



**Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the
Swanage Town & Community Partnership held at
The Mowlem Community Room, Swanage on
FRIDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2014 @ 2.15 p.m.**

Present:

Kim Gallagher, Chairman STCP
Councillor Mrs Ali Patrick, STC and Vice Chairman STCP
Dr Martin Ayres, STC and Treasurer STCP
Niki Clark, Management Support Officer STC
Diane Bemand, Purbeck District Council
Keith Childs, Purbeck District Council
David Bale, Mowlem Institute Charity
Mel Norris, Swanage Senior Forum; Jazz Festival; Museum
Mike Stollery, Purbeck Society; Town Twinning; Swanage Railway
Robin Brasher, Isle of Purbeck Model Railway Group; Purbeck Transport Action Group
Karen Delahay, Swanage & Purbeck Hospitality Association
Collette Drayson, Swanage & Purbeck Hospitality Association
Bob Foster, Rotary; Governor, St Mark's School; Swanage Development Trust
Caroline Finch, Swanage & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce

Also in attendance:

There were no members of the public present.

1. **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all Partners to the meeting.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor Tritte (DCC/STC), Mr A Power (SPHA), Mr C Brixton (Purbeck CPRE), Ms Z Chasokela (Purbeck Runners), Mr N Hardy (RNLI), Mrs D Smith (PPG), PC K Hickman (Dorset Police), Miss A Fay (Youth Club), Mrs M Hardy (Dorset CCG), Mr L Gloyn-Cox (SCCF), Mrs T Jones (St Marks) and Mr D Morton (POPP/SSF).

3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18th July 2014**

Proposed that these were a true record by Vice Chairman Ali Patrick, seconded by David Bale and agreed unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

15) Partners' Updates

DCC/St Mark's Playing Fields – it was reported that a letter of support had been sent to Mrs Jacqui Leaton, Head of School Organisation Team, Children's Services, at Dorset County Council, advising that the Swanage Town & Community Partnership was fully supportive of protecting St Mark's Playing Fields for public open space/community purposes.

Swanage Town Council – clarification was requested as to whether the InfraStrata information had been placed on the Council's website. Confirmation was given that it had been posted on the website along with the details of the public information event, details of this event would also be placed in the next edition of the Swanage Matters newsletter. It was explained that public concerns were not just around hydraulic fracturing, there were wider issues of concern e.g. noise, light, green and material planning issues.

Swanage & Purbeck Hospitality Association – enquiry made whether any progress had been made with the previous request for a 'Committee of Committees'. It was confirmed by the Chairman that contact had been made with the Chairman of the S&PHA to discuss.

9) Swanage Local Plan Consultation - update presentation – a request was made whether any future presentations given by visitors could be placed at the end of the Agenda after normal Swanage Town & Community Partnership business had been conducted.

5. Financial Management of Swanage Town & Community Partnership Funds

- a) Payment of Solicitors' fees to date in relation to the establishment of the Swanage Development Trust – a copy of the latest invoice was provided at the meeting and, as agreed at the AGM on 18th July 2014, a cheque for £240.00 made payable to Messrs Humphries Kirk was presented and signed by the Chairman and Treasurer accordingly.
- b) Transfer of funds to Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust – it was reported that the new bank account for the Trust was still in the process of being set up, verification of signatories was being undertaken, and it was hoped that the account would be up and running within the next 10 days. The Charity Application documentation would be ready for submission to the Charity Commissioners once the bank account had been finalised and the transfer of funds, as agreed at the AGM on 18th July 2014, had been effected. Update to follow at a future meeting.
- c) Swanage Town & Community Partnership cheque signatories – it was confirmed that the Constitution stipulates that the Honorary Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the organisation and that any cheques drawn against funds should hold the signatures of the Honorary Treasurer plus a minimum of one other officer. It was reported that the two existing signatories were the Honorary Treasurer and the Chairman and the general consensus was that there should be more than two signatories in the future. It was therefore proposed by Mr D Bale, seconded by Mrs C Finch and **RESOLVED:**
That the Vice Chairman, Councillor Mrs A Patrick,
be added to the Swanage Town & Community
Partnership Bank Mandate as a signatory.

A discussion ensued as to the possibility of having 'deputies' on the Bank Mandate and who these signatories should be. It was therefore further proposed by the Vice Chairman, seconded by the Chairman and **RESOLVED:**

That Mrs C Finch be added to the Swanage
Town & Community Partnership Bank Mandate
as a signatory.

