

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Swanage Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND PLANNING** matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 18th AUGUST 2014** at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick (Town Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor M. Bonfield
Councillor I. Brown
Councillor Miss C. Harris
Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh
Councillor S. Poultney
Councillor M. Pratt
Councillor M. Whitwam

There were seven members of the public in attendance at the Meeting.

Public Participation Time

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- War Memorial and proposals regarding the possible future reinstatement of the perimeter wall.
- Postponement of ‘Armed Forces Day’.
- Replacement of bandstand roof.
- Removal of taxi rank in vicinity of The Quay to allow designated parking for motorcycles.
- Request for consideration of ‘Motor Bike Night’ on Shore Road.

Before the commencement of the Meeting, the Mayor welcomed Mr. Keith Childs and Ms. Diane Bemand, representatives from Purbeck District Council.

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.15 p.m.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Mrs. Bartlett, Suttle, Trite and Wiggins.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Members were invited to declare their interest under the Code of Conduct as defined by regulations made under section 30 (3) of the Localism Act 2011. There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

3. **PLANS**

Councillor Mrs. Marsh did not vote on, or propose, or second any of the motions on the following planning applications, by reason of being a Member of the Purbeck District Council’s Planning Board.

Delegated Applications

- 6/2014/0406 **Mr & Mrs Johnson**
Install 8 photovoltaic solar panels to flat roof of garage.
79 Bay Crescent, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2014/0413 **Mrs Karen Delahay**
Create two wildlife ponds and spoil bund. Erect new fencing.
Land adjacent California Cottage, Priests Way, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

Items for information only

- 6/2014/0399 **Mr Wood**
Erect side & rear extension linking studio to main building.
20 Durberville Drive, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No comment, pending possible future discussions by the Town Council as the corporate trustee of the De Moulham Trust.

The following applications were not discussed by the Town Council as it was considered that a conflict of interest existed, given that the Council had retained the freehold of the Holiday Park.

- 6/2014/0393 **Mrs J. Ditchburn**
Erect decking.
Plot 13, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road, Swanage.
- 6/2014/0394 **Mrs Kilner**
Erect decking.
Plot 107, Swanage Bay View HolidayPark, Panorama Road, Swanage.
- 6/2014/0395 **Mr and Mrs Peterson**
Erect decking.
Plot 278, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road,Swanage.

4. BUDGET MONITORING

(a) Statement of Cash Balance

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 31st July 2014 was submitted for information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

5. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 5 and 5a, amounting to £563,247.24 and £55,851.10 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

6. SWANAGE LOCAL PLAN

Mr. Keith Childs, from Purbeck District Council, presented a Report on the outcome of public consultation on the Swanage Local Plan and highlighted issues and options that had been raised during the consultation.

In noting the Report, Members acknowledged the proposed next steps to be taken in order to progress the Local Plan.

7. **OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS**

The Clerk reported that on 6th August 2014, the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 came into force which would permit members of the public to film, audio-record, take photographs or use social media such as tweeting or blogging to report Council and Committee meetings, whilst they are open to the public.

A draft Policy and Protocol on the recording of Council Meetings was submitted for consideration.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

To adopt the Policy and Protocol on recording, photography and use of social media at meetings of the Council.

It was noted that currently recording is prohibited without express permission of the Council under Standing Order 70, and it was therefore proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That Standing Order 79 be suspended to enable Standing Order 70 to be amended to read as follows:

- 70 The Clerk shall afford to the press and public reasonable facilities for the reporting of any proceedings at which they are entitled to be present. Filming, audio-recording, taking photographs and the use of social media are permitted, in compliance with the Town Council's adopted policy and protocol.

8. **RNLI BOATHOUSE PROJECT**

Further to Minute No.163 of the Council meeting held on 7th April 2014 and a subsequent meeting of the Boat Park Working Party with representatives of the RNLI and their contractors on 13th August 2014, the Clerk updated those present on matters relating to the RNLI Boathouse project.

A number of representations had been received by the Council regarding the need to maintain public access to the slipway, and detailed consideration was given to this matter, including whether any alternative launch sites could be identified.

Given the lack of alternative options, it was proposed by the Town Mayor and seconded by Councillor Poultney:-

That public access be maintained to the slipway throughout the construction works and that publicity be given to the arrangements for next year at the earliest possible opportunity.

Upon being put to the Meeting, SEVEN Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and there was ONE ABSTENTION, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

9. **SWANAGE BOWLING CLUB**

Further to Minute No. 6 (b) of the Tourism Committee held on 10th July 2014, and a subsequent meeting held with representatives of Swanage Bowling Club on 14th August 2014, consideration was given to a request received from the Bowling Club for a reduction in the seasonal bowling green fees for 2014.

Detailed information applicable to the Bowling Green had been provided by the Town Clerk, and following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To adhere to the Council's agreed fee structure for Bowls Club Membership for the current financial year, subject to review once the operational costs for the year have been fully quantified.

It was further RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To authorise ongoing negotiations between the Town Council and Swanage Bowling Club to develop a new charging structure for future years for consideration by the Tourism Committee as part of the budget setting process for 2015/16.

10. **SEAFRONT AND DOWNS STABILISATION SCHEMES**

Further to Minute No. 69 of the Council Meeting held on 4th August 2014, it was reported that a meeting of the Seafront Stabilisation Working Party had been held on Wednesday, 6th August 2014.

There were no further matters to report on the Schemes at the present time.

11. **WAR MEMORIAL**

Further to Minute No. 3 (a) of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 17th April 2014, and subsequent discussions held with representatives of the Royal British Legion and Morgan Carey Architects, consideration was given to possible options for the re-instatement of the perimeter wall at the War Memorial.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That Option 1 – Low stone wall with stone piers, be approved, and that the Council's Operations Manager be authorised to obtain quotations for the work.

12. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDAS**

(a) Technical Officer, DCC Highways – Presentation prior to Council meeting on 1st September 2014.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That, under Standing Orders Nos. 67 and 68, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

13. **PROSPECT NURSERY**

A Valuation Report in respect of Prospect Nursery provided by the District Valuation Service was submitted for information.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the proposal submitted by Dorset Wildlife Trust for the use of Prospect Nursery for 'The Greengage Project' (Growing confidence and

skills for people with mental health issues or long term unemployed) be agreed in principle, and that the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate Heads of Terms.

14. **SEAFRONT AND DOWNS STABILISATION SCHEMES**

The Clerk updated Members on contractual matters arising from Minute No. 10 above.

It was noted that a formal request had been submitted from the Contractors for a three week extension to the contract further to the informal notification received on 14th May 2014.

It was also noted that this matter would be subject to discussion by the Seafront Working Party within the next two weeks and a report submitted to a future Council meeting.

15. **RNLI BOATHOUSE PROJECT**

Further to Minute No.163 of the Council meeting held on 7th April 2014 and a subsequent meeting of the Boat Park Working Party with representatives of the RNLI and their contractors on 13th August 2014, the Clerk updated those present on legal issues relating to the RNLI Boathouse project.

Following discussion, it was RESOLVED with ONE ABSTENTION:-

That the RNLI undertakes negotiations directly with the tenant of an existing hut adjoining the current boathouse.

The meeting concluded at 8.10 p.m.
