

Minutes of the Meeting of the **BEACH MANAGEMENT
SUB-COMMITTEE** held at the **TOWN HALL, SWANAGE**
on **FRIDAY, 4th FEBRUARY 2011** at 2.30 p.m.

In Attendance:

Councillor Mrs A Patrick – Chairman
(From 3.00 p.m.)
Councillor L Gloyn-Cox
Councillor M Hadley
Councillor W Trite (From 3.00 p.m.)

Mr K Bragg – Private Beach Huts Representative
Mr J Deare – North Beach Users
Mr B England – Swanage Sailing Club
Mr M Goater – District Engineer
Mr R Johnson – Swanage Pier
Mr G King – Swanage Angling Club
Mr A Lander – Swanage Fishermen’s Association
PCSO I Lesley – Swanage PACT Panel
Mr R Marsh – Quay Representative
PCSO C Rosenburg – Swanage PACT Panel
Mr D Turnbull – RNLI
Councillor A Wiggins – Beach Concessionaire

Dr M Ayres - Assistant Town Clerk
Mr G Brookes – Operations Manager
Mrs C Hooper - Tourist Information Centre Supervisor
Mrs C Anstey – Administration Assistant
Miss D Bowden – Tourist Information Centre Assistant

Public Participation Time

In addition to Members and Officers there was one member of the public present.

In the absence of the Chairman, Councillor Gloyn-Cox was elected to the chair.

1) Apologies

Apologies for their inability to attend the meeting were received from Mr I Brown (MCA), PC D Cox (Swanage PACT Panel), Ms R Compton (Ocean Bay Watersports) and Mr J Masters (National Coast Watch).

2) Updates from Representatives/Organisations

Swanage Pier

It was reported that visitor numbers had been up over the winter period. The refurbishment works are approximately three quarters completed, 30 groynes have been replaced, along with 500 planks. The works should be completed by early summer, with three new piles still to go in.

Swanage Fishermen’s Association

Concern was expressed regarding proposals from ‘Finding Sanctuary’ for an intertidal Marine Conservation zone incorporating Swanage Bay. Mr Lander agreed to keep the Town Clerk informed of developments.

RNLI

This year's Lifeboat week will be from 14th to 21st August. This year's open theatre will be 'Much Ado About Nothing'.

Private Beach Huts

It was noted that one hut remains on the beach. It was requested that any maintenance for the staging of the huts be carried out prior to the start of the season.

North Beach Users

It was requested that Battlegate toilets open as early as possible, as many complaints are received from walkers and members of the public.

Quay Representative

A request was made that the Berry Marker be replaced. There was discussion over the stone boulders on the slipway at the boat park. The Operations Manager advised that there are contracts in place and that the slipway will continue to be cleared between March and September.

District Engineer

It was advised that a leaflet is being produced to explain the Shoreline Management Plan and raise awareness. The Environment Agency has embarked on a Strategy Study, looking at the length of coast from Hengistbury Head to Durlston, which will include Swanage.

3) Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas

- a) An event will be held at the Mowlem Theatre on March 23rd from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. to help promote the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site.
- b) A brief report was given of a recent coastal change pathfinder workshop exploring coastal erosion and the impact of an extreme event on Swanage. A follow up meeting was planned for the near future.

Councillors Mrs Patrick and Trite entered the meeting at 3.00 p.m. and Councillor Mrs Patrick assumed the chair.

4) To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the following Meeting:-

a) Beach Management Sub-Committee held on 29th October 2010.

It was proposed by Councillor Hadley, seconded by Councillor Wiggins and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the
Beach Management Sub-Committee held
on 29th October 2010 be approved as a
correct record and signed.

5) Matters arising from the minutes of the Beach Management Sub-Committee held on 29th October 2010.

There were no matters arising.

6) Ocean Bay Stream and Outfall on Swanage Beach – Concerns over water quality.

Under Standing Order 69 the Chairman suspended the meeting to allow Mr D Morton to speak on the above matter.

Mr Morton explained his concern regarding the quality of the water from the Ulwell stream and outfall on Swanage beach. He had received a detailed technical response from Wessex Water but was interested to understand the Town Council's role and the views of other stakeholders. During discussion the regular testing of water quality by the Environment Agency was explained, together with the measures taken by the Town Council to achieve Blue Flag status. The District Engineer explained the role of the jetty and attenuation tank, introduced as part of the town's flood alleviation scheme.

The meeting re-convened and it was AGREED:

That appropriate signage be put in place on the seawall, warning of possible reduced water quality in the stream and outfall.

The Chair thanked Mr Morton for attending the meeting and raising his concerns.

7) Enforcement and Management of Speed Restrictions in Swanage Bay

The District Engineer updated the sub-committee on progress in amending the bay bylaws to increase the speed from 5 to 8 knots and alter the restricted area of Swanage Bay. Officers are liaising with the M.C.A. and a public consultation will take place, lasting for approximately one month. It was noted that complaints regarding noise are not covered under the bylaw. As a measure to enforce the bylaw, it was suggested that the Town Council's Beach wardens and Enforcement Officers monitor any speeding closely, and where possible take details to include photographs.

The Marine Police may be unable to respond to speeding offences on the water, but concerns can be reported to the police on the non-emergency number via 01202 222222 or 01305 222222. Awareness of the bylaw could be addressed with the Beach Wardens using a megaphone. Following a detailed discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, seconded by the Chairman and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

TO RECOMMEND:

That a megaphone be purchased for the Beach Wardens to use to help monitor speeding.

The possibility of publicising the speed restriction in the bay through yachting and boating magazines and publications was also raised.

8) Olympics 2012 – Report from Purbeck Olympic Networking Group.

a) Viewing screen for sailing events.

An additional 60,000 visitors are expected. With television audiences expected to reach 4 billion if filming is done along the Jurassic Coast, it could encourage people to visit Swanage. The estimated cost of the screen is £1,000 per day.

b) Additional moorings/landing stages

The provision of a temporary pontoon for visitors coming to Swanage by boat is to be explored.

c) Possible Swanage Olympic Network Group

Swanage Town Council will support a small group to facilitate ideas for visitors who may want to come to Swanage, e.g. extra moorings.

9) Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 2.30 p.m. Friday 10th June 2011, at the Town Hall, Swanage.

The Chairman expressed her continued thanks for everybody's hard work.

The Meeting closed at 4.10 p.m.

DRAFT