

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014** at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick (Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett  
Councillor M. Bonfield  
Councillor I. Brown  
Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh  
Councillor S. Poultney  
Councillor M.W. Pratt  
Councillor M. Whitwam  
Councillor A. Wiggins

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 11 members of the public attended the Meeting.

The Town Mayor welcomed Revd. Mark Hatto, from the Emmanuel Baptist Church, who offered a prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

### **Public Participation Time**

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- Proposed reduction in bus services on Routes 40 and 50.
- Impending opening of the new Swanage School.
- Concerns regarding the anticipated increase in HGV traffic on the access road to California Quarry directly associated with the construction of a well site at the Quarry. A request for consideration to be given to the introduction of a footpath and appropriate crossing for the safety of pedestrians was again put forward.
- Support for the construction of an Art Wall at King George's Playing Field.
- Improvements to revetment adjoining the Stone Quay.
- Progression of the Swanage Local Plan.
- Concerns expressed regarding local Planning Authority.
- Enquiry regarding the completion date for the seafront stabilisation scheme.
- Control of dogs and enforcement action.

The Town Mayor opened the Council Meeting at 7.20 p.m.

#### 155. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillors Miss Harris and Trite.

156. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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.

**Agenda Item No.4** – Councillor Poultney declared a personal interest under the Code of Conduct in planning application No. 6/2014/0137 by reason of being a friend of the applicant.

**Agenda Item No.15** – Councillor Bonfield declared a pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of being an officer of the Swanage Angling Club.

157. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and  
**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, and  
**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(c) Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and  
**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed.

158. **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**

6/2014/0132 **Mr Alan Petto**

Raise roof ridge height, install dormer window in north elevation, rooflight in south elevation and window in front elevation gable. Erect rear extension and extend roof over existing rear flat-roofed extension. 14 Hill View Road, Swanage.

**OBSERVATION:** No objection, subject to no overlooking of neighbouring properties.

Further to his declaration of interest under Minute No. 2, Councillor Poultney remained in the Meeting during consideration of the following item, but took no part in the discussion and did not vote on the application.

6/2014/0137 **Mr Rouse**

O/A Erect 30 beach huts.

32 Burlington Road, Swanage.

**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

- 6/2014/0140 **Storer (Coventry) Ltd**  
 Extend conservatory to erect canopy over entrance.  
 3 The Rookery, Seymer Road, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.
- 6/2014/0141 **Storer (Coventry) Ltd**  
**Listed** Extend conservatory to erect canopy over entrance.  
 3 The Rookery, Seymer Road, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.
- 6/2014/0144 **Mr Nick Aldersley**  
 Erect replacement conservatory with roof lantern, alterations to existing garage and entrance area, including roof lantern, alterations to windows and insertion of sliding doors and timber clad front elevation. Erect external chimney. Create additional vehicular access and parking area.  
 25A Ballard Estate, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

**Non-Delegated  
 Application**

- 6/2014/0155 **D & P Lovell Ltd**  
 Erect a block of three industrial units (B1, B2 and B8)  
 Plot 3, Prospect Business Park, Victoria Avenue, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

159. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that she had attended the following events during the past month:-

- The Annual General Meeting of the RNLI – Swanage Branch.
- Volunteer of the Year Award at Purbeck District Council offices.
- Commonwealth Flag Raising Ceremony at Purbeck District Council offices.
- 'Chalk and Cheese' Consultation Meeting.
- A Civic Service at Sherborne Abbey.
- 'Fresh Prospects' – 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday event.
- Welcoming Richard Drax MP at Swanage Railway on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014.
- The Annual General Meeting of the Swanage & Isle of Purbeck Chamber of Trade & Commerce.
- Chairman's Meeting at Purbeck District Council.

160. **KING GEORGE'S PLAYING FIELD**

Consideration was given to a suggestion that an Art Wall be constructed at King George's Playing Field.

It was reported that, following the initial conception, a commercial company had agreed to construct the Art Wall at no cost to the Town Council.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Wiggins, seconded by Councillor Bartlett, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

To fully support the construction of an Art Wall at King George's Playing Field and to accept the kind offer of Raymond Brown Construction Ltd to provide the facility.

161. **SISATA OPEN AIR THEATRE**

(a) **Use of Prince Albert Gardens**

A letter was submitted from Sisata Open Air Theatre requesting the use of Prince Albert Gardens to stage a production of 'Much Ado About Nothing' during the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

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

That the request for the use of Prince Albert Gardens to stage a production of 'Much Ado About Nothing' during the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014 be approved.

It was noted that the Swanage Regatta & Carnival Committee may wish to stage some events on Prince Albert Gardens on 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> August, and the Tourist Information Centre Supervisor agreed to liaise with both organisations to resolve any matters arising.

(b) **Request for Funding**

Further to the above Minute, consideration was given to a request from Sisata Open Air Theatre for a contribution towards the costs of staging the production.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED:-

That the sum of £250 be donated to Sisata Open Air Theatre towards the costs of staging the production of 'Much Ado About Nothing'.

