

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 12th APRIL 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor M.W. Pratt (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor B. Audley

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox

Councillor M. Hadley

(until 8.45 p.m.)

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor G.M. Suttle

Councillor W.S. Trite

Councillor M. Whitwam

Councillor A. Wiggins

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 19 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Public Participation Time

MR. M. TYRER, on behalf of the Swanage Town and Herston Football Club, expressed his appreciation of the temporary changing facilities that had been provided for footballers using the pitches at King George's Field. He referred to the recent vandalism that had occurred to the changing facilities, and confirmed that the Club would do their best to help identify the culprits. With regard to the proposals for the provision of permanent changing facilities, to be discussed later in the meeting, the Club would prefer Option 2, located against the cemetery wall.

MR. M. NORRIS enquired whether any alternative providers had shown an interest in the running of James Day Home. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR TRITE** understood that two organisations had shown an interest, and he would make further enquiries in this regard.

COUNCILLOR SUTTLE apologised for an article relating to the closure of James Day Home that had been published in a South Dorset Conservative Association leaflet. The article contained some inaccurate information and the leaflet had since been withdrawn.

MR. P. CLARK updated those present on a meeting held at Langton Matravers on 8th April 2010 in connection with the Purbeck Schools Review. The matter would be further considered by the Dorset County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30th April 2010.

MR. M. STOLLERY referred to the re-signalling project to reconnect Swanage and Corfe Castle to the national rail network. He was informed that this matter was scheduled to be considered by the Town Council at its meeting on the 19th April 2010.

In the absence of a clergyman, Councillor Bright offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

145. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies to report for inability to attend the Meeting.

146. **MINUTES**

- (a) Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 1st March 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

- (b) Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 15th March 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

- (c) Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 30th March 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

147. **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 8th March 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Consideration was given to the recommendations contained in the Minutes, as follows:-

Asset Management Plan

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Asset Management Plan be adopted.

Disposal of Land at the Junction of Northbrook Road and Victoria Avenue

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and
RESOLVED:-

To seek offers for the disposal of the land at the junction of Northbrook Road/Victoria Avenue in accordance with the professional advice received.

Discussion ensued, during which it was mentioned that this land may have been retained for the possible installation of traffic lights should the main traffic route into Swanage be redefined in the future.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and
AGREED:-

That further information be obtained from Dorset County Council before the disposal of the land is progressed.

Railway Land/Buildings

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Trite declared a prejudicial interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a director of the Swanage Railway Trust, and left the Meeting during the debate. Councillor Whitwam also declared a prejudicial interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a director of the Swanage Railway Company, and left the Meeting during the debate.

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To pursue the sale/disposal of the railway land/buildings to the Swanage Railway Trust in accordance with the professional advice received, subject to a covenant that in the event of any future failure of the Swanage Railway Company, the Town Council reserves the right to re-acquire the property at cost.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:-

That a timescale of three months for negotiations should be imposed.

148. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 12th March 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Arising from Minute No. 2 (b), the Operations Manager highlighted operational difficulties that may arise from the adoption of this policy, and it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED:-

That the matter be referred for further consideration at a future meeting of the Council.

149. **GENERAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Audley, and
RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Operations Committee held on 17th March 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Consideration was given to the recommendations contained in the Minutes, as follows:-

Cemetery Matters

Proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Audley, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To permit the installation of kerbing to be constructed in line with the recommendations of the Operations Manager contained in his report dated 16th March 2010.

Proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Audley, and
RESOLVED:-

To return all graves extended to an acceptable size of 1830mm x 765mm (6'x 2'6"), thereby re-instating an appropriate turfed space between plots for ease of maintenance.

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That grounds staff undertake a weekly inspection
in Godlingston Cemetery and report to the Town
Hall, to enable officers to write to the owners of
relevant graves drawing their attention to the need
to comply with the approved regulations.

Proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED:-

That the additional fee contained in the Council's
scale of charges for burials arranged for weekdays
between 27th and 31st December each year, be
permanently disapplied.

King George's Field Changing Facilities and Public Conveniences

Proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Audley, and
RESOLVED (with one abstention):-

That a hybrid of schemes 1 and 2 be used to avoid
the necessity of moving the existing bridge and
incorporate the existing public convenience building.
That the sum of £2,500 to proceed with the project
be considered at the next full Council meeting.

Public Buildings Review

Proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Audley, and
RESOLVED (with one abstention):-

That a Working Party be formed, comprising of the
Mayor, Deputy Mayor and either Councillors Gloyn-Cox
or Bright (General Operations Committee) and Councillor
Mrs. Patrick (Tourism Committee).

