

NOTES on the **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
TIME held on **MONDAY, 15th DECEMBER**
2003 in the Town Hall, Swanage at 7 o'clock p.m.

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

Councillor Miller (Town Mayor) welcomed those present, and invited questions from the audience.

MR. J. WOOTTON expressed his concern at the diminishing number of hotels in the town, and referred to a policy operated by Bournemouth Borough Council to resist the loss of any hotels where ever possible.

THE MAYOR explained that the Town Council shared his concerns, but could only make recommendations to Purbeck District Council on planning applications received. As part of the recommendation, the observation that "the Town Council regrets the loss of another hotel" was usually included, but the Town Council itself was powerless to act on the matter.

COUNCILLOR MRS. WHEELDON, Chair of the Purbeck District Council Planning Board, explained that permission for the conversion of premises into flats could not be reasonably withheld. Should permission be not granted, the applicant could go to Appeal, and she explained the procedure and costs that could be incurred by the Purbeck District Council should their decision be overruled.

MR. M. STOLLERY referred to planning application No. 6/2003/0836 (the Havenhurst Hotel, 3 Cranborne Road) and asked that the Town Council give consideration to a request for the building to be "listed".

COUNCILLOR C. BRIGHT referred to the sterling work undertaken by the Festive Lights Committee, together with traders and private householders in the town, which had resulted in such an excellent display. Approximately 300 properties had been judged, and the results of the competition would be announced shortly.
