

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 7th JUNE 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor W.S. Trite (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor B. Audley

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox

Councillor M. Hadley

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

(until 8.50 pm)

Councillor M.W. Pratt

Councillor M. Whitwam

Councillor A. Wiggins

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 16 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Public Participation Time

Before opening the Meeting for Public Participation, the Town Mayor referred to the following matters raised at the Meeting held on 10th May 2010:-

- (a) **MR. VAN DE ZANDE** had enquired whether the Town Council had any proposals for investment of the proceeds from the sale of the Holiday Park, and suggested that consideration be given to the provision of sporting facilities at Day's Park.

The **TOWN MAYOR** reported that the Town Council would be having discussions with the Swanage Town and Herston Football Club, and this suggestion would be borne in mind. He then referred to Item 2 of the Local Development Framework Consultation Document in which specific reference is made to improvements/additional sporting facilities, and encouraged members of the public to express their views on local issues. He did, however, remind those present that any monies spent from the capital receipt would reflect in less interest, and therefore less money available for revenue expenditure.

- (b) **MR. P. BROWN** had again referred to the litter problems in The Square, and expressed the view that the bins provided were inadequate for that location. The **TOWN MAYOR** reported that a meeting had since been held with representatives of Purbeck District Council, SITA and proprietors of local businesses in The Square. The meeting had been very positive, with all parties keen to work together towards addressing the litter problems. A further meeting was scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 9th June 2010, and a report would be presented to the Council for consideration on 21st June 2010. Contributions towards the cost of providing adequate large refuse bins had been pledged from some business proprietors in the vicinity.

The Mayor then opened the Meeting for Public Participation.

MS. HELEN O'CONNOR, of "Education Swanage", informed the Meeting that the new coalition Government is proposing to give groups of parents, teachers and charities the opportunity to form "Free Schools" where there is a strong case for one, and particularly where Local Authorities had ignored demands for educational equality.

"Education Swanage" considered that the consultation process carried out by Dorset County Council regarding the withdrawal of secondary education in Swanage had been flawed, and that the negative implications for the future of Swanage and the community had been ignored by the officers undertaking the consultation.

A public meeting was being held to consider the possibility of a new secondary school ("Free School") for Swanage at the Town Hall on Thursday, 10th June 2010 at 8 pm, and all interested parties were invited to attend. **MR. P. CLARK** also raised concerns over the consultation process employed by Dorset County Council.

MR. M. NORRIS expressed his appreciation of the help afforded to the James Day Action Group by individual Members, and the Town Council as a whole, in their efforts to re-open James Day Home.

The Action Group had been informed that there had been no interest from care providers in taking over the running of James Day Home from Care South, but they had since learnt that four companies had expressed an interest in providing this service. It appeared that there was no legislation prohibiting an alternative care provider from re-opening the Home. Mr. Norris urged the Town Council to continue working with Dorset County Council, Purbeck District Council and the NHS to protect health care facilities in the town.

MR. D. HOLMAN reported on the successful launch of the "Coastal Credit Union" in Swanage. This service was available at The Old Stable, Commercial Road, Swanage, every Tuesday morning between 10.30 and 12.30.

MS. A. PARKER, Leader of Swanage Youth Centre, outlined proposals to stage events/entertainment for young people on Shore Road/beach on Friday evenings during the summer season. The initiative had the full support of Dorset Police and PACT, who would be assisting with the scheme. A request was also put forward for the use of King George's Field/Forres Field for a "Family Event" on Friday, 27th August 2010.

MRS. LORNA HAINES gave a brief insight into the aims and aspirations of "Impact", a group set up to help young people in Swanage. Initial funding for "Impact" had been provided by the Crime and Disorder Partnership and Churches Together. At the invitation of the Mayor, it was agreed that a presentation be made prior to the commencement of a future Council meeting.

COUNCILLOR BRIGHT referred to the "Where shall we build in Swanage and Corfe Castle 2012-2026" document, produced by Purbeck District Council in accordance with the Local Development Framework. He enquired whether the newly formed coalition Government would revoke the Regional Spatial Strategy, and, if so, how this would impact on the planning options currently being considered for 2012-2026 in Swanage.

The Mayor welcomed Revd. Alan Nelson, from the Baptist Church, who offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

16. **APOLOGIES**

An apology for his inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillor Suttle.

17. **MINUTES**

- (a) Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and
RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 10th May 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed, subject to reference to Councillor Mrs. Marsh being deleted from Minute No. 2 (Plans).