150. **PLANS**

Under the Model Code of Conduct, Members declared a formal interest in the
capacity of Corporate Trustee of the De Moulham Estate Trust in applications relating
to the Trust.

Councillor Mrs. Marsh did not vote on, or propose, or second any of the
motions on the following planning applications, by reason of being a Member of the
Purbeck District Council's Planning Board.

Non Delegated Applications

6/2010/0178 Jade Aden Ltd

Erect 14 industrial units – Reserved Matters outlining planning
permission 6/2007/0872.

Prospect Business Park, Plot 4, Victoria Avenue, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

Delegated Applications

- 6/2010/0138 **Mr M Tomes**
Demolish existing garage and car port. Sever land and erect detached dwelling.
20 Redcliffe Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal on the grounds of over intensification of development of the site.
- 6/2010/0147 **Rev J & Mrs J Cooper**
Alterations to facilitate loft conversion including rendering, double doors and balcony to first floor in north elevation. Alter gradient of existing entrance steps.
21 Townsend Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0153 **Girl Guides (Swanage)**
Erect single storey extension, extend existing store, new ramp, steps and railing to entrance. (Rebuild existing store – revised scheme to PA 6/2009/0368).
10 Bell Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0154 **Girl Guides (Swanage)**
LISTED Erect single storey extension, extend existing store, new ramp, steps and railing to entrance, re-slate roof and make internal alterations. (Rebuild existing store – revised scheme to PA 6/2009/0369).
10 Bell Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0159 **Girl Guides (Swanage)**
LISTED Internal alterations to install glass safety screen to existing gallery.
10 Bell Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- The following application was not discussed by virtue of the Town Council being the owner of the land.
- 6/2010/0156 **Swanage Town Council**
Enclose existing concrete structure to form two beach huts and a store. Structure adj. toilet block, Burlington Chine, Swanage.
- 6/2010/0161 **Mrs J Walters**
Demolish existing garage and erect single storey side extension.
5 Ballard Way, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0162 **Mr P Treasure**
Erect two storey rear extension with balcony and insert windows in east elevation.
32 Priests Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to confirmation of there being no overlooking of adjoining properties.

Councillors Suttle and Mrs. Patrick declared personal interests in the following application under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of a business association and as these were prejudicial interests left the Meeting during its discussion.

Councillor Wiggins also declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of the applicant being a personal friend, and as this was a prejudicial interest, he also left the Meeting during the discussion.

6/2010/0186 Mr R Forte

Demolish existing garage and side utility room and erect first floor extension. Sever land and erect attached three bedroom dwelling. Form new vehicular access.

36 Queens Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal on the grounds that the proposal represents overdevelopment of the site and is inconsistent with Policy QL30 of the Purbeck District Local Plan (Houses in Large Gardens).

Applications for information only:-

6/2010/0146 Mr C Collier & Mr E Harding

Erect detached house with associated parking; form new vehicular and pedestrian access. (Extend time limit of outline planning permission (6/2006/0853).

Land rear of 259 – 261 High Street, Gordon Road, Swanage.

6/2010/0037 Mr Ayles

Erect single storey side extension and replace existing detached garage, insert dormer window in north west elevation and replace existing porch.

Mayfield, Darkie Lane, Swanage.

151. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had no specific announcements to make at the present time.

152. YOUTH SERVICE

Consideration was given to a request received from the local Youth Service for permission to display 8 flags from temporary flag poles on Council-owned land. The event was being organised as part of Dorset Art Weeks and was part of the "Circle of Hope Trail".

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by Councillor Bright, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That permission be granted for the erection of
8 temporary flag poles on Prince Albert Gardens,
subject to health and safety regulations approved
by the Operations Manager.

153. SWANAGE MINOR INJURIES UNIT (MIU)

A letter dated 18th March 2010 was submitted from Dorset County Council inviting the Town Council to nominate two representatives to the Dorset Health Scrutiny Panel, which had been set up to consider proposals for the Swanage Minor Injuries Unit.

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That Councillors Mrs. Marsh and Suttle be nominated
to represent the Town Council on the Dorset Health
Scrutiny Panel.

154. **CARE PROVISION FOR OLDER PEOPLE IN SWANAGE**

A letter dated 19th March 2010 was submitted from Dorset County Council – Adult and Community Services, informing the Council that, in response to the closure of James Day Home, a small planning group was being set up to plan future provision for older people in the area. The Town Council was invited to nominate representatives to join the Group.

