

Minutes of the **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** of the  
Swanage Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on  
**WEDNESDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016** at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor S. Poultney – Chairman

Councillor M. Bonfield

Councillor C. Finch

Councillor G. Green

Councillor A. Harris

Councillor G.A. Marsh

Councillor T.J. Morris

Councillor G.M. Suttle

Councillor W.S. Trite

Councillor M. Whitwam

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, approximately 30 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Before opening the Meeting, the Mayor welcomed members of the public and read a short statement regarding the fire evacuation procedure, filming/audio recording etc. of the Meeting, and a summary of the procedure for Public Participation Time.

**Public Participation Time**

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- Inclusion of Mayor's introduction statement on Town Council's website.
- Beach Gardens – progression of scheme for the introduction of artificial playing surface on tennis courts Nos. 1 and 2.
- Appreciation of the procedure followed at the Annual Parish Meeting, and the recording of votes taken in respect of proposals put forward by local residents.
- Confidential nature of business to be conducted in respect of Agenda items Nos. 18 and 19 (Seafront Stabilisation Scheme, and Punch & Judy concession).

The Mayor opened the Council Meeting at 7.15 p.m.

252. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Bishop and Lejeune.

253. **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, and requests for Grants of Dispensations in respect of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

**Agenda Item No. 13** – Councillor Suttle declared a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of being a relation of the proprietor of Suttles Quarries.

**Agenda Item No. 17** – Councillor Trite declared a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of being a director of the Swanage Railway Trust.

**Agenda Item No. 17** – Councillor Whitwam declared a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of being a director of the Swanage Railway Trust.

254. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Green, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

255. **PLANNING AND CONSULTATION COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

256. **GENERAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Operations Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Consideration was given to the following recommendation contained in the Minutes:-

**Water Matters**

b) **Prince Albert Gardens**

Proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Marsh, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Town Council approves the installation of a water supply at Prince Albert Gardens at an estimated cost of £2,000.

257. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016 was submitted for information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

258. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Finch, and  
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 13, 14, 14a, 1 and 1a, amounting to £1,908.60,

£32,534.53, £40,667.77, £60,984.13 and £57,825.24 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

259. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- A meeting with representatives from Dorset Waste Partnership to consider refuse/litter collection in the town centre during the main holiday season.
- A RNLI event on Swanage Pier to welcome the new Shannon Class All Weather lifeboat to Swanage.
- The official opening of the new Ortus Homes complex on the former Shore House site.
- A train ride on the newly opened rail line to Wareham.
- A 'Beacon Lighting' event in celebration of HM The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday at Durlston Castle.
- An audition for the 'Punch & Judy' concession on Swanage beach.
- Together with Councillor Bonfield, he had attended the Annual Parish meeting at Langton Matravers on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

260. **SWANAGE REGATTA & CARNIVAL**

Consideration was given to requests received from the Swanage Regatta & Carnival Association for use of Council-owned land for the following events:-

(a) **Boules Event – Recreation Ground**

Use of the Recreation Ground for a Boules event.

Proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Marsh, and

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the use of the Recreation Ground for a Boules event be approved.

(b) **Music and Bar – Sandpit Field**

An extension to the music and bar opening on the two Saturdays during carnival week until 11.30 p.m.

During the ensuing discussion, concerns were raised at the potential disturbance this may cause to local residents late in the evening.

It was proposed by Councillor Bonfield and seconded by Councillor Morris:-

That the request for an extension to the music and bar opening from 11 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. be not granted.

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.

(c) **Beach Obstacle Race – Main Beach**

Use of the Main Beach for an 'obstacle type fun run' on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> August commencing after 6 p.m. at low tide.

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

That permission to hold a 'Beach Obstacle Race' on the Main Beach on Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> August be approved, subject to liaison with the beach concessionaire.

(d) **Temporary Outdoor Activity (Zip Wire) – Prince Albert Gardens**

Set up a Zip Wire on Prince Albert Gardens.

It was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Green, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That permission to set up a Zip Wire on Prince Albert Gardens be approved, subject to the activity being contained within Prince Albert Gardens, an appropriate risk assessment being undertaken, and liaison with the Council's Operations Manager.

(e) **Music – Masquerade Night – Prince Albert Gardens**

Provision of music on Prince Albert Gardens for the Masquerade Night.

It was proposed by Councillor Finch, seconded by Councillor Morris, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That permission to provide music on Prince Albert Gardens from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. for the Masquerade Night be approved.

261. **BEACH GARDENS**

Consideration was given to a request received from Mr Callum Lovett of Swanage requesting permission to hold a 'Swanage Fight Night' at the Tennis Courts, Beach Gardens.

During the ensuing discussion, Members acknowledged the professional approach of the Event Organiser, and the worthy charitable causes that he was supporting, but felt that Beach Gardens was not a suitable venue for this event due to the close proximity of elderly residents in the area and the need for controlled access to the event.

After further consideration, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Green, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That permission to hold a 'Swanage Fight Night' at Beach Gardens be not granted.

262. **BEACH GARDENS – INSTALLATION OF ARTIFICIAL PLAYING SURFACE**

Further to Minute No. 170 of the Council meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016, the Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the installation of an artificial playing surface on the bowling green and tennis courts 1 and 2.

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

That Council officers be authorised to produce the relevant documents and commence a tender process for the installation of artificial playing surfaces on the bowling green and tennis courts 1 and 2.