- (b) Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and
RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 17th May 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

18. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 21st May 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

19. **PLANS**

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.

Before consideration of the first planning application, Councillors Gloyn-Cox and Hadley declared their personal interests under the Model Code of Conduct as friends of the applicant, and as their interests were prejudicial, left the Meeting during the debate.

**Delegated
Applications**

6/2010/0284 **Mr & Mrs C Haw**

Erect two storey rear extension. Erect first floor rear extension. Alterations to garage with first floor extension over and external staircase to form separate guest accommodation at ground and first floor. Insert two new dormer windows and two rooflights on front elevation. Insert two rooflights on rear elevation. Southerd Farmhouse, Townsend Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to there being no separate occupation or commercial use of the extension to the premises.

6/2010/0297 **Mr M Hopkins**

Insert two dormer windows to facilitate loft conversion. 17 Bay Crescent, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

- 6/2010/0301 **Mr N Ayles**
Erect single storey side extension and replace existing detached garage, insert dormer window in north west elevation and replace existing porch. (Revised scheme to PP 6/2010/0037 – Purbeck stone elevations to garage and alter doors to rear of kitchen).
Mayfield, Darkie Lane, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0302 **Rotary Club of Bournemouth Youth Camp Trust**
Erect 3 three bedroom dwellings with associated landscaping and parking.
Site adj. Rotary Cottage, Cobblers Lane, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal. The Town Council agrees with the representations made by the District Council's Senior Landscape Architect that this space acts as a valuable "green corridor" within the built environment, and that this proposal would constitute overdevelopment of the site.
- 6/2010/0304 **Mr M Brown**
Install solar panels to south elevation of roof.
145 High Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0309 **Mr M Cufflin**
Insert dormer window in east elevation to facilitate loft conversion.
17 Durlston Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

20. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman was very pleased to announce that Swanage had again been awarded the "Blue Flag" and "Quality Coast Award" by Encams. He wished to record his appreciation of the work of all involved, and in particular, Mrs Carolyn Hooper, the Tourist Information Centre Supervisor, for undertaking the complicated application process.

He then reported on the following events he had attended during the past Month on behalf of the Town of Swanage:-

- (a) The Investiture of the Mayor of Sherborne.
- (b) Civic Church Services at Poole and Wareham.
- (c) Swanage Town Twinning event, attended by guests from Rudesheim am Rhein.
- (d) A "Victorian" themed event held to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the railway reaching Swanage from Wareham.
- (e) The launch of the "Heroes Welcome" in Swanage at the Purbeck House Hotel, promoted by the Swanage & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce.
- (f) Swanage Sea Rowing Club event held on 29th May 2010.
- (g) Opening of the Radar Exhibition at Swanage Heritage Centre.
- (h) A "Turf-cutting" ceremony at Durlston Castle to mark the start of construction work on the Durlston World Heritage Gateway Project.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the "Circle of Hope" at Swanage Pier with teachers and pupils from St. Marks C.E. First School, Swanage, and also the "Heroes Welcome" and "Turf-cutting" ceremony.

The Mayor then announced that the Civic Church Service would be held at St. Mary's Parish Church on Sunday, 29th August 2010 at 4 pm.

Finally, the Mayor announced that he had chosen to support “Heroes Welcome” as one of his nominated charities during the forthcoming year. He also intended to support a local organisation for the benefit of young people, but had yet to confirm the name of the specific organisation.

21. **PRINCE ALBERT GARDENS**

A letter dated 12th May 2010 was submitted from the Secretary of “Heroes Haven” requesting permission to hold a “Proms Concert” in Prince Albert Gardens on Friday, 27th August 2010.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh and seconded by Councillor Whitwam:-

That permission be granted to hold a “Proms Concert” in Prince Albert Gardens on Friday, 27th August 2010, subject to the event finishing no later than 11 pm.

An AMENDMENT was moved by Councillor Bright and seconded by Councillor Whitwam:-

That approval in principle be granted to hold a “Proms Concert” in Prince Albert Gardens on Friday, 27th August 2010, subject to the event finishing no later than 11 pm, and that the Acting Town Clerk and Operations Manager obtain further information and report to a future meeting of the Council.

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

The Amendment was then put as a SUBSTANTIVE MOTION and CARRIED, with TEN Members voting IN FAVOUR and ONE AGAINST.

