

Minutes of a Meeting of the **PLANNING AND CONSULTATION COMMITTEE** held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 9th JANUARY 2017** at **6.30 p.m.**

Chairman: -

Councillor A Harris Swanage Town Council

Present: -

Councillor M P Bonfield Swanage Town Council

Councillor T J Morris Swanage Town Council

Councillor S Poultney Swanage Town Council

Councillor M Whitwam Swanage Town Council

Also Present: -

Councillor C Finch Swanage Town Council

Councillor W Trite Swanage Town Council

Miss N Clark Management Support Officer

There were eight members of the public present at the meeting.

Public Participation Time

There were no matters raised.

1) Apologies

An apology for her inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillor Lejeune.

2) Declarations Of Interest

Members were invited to declare their interests and consider any requests for Grants of Dispensations in accordance with paragraphs 9 - 13 of the Council's Code of Conduct and regulations made under chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

Planning

3) Plans

Delegated Applications

6/2016/0694 **46, 48 and 48a High Street, Swanage, BH19 2NX**

Change of use of lower ground floor from car showroom to parking/ storage area.

Tidestar Ltd

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2016/0726 **Black Swan Inn, 159 High Street, Swanage, BH19 2NE**

Erect store to replace existing store.

Mr Olinet

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2016/0730 **46 Ulwell Farm Caravan Park, Ulwell, Swanage, BH19 3DE**

Construct timber decking

Mrs Knowles

OBSERVATION: No objection.

- 6/2016/0733 **Land adjacent to Olive Cottage, 5 Cliff Place, Swanage, BH19 2PL**
 Refurbishment and alterations to existing building, and erection of a new dwelling with a single garage. Demolition of existing porch to adjacent Olive Cottage. Alterations to existing stone boundary walls to courtyard.
 Mrs Ferrar
OBSERVATION: No comment. Committee Members felt that this new application did not mitigate any of the original concerns raised by the Committee relating to approved planning application no's. 6/2016/0444 & 6/2016/0445, and that it was unclear from the submitted plans whether the amendments constituted an improvement to the overall scheme.
- 6/2016/0734 **Listed Building Consent**
LISTED **Land adjacent to Olive Cottage, 5 Cliff Place, Swanage, BH19 2PL**
 Refurbishment and alterations to existing building, and erection of a new dwelling with a single garage. Demolition of existing porch to adjacent Olive Cottage. Alterations to existing stone boundary walls to courtyard.
 Mrs Ferrar
OBSERVATION: No comment. Committee Members felt that this new application did not mitigate any of the original concerns raised by the Committee relating to approved planning application no's. 6/2016/0444 & 6/2016/0445, and that it was unclear from the submitted plans whether the amendments constituted an improvement to the overall scheme.
- 6/2016/0754 **Kingdom Hall, 3 Court Hill, Swanage, BH19 1JB**
 Installation of AC units with associated works, replacement of roof and internal alterations.
 Swanage Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
OBSERVATION: No objection. However, although not a material planning consideration, comments were made that the Committee would wish to see a robust maintenance scheme put in place for the new AC units in view of the fact that these would be visible/adjacent to the public pavement/highway, and therefore had the potential to be a slip/health hazard if not regularly maintained.

4) Applications for tree works - opportunity to raise any matters of concern

There were no matters raised on this occasion.

Consultation

5) To note receipt of the following consultation documents and to determine the Council's preferred method of response, if any:

Further to Standing Order No. 12) a) viii, it was proposed by the Chairman and AGREED:

That Item 5. c) on the agenda be brought forward to Item 5. a).

a) NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) - Dorset's Clinical Services (DCS) Review

Dorset CCG was consulting on plans to change health services in Dorset. The consultation document set out proposals aimed at improving local community and hospital-based health and care services as part of a Clinical Services Review.

A discussion ensued, during which the Chairman invoked Standing Order No.1 p. to briefly suspend the meeting on two occasions so as to allow members of the public to address the Committee, and raise questions regarding/relevant to Agenda Item 5.a).