There was a further discussion regarding Declarations of Interest for the sake of

transparency when funds were withdrawn and it was agreed that this subject should form an Agenda Item at a future meeting. It was confirmed by the Chairman that any monies withdrawn would be discussed and approved at meetings of the Swanage Town & Community Partnership and Minuted accordingly.

6. **Swanage Town & Community Partnership Steering Committee**

It was reported that five Steering Committee Expression of Interest Forms had been received from partners Caroline Finch (Swanage & District Chamber of Trade), David Bale (Mowlem Trust), Bob Foster (Swanage Rotary), Zodwa Chasokela (Purbeck Runners) and Anneliese Fay (Swanage Youth Centre). A discussion ensued and queries were raised regarding the role, purpose, aim and authority of the Steering Committee. Concerns were also raised regarding the frequency of meetings as it was felt that these needed to be held more frequently to discuss projects and actions.

It was confirmed that the Swanage Town & Community Partnership Constitution stated that 'the Partnership will appoint a Steering Committee and receive recommendations from said Committee, consisting of a Chairman, Vice Chairman and a minimum of three Committee Members, and the quorum required for business to be agreed at any Steering Committee meeting will be three. The Partnership will have powers to appoint sub-committees as necessary and to appoint advisers to fulfil its business.' It was further reported that the Steering Committee may also have an active involvement in the Swanage Local Plan process in the future and that the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust would be the 'delivery arm' for any projects identified/agreed once it's charitable status had been confirmed.

It was therefore proposed by Mr M Stollery, seconded by the Vice Chairman, and

RESOLVED:

That all five applicants should be accepted as new Members of the Swanage Town & Community Partnership Steering Committee and that an Inaugural Meeting should be arranged as soon as possible to discuss the role of the Steering Committee, share the Swanage Town & Community Partnership vision and strategy with the new Members, identify projects and discuss next steps.

7. **Swanage Local Plan Consultation Update**

An update was given by Purbeck District Council on the Issues and Options Consultation Report which had now been completed and published on the Dorset for You website.

It was reported that the consultation had indicated general support for some of the proposals raised, for example, a majority of respondents supported proposals to revise the settlement boundary, to explore delivery of additional affordable housing at the Prospect allotments site (on the basis that alternative allotments could be provided elsewhere), to revise the town centre boundary, to explore redevelopment of land between the railway station and Kings Road West and to explore the possibility of a sea defence. In addition, people also provided a large number of suggestions to address specific issues such as making improvements to the pier area, ways to improve the seafront and ideas for new links around Swanage. However, there was no clear consensus about what people preferred in relation to where new homes should go around the town. The next stage would be for Council Officers to carry out a detailed assessment of all possibilities to establish the most appropriate locations for the new housing.

The District Council would continue to work with partners in producing the Plan and would organise a further opportunity to comment when there were some firmer proposals. All responses and comments would be considered during the next stage of consultation and this would be done over the next few months. As part of the next consultation, the District Council

would explain how they had addressed suggestions made and how these might be taken forward. It was hoped that the 'draft' version of the Swanage Local Plan would be available by the end of 2014/beginning of 2015.

For further information on the Issues and Options Consultation Report, please visit the Dorset for You website: www.dorsetforyou.com/swanage-local-plan.

A question was raised regarding the possibility of strengthening local planning policy in respect of environmental matters. The Purbeck District Council Representative agreed to explore the matter.

8. **Swanage Development Trust Update**

An overview was given of the briefing note and update provided with the Agenda papers.

The name of the Trust had now officially been changed at Companies House to the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust, the bank account details had been amended and the identification and verification of signatories was in progress. The documentation was ready for submission to the Charity Commissioners once the bank account was finalised and the transfer of funds from the Swanage Town & Community Partnership had been effected.

It was reported that no progress had been made regarding the proposed purchase of the old portion of the former St Mark's Primary School. The application submitted for registration under the Community Right to Bid Legislation had been turned down, with no right to appeal. However, Savills Estate Agents had been in contact with the Trust, on behalf of the Diocese of Salisbury, and had suggested that the Diocese was keen to help the Trust. Discussions were ongoing.

It was noted that the Trust was also currently reviewing a number of proposed projects but that these were at a very early stage.