A further proposition was moved by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Finch, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Sports Facilities Working Party be requested to hold further meetings with the tennis and bowls clubs to consider future management options and lease/licence arrangements for Beach Gardens.

263. **STREET LIGHTING – SWANAGE STATION**

Consideration was given to a report detailing the condition of the lighting columns situated at the Station forecourt and on the pavement in the vicinity of the taxi rank at the Station approach which are in the ownership of the Town Council.

Following a site meeting with representatives from SSE, it was felt that the lighting columns should be replaced as soon as possible.

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

That a supplementary budget provision of £3,000 be approved, and that Financial Regulation 12)h) in respect of procurement be waived due to the specialist goods required and the urgent need to carry out the works.

264. **CHARITY STALL REGULATIONS**

Clarification of the Council's policy regarding the type of goods offered for sale by charity stallholders on the former shelter site on Shore Road had been requested, and consideration was given to revised draft regulations (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

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

That the revised draft regulations for use of the former shelter site by charity stallholders be approved and adopted.

Further to his declaration of interest under Minute No. 253, Councillor Suttle left the meeting during consideration of the following item.

265. **PANORAMA ROAD**

The Annual Parish Assembly had been held at the Swanage Youth Centre on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and approximately 30 local electors had attended, together with a small number of residents of neighbouring parishes. Five propositions had been put to the Meeting, two of which had secured a majority of votes cast in their favour. These were as follows:-

Proposed by Jason Haiseldon and seconded by Jack Daniels:-

That Panorama Road can only be declared 'safe' for use when all of the recommendations of the risk assessment have been implemented and the same assessor has verified this to be so.

TWELVE voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and ELEVEN AGAINST.

Proposed by Jason Haiselden and seconded by Jack Daniels:-

The costs of the maintenance of the measures required to make the road safe be passed to Suttles in line with the agreement to which they are a party and in which it requires them to 'maintain the road'.

FOURTEEN voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and ELEVEN AGAINST.

Although these resolutions are 'persuasive' in nature, and are not legally binding on the Town Council, it is widely accepted practice that the Council should consider them, given that they are resolutions of a meeting of local electors.

Discussion ensued regarding the next steps to be taken in respect of the resolutions, following which it was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the matter be referred to the Panorama Road Working Party for further consideration.

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

- (a) Councillor Morris reported that on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> April he had attended a meeting of the Purbeck Citizens' Advice Bureau at their newly-refurbished offices in Wareham.
- (b) Councillor Whitwam reported that on 23<sup>rd</sup> March he had attended a meeting of 'Pub Watch'. Dorset Police were in attendance, and reported that one serious incident had been notified to them during the previous month. He had also attended a meeting of the Purbeck Community Rail Partnership on 19<sup>th</sup> April.
- (c) Councillor Marsh reported that she had attended a meeting of the DAPTC Larger Councils Committee at Lytchett Matravers on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> April.

267. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

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

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

- (a) **Items of Information**  
Notes of the Public Participation Time held on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 were circulated for information.
- (b) **Matters for Forthcoming Agendas**
  - i) National Park – Dorset and East Devon proposal.
  - ii) Future proposals for unitary authorities.
  - iii) Prayers prior to the commencement of monthly Council meetings – Review of policy.
  - iv) Memorial Benches – Update on waiting list.
  - v) Rubbish collections.

Further to their declarations of interest under Minute No. 253, Councillors Trite and Whitwam remained in the meeting during consideration of the following item, but did not take part in the debate or vote on any proposition.

269. **USE OF COUNCIL-OWNED PROPERTY FOR FILM PRODUCTION**

The Clerk reported on discussions held with the Location Manager of a major film company requesting the use of Council-owned land in connection with a feature film production.

During the ensuing discussion, Members welcomed the enquiry, but expressed concerns at the proposed filming dates (immediate preceded with the Swanage Regatta and Carnival activities), and the impact that this major film production would have on the town at the height of the main holiday season. Concerns were also raised regarding additional traffic congestion and difficulties that may affect the emergency services if attending an incident. It was noted that the production company was also intending to film in the vicinity of the Swanage Railway Station.

Following further discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Green, and RESOLVED:-

That the Town Clerk, in conjunction with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, be given delegated authority to negotiate with the film company regarding the proposals

and requirements, and report back to a future meeting of the Council.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

That, under Standing Order No. 1) c), I propose that, in the public interest, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under agenda items 18, (in relation to legal and contractual matters regarding the Seafront and Downs Stabilisation Scheme) and 19 (in relation to contractual matters regarding the award of a beach concession and the potential to reveal information regarding that individual).

270. **BROAD ROAD/SEAFRONT STABILISATION SCHEMES**

Following a meeting with representatives of Raymond Brown Construction Ltd, the Clerk reported on issues relating to the Defects Rectification Period List.

The content of a report from the Contract Administrator dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016 was noted.

271. **PUNCH AND JUDY CONCESSION**

Consideration was given to Expressions of Interest received from applicants regarding the operation of the Punch and Judy concession.

During the ensuing discussion, Members acknowledged the entertaining and professional performance given by Mr Joe Burns during his interview.

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

That the Punch and Judy concession be awarded to Mr Joe Burns for a one-year trial period at an initial rate of £100 plus VAT.

The meeting concluded at 9.00 p.m.

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