

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Swanage Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND PLANNING** matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2011** at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor W.S. Trite (Town Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor B. Audley

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor L. Gloyn-Cox

Councillor M. Hadley

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick (until 12.40 p.m.)

Councillor M.W. Pratt

Councillor M. Whitwam

Councillor A. Wiggins

There were two members of the public present at the Meeting.

### **Public Participation**

Before opening the Meeting for Public Participation, the Mayor referred to Minute No. 5 of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011, and the request received from Mr. J. Haiseldon of Swanage, requesting permission to hold an event in an attempt on the Guinness World Record of ‘Most People Scuba Diving Simultaneously’. He then read a statement from Mr. Alan Power, of the Swanage Hospitality Association (who was unable to attend the Meeting), giving the Association’s full support to the event.

Following meetings with the Town Council’s Working Party, **MR. JASON HASELDON** updated those present on issues that had been raised relating to the attempt on the Guinness World Record of ‘Most People Scuba Diving Simultaneously’, including car parking arrangements, road closures, risk assessments, insurance, marshalling etc. He reported that the proposed event had the support of the Swanage Hospitality Association (referred to above) and the Swanage Regatta and Carnival Association.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Poultney and Suttle.

2. **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**

**Plan No.**

16/2011/0050 **Mrs J Newton**  
Removal of Cabrio unit to the rear roof pitch. Removal of balcony at first floor bedroom. Amendment to previous plans - 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011 planning list.  
2 Ballard Road, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

6/2011/0166 **Mr M MccGwire**  
Amendment to previous plans: Erect single storey front extension to create bay window and extended porch.  
Farndreg, Southcliff Road, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

6/2011/0194 **Mr M Soley**  
**LISTED** Alterations to internal layout.  
13b High Street, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

6/2011/0205 **Greggs Central**  
Install new shop front and roller shutter.  
14-16 Station Road, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection to the installation of the new shop front. Recommend refusal of the roller shutter, as it was considered inappropriate in this town centre location.

6/2011/0206 **Greggs Central**  
Install internally illuminated shop fascia and projecting sign.  
14-16 Station Road, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** Recommend refusal. The proposed internally illuminated fascia contravenes Town Council policy and would be out of keeping in this location, within the conservation area. The Town Council is concerned that adequate provision should be made for rubbish collection on the street and regrets the change of use to another take-away outlet in the town centre.

6/2011/0213 **Mr P Wilson**  
Erect single storey side/rear extension.  
38 Bay Crescent, Swanage.  
**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

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.

6/2011/0225 **Mr P James**  
Erect timber decking with two sets of access steps.  
Plot 39B, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road, Swanage.

6/2011/0226 **Mr Terret**  
Erect timber decking with access steps. Revised scheme to PP

6/2010/0696 to alter materials and design.  
Plot 59, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road, Swanage.

6/2011/0227 **Mr Justice**

Erect timber decking with access steps. Revised scheme to PP  
6/2010/0693 to alter materials and design.  
Plot 19, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road, Swanage.

3. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 was submitted for information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

4. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and  
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer  
Nos. 13, 14, 14a, 1 and 1a, amounting to £5,509.95,  
£54,706.47, £114,850.58, £7,288.15 and £26,970.44  
respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

5. **SCUBA DIVING EVENT**

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Wiggins declared a prejudicial interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a beach concessionaire and left the Meeting during the debate.

Further to Minute No. 5a of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011, and subsequent meetings held with the Working Party and the organiser of the event, consideration was again given to the request for permission to hold an event in an attempt on the Guinness World Record of 'Most People Scuba Diving Simultaneously'. A 'master schedule' of risk assessments, and proposed timescales, was submitted for information.

Following a detailed discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Hadley and seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox:-

That permission to hold an event in an attempt on the Guinness World Record of 'Most People Scuba Diving Simultaneously' be approved, subject to the following conditions:-

- A written undertaking from the Army confirming that they will provide road marshals for the event.
- Appropriate road closure notices being obtained well in advance of the event.
- The support of all members of the Safety Advisory Group.
- Appropriate car parking arrangements.
- A nominated manager being appointed to deal with emergencies that may arise on the day.
- Adequate sea patrols to control spectator boats and monitor 5-knot zone.
- Provision of adequate insurance and compliance with the Town Council's user agreement.

Upon being put to the Meeting, EIGHT Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and there was ONE ABSTENTION, whereupon the Proposition was

declared CARRIED.

Councillor Wiggins re-joined the Meeting.

Consideration was then given to a request to hold an evening event on Sandpit Field after the Scuba Diving World Record attempt. Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Whitwam and seconded by Councillor Wiggins:-

That the request to hold an evening event on Sandpit Field after the Scuba Diving World Record attempt be approved, subject to adherence to the Town Council's Terms and Conditions.

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

6. **JACK WARD'S LEGACY – 22 BON ACCORD ROAD**

The Town Clerk reported on correspondence received from a local resident expressing concern at the proposed development of 22 Bon Accord Road, and questioning the handling of the legacy left by Mr Jack Ward to the Dorset Wildlife Trust. A letter explaining the conditions of the legacy, and appropriate actions taken was submitted from the Chief Executive of the Trust, for information.

It was acknowledged that the matter lay outside of the Council's jurisdiction, and the position was noted.

7. **CARDBOARD RECYCLING BANK**

An e-mail dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 was submitted from the Senior Environmental Services Officer of Purbeck District Council seeking the Town Council's permission to place a bulk cardboard bank at the North Beach recycling site.

