

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the
Swanage Town Council held at the Town Hall,
Swanage on **MONDAY, 1st AUGUST 2011** at
7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

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

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 23 members of the public attended the Meeting.

2185 (Swanage) DF Air Training Corps

The Town Mayor welcomed Mrs. Mary Brennan and cadets from the 2185 (Swanage) DF Air Training Corps to the meeting. He expressed his appreciation of the help afforded by the cadets during the Carnival and Red Arrows display, before inviting Mrs. Brennan to make a presentation on the activities of the ATC.

Mrs. Brennan then gave a detailed and informative presentation on the role, training and activities of the ATC in Swanage.

On the conclusion of the Presentation, the Mayor thanked Mrs. Brennan for the information provided, and welcomed Cpl Tom Tomkins who had been nominated to undertake the role of Mayor's Cadet during his current Term of Office.

The Mayor opened the meeting for Public Participation at 7.05 p.m.

Public Participation Time

MR. G. ATKINSON updated those present on matters relating to Education Swanage and their quest to set up a 'Free School' in Swanage. The formal submission had been accepted and representatives from Education Swanage had been invited for interview with the Department for Education on Wednesday, 10th August 2011. **MS. HELEN O'CONNOR** reported that the application from Education Swanage had been shortlisted from 281 applications.

MR. J. JAMES referred to the proposal for the introduction of parking meters along Shore Road and Station Road. He was not in favour of these proposals, and was of the opinion that obstruction to the traffic flow on Shore Road was often caused by indiscriminate parking by disabled motorists.

MR. D. HOLMAN enquired whether the Town Council had a policy regarding responding to articles/letters that were published in the press. He was informed that, whilst no formal policy had been adopted, the Council did not usually enter into public dialogue as this tended to be protracted. Instead, the Council published regular editions of its newsletter, 'Swanage Matters', to keep the public informed of current issues affecting the Town Council.

Father Tony Delsink offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

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

39. **APOLOGIES**

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

40. **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 4th July 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 18th July 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

41. **GENERAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Brown, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Operations Committee held on 6th July 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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

Allotment Matters

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Miss Harris, and
RESOLVED:-

That the £50 deposit be abolished, and sums currently held by the Council be refunded to existing tenants.

King George's Changing Facilities

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Brown, and
RESOLVED:-

That the proposed building incorporates the following:-

- Four changing rooms.
- Two match officials' rooms.
- Public toilets to be traditional style design incorporating male, female and disabled with

baby changing facilities.

- Scheme to include costing for environmental design features.

Public Conveniences

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and
RESOLVED:-

That improvements to Shore Road conveniences be added to the Capital Programme for 2011/12 and that the scheme be progressed through the planning process.

42. **FINANCE & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance & Performance Management Committee held on 25th July 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

43. **PLANS**

Under the Model Code of Conduct, Members declared a formal interest in the capacity of Corporate Trustee of the De Moulham Estate Trust in applications relating to the Trust.

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

6/2011/0427 **Royal Victoria Residents Association**

LISTED Make internal alterations to install fire alarm system and automatic lighting to communal areas.

1 High Street, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2011/0431 Mr P Skivington

LISTED Widen opening from kitchen to dining room, block internal archway with stud wall, insert new door to utility room and replace existing extractor fan with new extractor fan.

2 Chapel Lane, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2011/0436 **Mr J Sinclair-Taylor**

Installation of roof-mounted and ground-mounted photovoltaic system. Whitecliff Farm, Whitecliff Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

Item for Information Only

6/2011/0423 **Mason & Partners**

Change of use of existing workshop to form residential dwelling.
14-16 Station Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No comment, pending possible future discussions by the Town Council as the corporate trustee of the De Moulham Estate Trust.

44. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (a) The Mayor reported that he had attended the following civic events during the past month:-
- Swanage Library Open Day.
 - Swanage Rowing Regatta – Presentation of prizes.
 - Portland Town Council's Ceremony of the Keys.
 - Swanage Jazz Festival – Parade and marquee events.
 - Swanage Jazz Festival – Church Service.
 - Dorset County Council Chairman's Reception at Weymouth and
 - Portland Sailing Academy to anticipate the Sailing Olympics and Paralympics.
 - Beating to Quarters at RAC Centre, Bovington Camp.
- (b) The Deputy Mayor had been a judge for the 'Purbeck's Got Talent' competition.
- (c) The Swanage Carnival, held the previous day, had been very successful. The town was extremely busy, and the Mayor expressed his appreciation of the additional work undertaken by the Town Council's workforce in maintaining high standards of cleanliness.
- (d) Finally, the Mayor announced that he had chosen to support the Swanage Disabled Club and the Swanage Skate Park during his current Term of Office.

45. **PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF 'PAY AND DISPLAY' CAR PARKING: SHORE ROAD AND STATION ROAD**

Further to Minute No. 18 of the Council meeting held on 6th June 2011, consideration was given to the Town Council's formal response to the proposals by Dorset County Council for the introduction of 'Pay and Display' car parking on Shore Road and Station Road and to identify any related issues that may require further discussion i.e. level of charges, improved enforcement and the definition of summer and winter season.

Following a period of public consultation, 67 responses had been received to date, and an analysis of the comments and observations were presented, for information.

During the ensuing discussion, it was reported that the matter would not now be considered by Dorset County Council's Roads and Rights of Way Committee in September 2011, as originally proposed.

Having regard to this postponement, it was proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Wiggins, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the matter be deferred to enable further consideration to be given to the proposals and

the identification of potential solutions to the parking of camper vans on Shore Road.

46. **DAY'S PARK PLAY AREA**

Further to Minute No. 6 (b) of the General Operations Committee Meeting held on 6th July 2011, consideration was given to the re-location of the Day's Park play area.

During the discussion, Members felt that until the proposals of Education Swanage had been determined, it would be unwise to re-locate the play area as it would be necessary to identify the age group for which the new equipment was required before progressing the scheme.

It was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

- (a) That the play site be put on hold until the decision had been confirmed for Education Swanage. (Full confirmation from the Department of Education expected in September).
- (b) To continue with obtaining designs for two play spaces within the budget set for:
Under 12's play area, with some outdoor gym equipment.
All age group scheme, including activity trail and outdoor gym equipment.

47. **BRITISH TELECOM – ADOPT A KIOSK PROPOSAL**

A letter was submitted from British Telecom outlining their current policy of removing BT phoneboxes that had very low or no usage. The alternative to removal was the 'Adopt a Phonebox' initiative, whereby the kiosk was offered for adoption for the community for £1.

A kiosk at the site of the former Court Hill Post Office, High Street had been offered to the Town Council, and after discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That, having regard to the future maintenance implications, and restrictive conditions imposed by British Telecom, the offer to 'Adopt a Phonebox' at the site of the former Court Hill Post Office be declined.

In declining the offer, Members wished to record their disapproval of the decision of British Telecom to remove phoneboxes as they considered this to be an erosion of a public service.

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

(a) **Swanage Town & Herston Football Club**

Councillor Bonfield reported that he had recently attended the Annual General Meeting of the Swanage Town & Herston Football Club. He was impressed to learn that the Club currently had two senior teams and eight junior teams (which involved 150 children).

49. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

(a) **Safe Bathing Zone**

Further to Minute No. 8 of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 20th June 2011, and a subsequent meeting with officers of Purbeck District Council, it was reported that Purbeck District Council had agreed to contribute 50% of the costs of providing the safe bathing zone in Swanage Bay for 2011.

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

(a) **Items of Information**

- i) Proposed School Transport Changes for 2011/12 – Response from letter to Dorset County Council.
- ii) Street Lighting Replacement Scheme – Comments on the street lighting replacement scheme were invited for submission to Southern Electric Contracting. If appropriate, a meeting with SEC would be arranged.

51. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, 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.

52. **LEGAL ISSUES**

- (a) Following a recent meeting of the Ice Cream Kiosk Lease Working Party, consideration was given to the Heads of Terms provided by the Council's valuer, and a request from the lessee for additional family members to be included within the lease agreement.

It was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Heads of Terms be agreed and that the request for additional family members to be included within the lease agreement be approved, subject to suitable references being obtained, and evidence of adequate arrangements for refuse collection being in place.

The meeting concluded at 8.15 p.m.