9. **Partners' Updates**

Swanage & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce – the Chamber of Trade meets once a month and welcomes all members of the public to their meetings. An update was given regarding the new Chamber shop maps which had been well received and had also attracted new members. It was reported that the Chamber felt that the Purbeck area could be promoted more effectively/proactively and leaflets used to promote towns and attractions in other areas were discussed. It was noted that representatives from the Chamber of Trade and the Tourist Information Centre would be meeting to discuss the possible production of such a leaflet for the Purbeck area, and this would also be an agenda item at the next Tourism Committee meeting in November 2014. The Commemoration of the World Wars was discussed and it was reported that the Chamber held a list of 20 local people who had been killed by enemy action during WWII. The Chamber would like to discuss with the Town Council the possibility of a plaque in memory of/listing the names of those who had been killed, possibly at the War Memorial site. It was further reported that a new Fish Festival was planned for 2015 and the first meeting to arrange the date and details would be held on 27th October 2014. It was felt that the fishing community was sadly in decline and that this would highlight the heritage of the town's fishing industry. This would be a family event with stalls, attractions and activities.

St Marks School – it was reported that the new building was impressive and that there would be a 'Community Open Day' on Thursday 2nd October 2014. The official opening ceremony would be held on Saturday 15th November 2014.

Swanage Rotary – it was reported that the Rotary were planning for Christmas. Bookings were now being taken for stalls for the Station Road Christmas Market, and the Christmas breakfast would be held as usual at the United Reformed Church on Christmas morning from 8.30 a.m. until 10.00 a.m. The Rotary Club could be contacted for further details if you were aware of anyone who would be interested in attending the breakfast. The Santa's Sleigh programme would be advertised in due course.

Jazz Festival – AGM had been held this month and next year’s event had been agreed for 10th to 12th July 2015. The 25th festival this year had been a great success and had replenished the ‘financial stocks’.

Swanage Area Senior Forum – it was reported that a representative from the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust attended the Forum’s recent monthly meeting. The next meeting would focus on health, although this had been postponed until the position surrounding local care services was clearer, due to Dorset’s Clinical Services Review.

IOP Model Railway Group – it was reported that there were only 6 members at the present time and new members would be welcome. The Group meets at Furzebrook Village Hall and last year the members set the railway up on Christmas Day. The railway display would be moving to a barn at Godlingston Manor in Swanage and would be made into a small tourist attraction.

Swanage Walking Group – it was reported that two pick-up points (Northbrook Road, Swanage and Wareham) had now been arranged so that walkers could travel to the start of planned walks together. There had been various successful trips during the summer season, including a short holiday to Minehead to walk the northern SW Coast Path, and another to the Isle of Wight (via the Waverley Paddle Steamer from Swanage) with a walk from Yarmouth to Alum Bay.

Purbeck Transport Action Group – it was reported that the number 40 Morebus service would be retaining its evening services to/from Swanage and Poole, although it would no longer be funded by Dorset County Council. It was noted that the Group would be keeping the pressure on Poole Borough Council to retain these valuable services. There would be a meeting at Wareham Town Hall on Thursday 9th October 2014.

The Swanage Railway – it was reported that there would be an Autumn Steam Gala event on 17th & 18th October 2014, two guest engines would be making an appearance. The Swanage Railway Trust Draw would be held on Sunday 2nd November 2014. It was noted that the Swanage Railway fleet would be increasing by a further three engines, one of which was already in situ. A brief update was given on the project to connect services to Wareham and it was reported that a new 99-year lease had now been agreed for the track from running from Northbrook Bridge to Worgret Farm, which completed the leasing of the whole line. The new services had now been named ‘The Purbeck Line Services’. However, due to unfortunate delays, the Project Team had advised that it was becoming increasingly unlikely that the first daily trial service would commence in September 2015, this could now be the end of 2015, or even the beginning of 2016. Timetables and fare structures still had to be constructed and agreed.

Swanage Town Twinning Association – it was reported that there would be a Caribbean Evening of ‘fun and frolics’ on Friday 24th October 2014, which would include a guest appearance from ‘Big Momma Travers’. Tickets would be £10 in advance. It was noted that the AGM would be held on 10th November 2014. Following the successful trip to Rudesheim in June 2014, the return visit to Swanage had now been scheduled for the first weekend in September 2015.

The Purbeck Society – it was reported with some sadness that Committee membership of the 150-year old society was still declining, with only 4 members left. No response had been received to recent appeals for new members. A Press Release would be issued advising the public of the decision to wind-up the society unless new members came forward. AGM to be held in November 2014 when the disposal of society assets would be discussed. The question was posed as to whether the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust could carry on/fulfil the role of the society, e.g. the educational presentations and field trips.

The Swanage School – it was reported that links within the community continued to be successful and, as mentioned at the AGM, the school had joined forces with the S&PHA for the provision of training for hospitality-type work, launch date January 2015.

Purbeck Producers – it was reported that a market was held in Commercial Road (outside Chococo) every second Saturday in the month, and also held from time to time at Putlake Farm and at other local events throughout the year.