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

That permission to site a bulk cardboard bank at the North Beach recycling site be granted, subject to no costs being incurred by the Town Council and suitable siting to be agreed with the Operations Manager.

8. **DORSET LIBRARY SERVICE - CONSULTATION**

A letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 was submitted from the Dorset Library Service Manager outlining the overall savings that were required by Dorset County Council, and the reduction in the library services that would be necessary in order to keep within the allocated budget.

It was noted that Swanage library would continue to be fully funded by Dorset County Council, but 20 library buildings in Dorset villages would no longer be funded under the current proposals.

During the ensuing discussion, it was suggested that the possibility of Dorset County Council providing some form of touch-screen internet access in areas where the library service had been withdrawn, be explored.

It was AGREED:-

That a letter be sent to Dorset County Council stating that the Town Council regrets the reduction in the

library services to Dorset villages, and hopes that the communities can be provided with an alternative service and possibly touch-screen internet access.

9. **PUBLIC FOOTPATH – DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER**

A letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011 was submitted from Dorset County Council enclosing a copy of the Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2011 in respect of the footpath from Ballard Estate to Burlington Road, Swanage.

Following discussion, the Town Council did not wish to formally comment on the Order, but it was suggested that Members respond individually if they so wished.

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

- (a) **Meetings** - A schedule of meetings for 2011/12 was circulated to all Members, for information.
- (b) **James Day Home** – It was reported that two bids had been received by Dorset County Council to operate this facility, but a date for consultation had not yet been determined.
- (c) **Shoreline Management Plan** – Concern re consultation – Item for future Agenda.
- (d) **Blues & Roots Festival** – Letter of thanks for funding from the organiser.
- (e) **Swanage Sea Rowing Club** – Application to hold Barn Dance on Prince Albert Gardens on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2011 withdrawn.
- (f) **Fireworks Displays** – Additional fireworks displays to be held on Saturdays 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August 2011, sponsored by Mr. A. Kravos of Funworld.
- (g) **Swanage Regatta & Carnival** – Carnival Fete to be held on Shore Road on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2011.
- (h) **Filming on Swanage Beach** – Request for permission to film on Swanage beach for ITV series ‘The Hungry Sailors’.
- (i) **Synergy Housing** – Dates of proposed Estate Walkabouts 2011.
- (j) **Marker Buoys/Safe Bathing Zone** – No formal notification from Purbeck District Council that they would not be laying the appropriate buoys in 2011. Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and  
AGREED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk be given delegated authority to negotiate with Purbeck District Council in the matter.

11. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, 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.

12. **ICE CREAM CONCESSION**

Further to Minute No. 16 of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011, and additional information provided by Mr. R. Lucas, consideration was again given to the request received for permission to operate an ice cream concession in Main Beach car park.

During the ensuing discussion, some concerns were raised regarding generator noise and the cleaning of the ice cream machines.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Gloyn-Cox, and RESOLVED:-

That the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor be given delegated authority to progress the matter.

### 13. LEGAL ISSUES

(a) Land South of Holiday Park  
Occupation of Grazing Land

Further to Minute No. 13 (a) of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2011, the Town Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the occupation of the grazing land south of the Holiday Park.

(b) Ice Cream Concession

A letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011 was submitted from Mrs. Tracey Lowe, the ice cream concessionaire, requesting that changes be undertaken to the kiosk staging to enable the serving hatch to be re-sited to the north (beach) side of the kiosk.

During the ensuing discussion, concerns were expressed regarding changes that had already been carried out to the kiosks (including colour, advertising etc) and possible sand movements that may affect the staging if it is re-aligned. Concern was also expressed that previous lease negotiations had not been finalised.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the Town Council is unable to consent to moving the staging as requested in the letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011, and that a meeting be arranged with the ice cream concessionaire in order to address the additional matters raised.

(c) Land to rear of Waterside, Peveril Point Road

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Hadley declared a personal interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being an acquaintance of the applicant.

A letter was submitted from Mr. C. Burke referring to drainage problems at the rear of Waterside, Peveril Point Road, and offering to undertake improvements to the drainage of the land at no cost to the Town Council.

During the ensuing discussion, some issues were raised and Members were reminded that the land referred to was in the ownership of the Town Council.

It was RESOLVED:-

That a site visit be arranged, and that a Working Party be convened to progress the matter after the forthcoming Town Council election.

(d) Beach Concession

Before consideration of this item, Councillor Wiggins declared his interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being the beach concessionaire, and as his interest was prejudicial, he left the Meeting during the debate.

Consideration was given to a request that the beach concessionaire be granted a lease, but after careful consideration, it was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That a lease should not be granted, nor a licence with a right of assignment.

Lengthy consideration was then given to a schedule of clarificatory points to be incorporated in a new licence agreement to regularise the area of operation, the dates of operation, the colour of the hut, insurance requirements, use of sunbeds, deck chair stands, price boards and the use of the lean-to store adjoining the Tourist Information Centre.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That this schedule be approved and that new licences be entered into for seven summer seasons from Easter 2011.

Councillor Mrs. Patrick left the Meeting at 12.40 p.m.

In line with established Council procedural guidelines, it was reported that the Council's surveyor had valued the beach concession, having made a site visit and met with the concessionaire.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright and seconded by Councillor Hadley:-

That the matter be referred back to the Council's surveyor for further advice.

Upon being put to the Meeting, FIVE Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and there were THREE ABSTENTIONS, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

The Meeting concluded at 12.45 p.m.

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