It was noted that this request would not be eligible for a donation under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, but would be met from the tourism budget.

162. **SEAFRONT AND DOWNS STABILISATION SCHEMES**

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014, the Town Clerk updated those present on matters relating to the Seafront and Downs Stabilisation Schemes.

It was reported that work on dismantling the war memorial had commenced earlier that day, and a revised plan of the scheduled works was submitted from Morgan Carey Architects, for information.

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Mrs. Marsh declared a personal interest under the Code of Conduct. She remained in the meeting during the debate, but took no part in the discussion and did not vote on the matter.

163. **PEVERIL BOAT PARK**

Further to Minute No. 15 (b) of the Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014, consideration was given to a request received from the RNLI that an area be made available in the Boat Park for a storage compound for contractors during construction of the new RNLI boathouse.

The work was scheduled to commence in mid-November 2014, and Members acknowledged the need for this facility to be provided.

Discussion ensued, during which concerns were raised over Health and Safety issues that may arise if members of the public had access to the Boat Park during the construction works.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the RNLI be given full use of the Boat Park with effect from November 2014 until March 2016, subject to appropriate recompense being made to the Town Council for loss of income during this period.

It was further proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That public use of the Boat Park be restricted to the 2014 summer season only and that the discount afforded to local residents for early payment be extended until 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

164. **DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT – CONSULTATION REGARDING REVISING THE TOLLS AT LOCAL TOLLED CROSSINGS**

Further to Minute No. 8 of the Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014, and a subsequent consultation meeting held at the request of the company that owns the Sandbanks Ferry, consideration was given to the options set out in the Department of Transport consultation document.

During the ensuing discussion, Members re-iterated their previous concerns regarding the proposed increases in tolls for the use of the Shell Bay-Sandbanks ferry and did not feel minded to support either of the options set out in the consultation document.

The importance of the operator being required to ensure that adequate contributions were made each year to a sinking fund or a reserve to pay for maintenance, repairs and replacement of the current ferry when required was strongly expressed.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and **RESOLVED:-**

That the Town Council expresses its concerns regarding the need for future capital investment and requests a further period of consultation to allow issues raised to be explored in greater detail.

165. **SWANAGE SEA ROWING CLUB**

Consideration was given to an e-mail received from the Swanage Sea Rowing Club seeking the Council's approval to improve the revetment adjoining the Stone Quay which had deteriorated during the winter storms.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Suttle, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the request to improve the revetment adjoining the Stone Quay be agreed in principle, subject to clarification of costs and the contribution to be made by the Rowing Club.

166. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

(a) **Swanage Pub Watch**

Councillor Whitwam reported that he had attended a recent meeting of 'Pub Watch' at which concerns had been expressed regarding arrangements for New Year's Eve 2014.

167. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

There were no delegated matters to report at the present time.

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

(a) **Items of Information**

**Footpath between Gannetts Park and Northbrook Road** – Dorset County Council had agreed to carry out re-surfacing works.

**Meetings** – Policy and Planning meeting to be held on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

**Annual Parish Assembly** to be held in the Mowlem Community Room on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7 p.m.

**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.

169. **RNLI LIFEBOAT STATION**

The Clerk updated those present on matters relating to the new RNLI Boathouse and discussions held with representatives from the Swanage Angling Club, the Fishermens' Association and the RNLI.

Suggested alterations to the internal layout of the eastern fishermen's huts had been mooted to accommodate the Angling Club's engine store, and Landlord's consent to the proposals was requested from the Town Council.

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

That Landlord's consent be granted in respect of the amended plans.

Before consideration of the following item, Councillor Brown declared a personal interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of being a friend of the Contract Administrator, and left the Meeting during the debate.

170. **SEAFRONT AND DOWNS STABILISATION SCHEMES**

(a) **Authorisation of Architect's Fees**

Further to Minute No. 21 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013 (ref. the Seafront) and Minute No. 65 of the Monthly Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 (ref. the Downs), the Clerk updated those present on the fees charged by the architect in relation to the design phase of the Seafront and Downs Stabilisation Schemes. It was noted that the contract cost at the time of its award in November 2013 was higher than anticipated at the above dates and consequently a further instalment of architect's fees was due. Invoices had been raised for £2,429.67 plus VAT in respect of the Downs and £5,488.76 plus VAT in respect of the Seafront.

It was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and RESOLVED:-

That authorisation be given to the payment of £7,878.43 plus VAT to Morgan Carey Architects.

It was noted that further sums may fall due as a result of increased contract costs.

It was AGREED:-

That the architect be asked to provide detailed supporting documentation of any further claim for design costs, to be submitted to the Council for approval.

(b) **Re-surfacing of Broad Road Car Park**

Further to a meeting of the Seafront and Downs Stabilisation Working Party on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014, consideration was given to a report from the appointed Quantity Surveyor regarding options for the resurfacing of Broad Road car park. Upon the advice of the Council's Operations Manager, Members agreed to seek further profession advice.

It was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Suttle, and  
**RESOLVED:-**

That the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor  
Bonfield be given delegated authority to act in the matter.

The meeting concluded at 8.40 p.m.

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