Dorset Community Action Group – it was noted that there was an ‘open house’ Sustainability Purbeck meeting at Holton Lee on Monday 29th September 2014 to discuss environmental issues. The meeting was an exploratory session to bring together existing groups already working on these issues in Purbeck, along with new interested people to see what could be done to develop interest in sustainability.

Purbeck Environmental Action Team – it was reported that members were currently actively involved in renewable energy and waste management projects.

Langton Parish Council – it was noted that there would be a Permaculture presentation by Gary Finch at Langton Village Hall on Saturday 25th October 2014. Also, Poacher’s Moon ‘Poppies Red and Cornflowers Blue’, songs and images to commemorate the Centenary of the Great War, Saturday 11th October 2014, Langton Village Hall.

Swanage & Purbeck Hospitality Association – a good season was reported. A discussion was then held regarding the impact of increased outdoor activities seen this year, including parking issues. It was reported that the new owners of Brenscombe Outdoor Centre had been in discussion with environmental and wildlife groups to broaden the range of activities on offer. Concerns were again raised regarding Navitus Bay and the California Farm Exploratory Oil Rig. It was noted that the S&PHA had new members on board and its focus had changed. New ideas were being discussed, including green issues/impact. Plans were going well for the next Blues Festival and the Association had been in discussion with the Chamber of Trade regarding the planned Fish Festival in 2015.

Mrs K Delahay left the meeting at 4.10 p.m.

The Mowlem – The Mowlem’s programme of forthcoming events was circulated, which had a varied schedule. It was noted that the Mowlem was running a series of productions as part of a four-year Commemoration of The First World War. Tonight would see a play called Journey’s End and on 10th October 2014 Dorset’s multi-award winning AsOne Theatre Company would be presenting a new play with live music called Passion. It was also reported that the St Mary’s RC First School play “A Letter to the Trenches” had been well received in July 2014. The theatre’s digital projection system was now available for private hire/one-off showings e.g. birthday parties, at £250, which included licensing fees. A local language school had successfully made use of these facilities recently. If anyone is interested in hiring the equipment, the Mowlem can be contacted on: 01929 422239 or via email: admin@mowlemtheatre.com.

Swanage Town Council – brief updates were given on the following:

- **Seafront Stabilisation Scheme** – a brief progress report was given, the road closure had been extended until 24th October 2014, however, the scheme was nearing completion with the official ‘launch event’ planned for Spring 2015.
- **King George’s Playing Fields** – it was reported that the plans for the new changing facilities were progressing well and the architect was currently in the process of drawing up detailed plans for the submission of a Planning Application at the earliest opportunity. The new building would include four changing rooms and a toilet block. The changing rooms would primarily be used by the local football clubs, however, if any other groups/clubs would be interested in using the new facilities then expression of interest should be made to the Town Council.
- **Street Art/Graffiti Wall** – this was now in the process of being constructed at the skate park.
- **De Moulham Trust** – now closed to new applications, all funds had been allocated. However, Swanage Town Council itself had an annual budget of £10,000 set aside for small grants/projects, with funds having recently been released to the Blues Festival and the Air Cadets. If anyone was interested in applying for a small grant, a letter should be sent to the Town Council accordingly.

- A reminder was given regarding forthcoming events being held, Navitus Bay Hearing on 14th October 2014 at the B.I.C., the Infrastrata drop-in event on 27th October 2014 at the Mowlem, and the Sandbanks Ferry Public Inquiry, regarding the proposed increases in ferry fares, on 11th November 2014 at Studland Village Hall.

Swanage Lions Club – a reminder was given regarding the ‘Tools with a Mission’ initiative. There would be a ‘drop-off’ day on 27th September 2014 in the Co-op Car Park where a bucket would be available for any unwanted tools. A ‘fun swim’ was being held on 18th October 2014 and the Lions were looking for teams to take part. The annual 50/50 sale would be held in November 2014, and the Christmas Charity Mail event would be held in December as usual.

10. **Any other business**

Swanage Lions Club – request noted to circulate details of this year’s Annual Charity Fun Swim via email to all Partners.

Swanage Development Trust – change of name confirmed as The Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust.

11. **Date of next Quarterly Meeting**

Provisionally made for Monday 8th December 2014 at 3.00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Swanage.

Please note, subsequently to the above, the next Quarterly Meeting has now been rearranged for Thursday 8th January 2015 at 3.30 p.m. at the Town Hall, Swanage.

The meeting closed at 4.20 p.m.