Committee Members commented that this was a lengthy document, containing a lot

of information, and that the document set out a persuasive case, with strong preferred options. However, it was felt that it lacked detail in places, and that the consultation questionnaire was restrictive. Concerns raised included:

- Potential loss of Poole Hospital's accident & emergency and maternity services
- Journey times from Swanage to the Royal Bournemouth Hospital, which could at times be lengthy/difficult, particularly in peak season, or when the Sandbanks Ferry was not in operation
- CCG's research into travelling times (P.32) – how had this been conducted?
- Reference made to the 'golden hour' for treatment following a medical emergency/traumatic injury

Further concerns were raised regarding the time it could take for an ambulance to arrive in Swanage and, if the preferred option was implemented, whether an ambulance could be positioned in a central location, e.g. Wareham, to cut down journey times to/from Swanage in an emergency. However, Committee Members were in agreement that Poole Hospital was easier for most residents to get to for planned care, and that the recently introduced local 'First Responders' did an excellent job.

Having regard to the importance of the proposals, and in view of the implications/future impact these changes may have on the town/local community, it was felt that appropriate consideration needed to be given to the Town Council's response to the consultation by all Town Councillors, not just Committee Members. It was further felt that, in view of the number of questions Members still had, it would be prudent to invite a specialist to give a presentation on the proposals, which would provide Councillors with the opportunity for a Q & A session before submitting the Council's response.

It was therefore proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

TO RECOMMEND:

That a Special Meeting of the Town Council be convened to enable detailed consideration to be given to the proposals, and Council's response to the questionnaire.

It was noted that a consultation drop-in event was being held by Dorset CCG at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, Swanage, on 17th January 2017 from 2.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

b) Dorset's Concessionary Pass Scheme – Public Consultation

Dorset County Council (DCC) was consulting on proposals to change its concessionary travel scheme, and remove free travel before 9.30 a.m. on routes that had no other services until after 10.30 a.m. DCC had suffered significant reductions in central government funding, and savings were required to ensure as much funding as possible remained available to fund local bus services.

A brief discussion ensued during which a question was raised as to what financial saving this change would actually make to DCC, and comments were raised as to whether concessionary passes should be withdrawn from holders who had alternative means of transport (e.g. their own vehicle), whether passes should be made available to school leavers, and whether restrictions on travel times should be removed altogether to spread traveller numbers throughout the day.

Committee Members felt that the survey should be completed by all Town Councillors individually, and it was therefore proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Harris and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That details of the consultation be sent to all Town Councillors, to give Councillors the opportunity to complete the survey, and raise any comments if they so wish.

c) **Marine Management Organisation (MMO) - Draft South Marine Plan Public Consultation**

It was reported that the MMO was consulting on the Draft South Marine Plan, and that this was the final stage before the Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for approval. The Plan supported sustainable economic growth, whilst respecting local communities and protecting the marine environment.

Committee Members had reviewed the document, and a brief discussion ensued regarding its content, which was considered to be of a technical nature. The general consensus of Members was that although they were in support of the Plan, they did not have sufficient specialist knowledge of this subject, and felt unable to comment further on the document. Comments were made that the Plan had been produced in partnership with government departments, and stakeholders, including Dorset Coast Forum.

It was therefore proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Harris and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the Committee wished it to be noted that the consultation document had been reviewed and appropriately discussed, and had no further comments to make.

Licensing

6) **Williams the Baker, 7 & 9 Station Road, Swanage, BH19 1AB – application for a new premises licence**

The Chairman reported that consideration of this item would be deferred to a future Committee Meeting.

7) **Items of Information and Matters for Forthcoming Agendas**

a) **Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner - Police and Crime Plan Public Consultation**

Details of the consultation document and online survey were provided to Committee Members. It was explained that the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner was consulting on what the policing priorities should be in Dorset over the next four years, and that it was vital for residents, businesses, community groups, and partners, to take part in the consultation, and put forward their views on the proposals.

Following a brief discussion, and in view of the fact that the deadline for responses was 25th January 2017, Members felt that the survey should be completed by all Town Councillors individually. Officers would therefore send details of the consultation to all Councillors, providing them with the opportunity to complete the survey, and raise any comments, if they so wished.

8) **Date of next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting had been scheduled for Monday 6th February 2017 at 6.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 7.45 p.m.
