiday Park**

Details of income received to date at the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park were also submitted for information, and the General Manager gave a brief synopsis of the overall position.

Arising from the above, it was noted that the figures shown for the bars and catering were gross income, and as this was inconsistent with the other information provided, it was agreed that these be adjusted accordingly for future reports.

Other matters raised included profit margins and site premiums, and it was

AGREED:-

That these be considered at a future meeting of the Caravan Park Committee.

3. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

(a) **Tennis Courts, Beach Gardens**

Further to Minute No. 3(b)iii) of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 23rd June 2003, consideration was given to quotations received for re-surfacing of the tennis courts at Beach Gardens. Quotations were also submitted for the purchase of equipment necessary to carry out re-surfacing/refurbishment works "inhouse".

Following a lengthy discussion, it was AGREED:-

That the matter be deferred to enable a site meeting to be held at the conclusion of the meeting.

(b) **CCTV System**

The Clerk reported on various incidents of anti-social behaviour that had occurred in the vicinity of the Town Hall and at the Boat Park during the summer, and the possible installation of CCTV equipment in these areas was considered.

During the ensuing discussion, it was acknowledged that CCTV was a deterrent to such behaviour, and ideally should be introduced in as many locations as possible. The co-operation of the Community Wardens and South Purbeck Crime and Disorder Task Group should be sought in this regard.

Members were reluctant to purchase additional equipment compatible with the Council's current analogue system, and requested that further information be obtained regarding an integrated digital system.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and

RESOLVED:-

That quotations for an integrated digital CCTV system be obtained, and the possibility of grant funding through the South Dorset Crime and Disorder Task Group be investigated.

(c) **Holiday Park Refurbishment**

Further to Minute No. 2(a) of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Best Value Working Group held on 30th July 2003, the General Manager reported that the Council's nominated Design Consultants had submitted their initial conceptual ideas and had scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, 24th September 2003, to progress the refurbishment programme. A report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Caravan Park Committee as a matter of urgency.

4. **REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

The Clerk outlined the necessity to review the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

Having regard to the complexity of the matter, and Members' commitment to other Working Groups at the present time, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bright, and

RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred, pending the resolution of some of the outstanding matters.

5. **PAYMENT OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

The Clerk reported on legislation that would permit payment of allowances to Parish and Town Councillors.

This was discretionary, and, if requested, the terms and level of allowances would be separately assessed for each Council by an Independent Review Panel.

During the ensuing discussion, the Town Mayor considered that, having regard to the importance of the matter, all Members should have the opportunity to consider and vote on the issue (only seven Members were in attendance at the Meeting).

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the matter be deferred for consideration at the next meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matter. Members who are unable to attend the Meeting, should be allowed to vote by proxy.

6. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

In order to keep Members updated on current issues, consideration was given to reporting from Council representatives on outside organisations.

It was not generally considered necessary for written reports to be submitted to the Council, but notification of meetings attended during the previous month should be reported.

During the ensuing discussion, the Town Mayor reminded Members that the Committee Room had been designated for their use, and it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bright, and **RESOLVED:-**

That Minutes of meetings of outside organisations be available for information in the Committee Room.

7. **SITE FOR TRAMPOLINES**

A letter dated 17th September 2003 was submitted from H&J Trampolines seeking a site from which to operate trampolines during the 2004 summer season.

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

That the matter be deferred, pending further information on preferred sites and proposed rental fees.

8. **PUBLIC SLIPWAYS/BOAT LAUNCHING**

The Clerk reported on concerns that had arisen from the use of public slipways during the 2003 summer season. Problems had arisen through illegal parking, general congestion and the launching of jetskis and other motorised craft by inconsiderate users at the Parish Slipway and Ocean Bay.

Safety was considered to be of paramount importance, and restrictions on the launching of such craft in public areas was discussed.

The Town Mayor was of the opinion that, if restrictions were imposed on the launching of jetskis from public slipways, alternative facilities should be made available, possibly at the Council's Boat Park. Some concern was expressed in this regard, but it was considered that greater control could be exercised by identification markings and registration.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, and RESOLVED:-

That the launching of jetskis from the Council's Boat Park be agreed in principle, and that detailed consideration of the management implications be fully investigated by the Boat Park Committee.

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

(a) **Special Meetings of the Council held to discuss planning matters.**

Councillor Bright referred to the Town Council's consultative role in planning matters, and Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon's position as Chair of the Planning Board at Purbeck District Council.

Here requested that for the benefit of members of the public, Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon's statement be recorded in the Minutes of each meeting, and this was AGREED.

(b) **Tennis Courts, Beach Gardens**

Further to Minute No. 3(a) above, it was AGREED:-

That the annual meeting with the Swanage Tennis Club be arranged for Monday, 20th October 2003 at 9.00 a.m. at Beach Gardens and that the site meeting to inspect the tennis courts be held at that time.

It was further AGREED:-

That the Special Meeting of the Council to discuss policy and resources matters on Monday, 20th October 2003 be re-scheduled

commence at 10.00 a.m.

to