22. **PURBECK SCHOOLS REVIEW – EDUCATION IN SWANAGE**

Further to Minute No. 15 (b) of the Council Meeting held on 10th May 2010, the Mayor updated those present on matters relating to the Purbeck Schools Review. He reported that, at its meeting on 19th May 2010, the County Council’s Cabinet approved the recommendation that a Statutory Notice be issued in respect of the proposed reorganisation of schools in the Purbeck area, with effect from September 2012. Following publication of the Notice, a further period for responses would be allowed, terminating on 8th July 2010.

Reference was then made to the statement by Ms. O’Connor, of Education Swanage, during the Public Participation time. Members fully supported these comments. The financial viability of the proposed reorganisation was questioned and the lack of consultation on options for the retention of secondary education in Swanage was highlighted.

Following further discussion, during which attention was drawn to the failure to consider the economic impact that the loss of secondary education would have on Swanage, it was proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That a further letter be sent to Dorset County Council reiterating the Town Council’s previous objections to the proposals.

It was suggested that copies of the letter be sent to the local press, and also displayed on the Town Hall Notice Board.

23. **JAMES DAY HOME**

Councillors Gloyn-Cox and Mrs. Marsh, the Council's representatives on the Care in Swanage Working Party, updated those present on recent developments.

The need for all local authorities and the NHS to work together was emphasised, as was the need for a sustainable solution.

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

(a) **Dorset Coast Forum**

Councillor Gloyn-Cox reported on matters arising at a meeting of the Dorset Coast Forum, with particular reference to the proposals for Offshore Wind Energy in The West of Isle of Wight Zone.

It was probable that a 50 metre default setting for the exclusion zone round each turbine for fishing and recreational vessels would be set, and vessels straying into this exclusion zone would be committing a criminal offence. Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by Councillor Audley, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Town Council makes representations to the Secretary of State requesting that straying into the exclusion zone be made a civil, not a criminal offence.

(b) **Dorset Age Partnership**

Councillor Gloyn-Cox reported that a meeting of the Dorset Age Partnership had been held earlier that day. In the light of a recent incident that was reported, the importance of not divulging personal details to "cold callers" had been highlighted.

25. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

(a) **Ocean Kayak Fishing Event**

Further to Minute No. 11 (e) of the Council meeting held on 17th May 2010, the Mayor reported that the Ocean Kayak Fishing Tournament had been very successful, as a result of which the sum of £500 had been raised for the local RNLI Lifeboat Station.

(b) **Appointment of Internal Auditor 2010/11**

Further to Minute No. 13 of the Council meeting held on 17th May 2010, the Mayor reported that clarification on travelling/mileage had been received, and that Mr Henry Lovegrove had been appointed as the Town Council's Internal Auditor for the year 2010/11.

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

- (a) An Exhibition of the proposals for the South East Dorset Transport Study was scheduled to be held at Westport House, Wareham on Monday, 14th June 2010 2 pm – 4.45 pm.
- (b) Members were reminded of the DAPTC & Monitoring Officers Roadshow events to improve knowledge and understanding of the Code of Conduct for Members and issues relating to good governance.
- (c) 5 knot marker buoys/signage (Agenda – Tourism Committee).
- (d) Imminent dissolution of Swanage Residents' Association.

- (e) It was agreed that certain matters raised in respect of the beach kiosk at Ocean Bay be referred to Purbeck District Council for investigation.
- (f) A Draft Premises Licence had been submitted by Swanage Bowls Club to Purbeck District Council in respect of Beach Gardens pavilion.
- (g) Swanage Town & Community Partnership Meeting is scheduled to be held at the Town Hall, Swanage on Friday, 2nd July 2010 at 10 am.

Councillor Poultney left the Meeting at 8.50 pm.

27. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Pratt, 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.

28. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Swanage Bay View Holiday Park**

Further to Minute No. 15 (a), the Acting Town Clerk updated Members on matters arising since the disposal of the Holiday Park, and subsequent legal advice contained in a letter dated 21st May 2010.

(b) **Audit Commission**

The Acting Town Clerk reported that a meeting was scheduled to be held with members of the Audit Team assigned to the Town Council on Friday, 11th June 2012.

(c) **Lease – Swanage Town and Herston Football Club**

Further to Minute No. 15 (c) of the Council Meeting held on 17th May 2010, the Acting Town Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the lease negotiations with the Swanage Town and Herston Football Club.

During the ensuing discussion, issues were raised regarding a schedule of repairs and any financial liability that may fall on the Town Council.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred for consideration at the next meeting of the Council to be held on 21st June 2010 to enable further information to be obtained.

The meeting concluded at 9.05 p.m.