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That Councillors Gloyn-Cox and Mrs. Marsh be nominated to represent the Town Council on the Care Provision for Older People in Swanage Planning Group.
Councillor Hadley and the Town Mayor were nominated to deputise in the event of the representatives being unable to attend the Meeting/s.

Arising from the above, attention was drawn to the fact that the meetings held to consider the proposals for the Swanage Minor Injuries Unit and the Care Provision for Older People in Swanage had been arranged for the same day i.e. Monday, 19th April 2010. One meeting was being held in Wareham at 10.00 am, the other meeting in Swanage at 11.30 am. It would therefore not be possible for the Town Council's representatives to attend both meetings.

During the ensuing discussion, Members felt that both issues were extremely important for the future provision of public services in the town, and by holding meetings to discuss the issues on the same day, Members and other interested parties would effectively be excluded from attending both meetings.

It was proposed by Councillor Suttle, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That a strongly worded letter be sent to Dorset County Council expressing the Town Council's concerns at the lack of co-ordination between County Council departments and requesting that the meetings be re-arranged on alternative dates.

155. **CORE STRATEGY**

The Acting Town Clerk updated those present on the informal meeting held at the Town Hall on 6th April 2010, at which a presentation was given by Mr. Steve Dring (Planning Policy Manager at Purbeck District Council) regarding sites for settlement extensions and the possible re-location of the Health Centre.

It was noted that the Town Council had not met formally to discuss the proposals, but the matter would be placed on the Agenda of the next Policy and Planning Meeting on Monday, 19th April.

156. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

Councillor Hadley reported that Durlston Country Park had been allocated a budget of £5.5 million for re-furbishment works to Durlston Castle. A contractor from Poole had been appointed to carry out the renovations.

It was also reported that it was intended to run a "Shuttle Bus" from the town to Durlston Country Park during the main holiday period June to September 2010.

157. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

There were no delegated matters to report at the present time.

158. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDAS**

(a) **Swanage Tennis Club**

It was reported that refurbishment works were currently being undertaken to tennis courts 1, 2, and 3.

(b) **Monitoring of Efficiency Savings**

Efficiency savings were being made by reducing the number of hours worked by seasonal staff, where appropriate.

(c) **Budget Review Working Group**

It was agreed that a meeting of the Budget Review Working Group be convened to consider the future investment of the Council's capital receipt from the disposal of the Holiday Park.

(d) **Parking on Stone Quay**

Concern was again expressed at the ever-increasing number of vehicles and motorbikes parking on the Stone Quay. The safety of pedestrians in this busy area was of paramount importance, and it was agreed that the introduction of parking enforcement procedures be pursued with Dorset County Council and Dorset Police through the Council's Transport Committee.

159. **CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

The need for additional items of capital expenditure was highlighted by the Operations Manager.

Following detailed consideration, the following items of capital expenditure were approved:-

i) Proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by the Town Mayor, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To accept the quotation from Spadeoak for the resurfacing and drainage works at the skate park and authorise a 50% contribution towards the cost of £20,860.

ii) Proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To authorise expenditure of £7,200 for the installation of bowtop fencing at the King George's Play Area

iii) Proposed by Councillor Suttle, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To authorise remedial works to tennis courts 4, 5 and 6 to be added to the existing contract at a total cost of £7,595 less a contribution of £3,600 from Swanage Tennis Club, to be met from the Beach Gardens Repairs and Maintenance Budget.

iv) Proposed by Councillor Suttle, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To authorise additional expenditure of £10,750 for the replacement of the perimeter fencing of the tennis courts, to be funded from Capital Receipts.

Councillor Hadley left the Meeting at 8.45 pm.

160. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That, under Standing Orders Nos. 67 and 68, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

161. **ACCOUNTS TO BE WRITTEN OFF 2009/10**

A schedule of outstanding accounts, totalling £3,371.09, was submitted for consideration.

Members were informed that efforts had been made to recover the outstanding amounts, but, so far these had proved fruitless.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That invoices totalling £3,371.09 be written off in the 2009/10 accounts, but that efforts continue to be made to recover the debts where possible.

During the discussion, it was suggested that payment be made for the use of the football pitches at the time of booking.

162. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Cow Lane**

The Acting Town Clerk updated those present on matters relating to Cow Lane. A letter dated 31st March 2010 was submitted from the Council's surveyor, and the position was noted.

(b) **Land south of Holiday Park**

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 30th March 2010, and subsequent legal advice received, the Acting Town Clerk updated Members on matter relating to the unauthorised occupation of the land south of the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To instigate legal proceedings against the unauthorised occupier of land south of the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park.

The meeting concluded at 9.20 p.m.
