

**NOTES** on the **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
**TIME** held on **MONDAY, 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2004**  
in the Town Hall, Swanage at 7 o'clock p.m.

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

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

**MR. R. OWEN** referred to a matter he had raised at the Public Participation Time on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2004 regarding incidents of anti-social behaviour that occurred in the Lower High Street, and a request for additional policing and CCTV coverage of the area. Since that time, another serious incident had occurred, and he presented an additional petition in support of his request. He also expressed his grave concern at rumours that were circulating regarding the possible closure of Swanage Police Station.

**MR. M. HADLEY** referred to a previous request for the 5 knots speed limit in Swanage Bay to be extended to the east of the Pier, and enquired whether any progress had been made with Purbeck District Council in this regard. The **TOWN CLERK** explained his commitments in meeting government legislation for the publication of the Council's Final Accounts 2003/04 and the Best Value Performance Plan for the forthcoming year, and having met this deadline, he gave an assurance that he would pursue the matter as a priority.

**MR. TAYLOR** enquired whether the Council had introduced a registration scheme for jetskis. The **TOWN CLERK** explained that a registration certificate and insured details must be provided before launching of the craft would be permitted. The scheme had been introduced at Easter 2004, in the hope that clear registration would deter irresponsible behaviour, as the craft could be easily identified.

**MISS K. SPURLING** drew attention to the dangers caused by illegal parking in the Lower High Street, and it was agreed that the Traffic Wardens be requested to be pro-active in this area.

**MR. ROBERTS** enquired as to the current position regarding the Council's debt. He was informed that, in 1997 the debt was approx. £1,200,000. Through prudent management, and allowing for current cash surpluses, the Council was currently debt free.

**MRS. M. DIGHT** referred to the conversion of Durlston Castle into a Heritage Centre, and expressed concern at the costs involved, when other services were in urgent need of additional funding i.e. highway maintenance etc.

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