

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the
Swanage Town Council held at the Town Hall,
Swanage on **MONDAY, 9th JANUARY 2012**
at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett
Councillor M. Bonfield
Councillor I. Brown
Councillor Miss C. Harris
Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick
Councillor M. Pratt
Councillor G.M. Suttle
Councillor M. Whitwam
Councillor A. Wiggins

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

Public Participation Time

MRS. MASON reported that patients had received notification from the Regency Dental Practice in Swanage that it would be going into private practice with effect from 31st March 2012, and would not provide treatment under the NHS after that date. She expressed concern on the effect that the withdrawal of the NHS dental service would have, particularly on children and elderly patients, and felt that the cost of private treatment would prove prohibitive for many people. She felt strongly that NHS dental services should be provided in every town.

MR. MEL NORRIS endorsed Mrs. Mason's comments and sought the support of the Town Council in retaining NHS dental services in Swanage. The **TOWN MAYOR** gave an assurance that the matter would be fully considered by the Council at the earliest opportunity, and **COUNCILLOR SUTTLE** offered to contact Mr. Richard Drax, MP with a view to obtaining his support in the matter.

MR. CARL STYANTS, updated those present on matters relating to Education Swanage and their quest to set up a 'Free School' in Swanage. He reported that, with the assistance of the Department of Education, a Project Manager would be appointed by the end of the current week to further progress the matter. He also reported that a 'drop-in' information service was being provided at the Children's Centre, Swanage on Friday, 20th January 2012 between 2.00 p.m. and 4.30 p.m.

Speaking as a resident of Swanage, **COUNCILLOR WIGGINS** referred to comments made at the Policy and Planning meeting held on 19th December 2011 regarding the painting of a shop front in Station Road, including areas of Purbeck stone on the building. He did not wish to comment on any planning issues, but considered that the appearance of the shop front had been greatly enhanced and wished the proprietors every success with their business venture.

The Mayor welcomed Revd Andrew Cork, who offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

The Mayor opened the Council Meeting at 7.10 p.m.

102. **APOLOGIES**

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

The Mayor reported that Councillor Mrs. Marsh had hurt her back in a fall, and Members wished to convey to her their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

103. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare their interest as per the Parish Councils Model Code of Conduct Order 2007 Number 1159.

No declarations of interest were expressed by Members on any Agenda items.

104. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 5th December 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and
RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 19th December 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

105. **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and
RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 14th December 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

106. **PLANS**

**Delegated
Applications**

6/2011/0784 **Ms T Smith**

Erect rear ground floor single storey extension with level access for disabled living.

124 Priests Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

Items for Information Only

6/2011/0788 **Mr I Dowds**

Replacement front porch. Alterations and extension at rear to enlarge kitchen/utility room. Alterations to windows and doors including rear first floor french windows with Juliette balcony.

22 Rabling Road, Swanage.

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

6/2011/0796 **Mr R Wood**

Remove existing extension, garage and carport. Erect single storey side and rear extension.

7 Bonfields Avenue, Swanage.

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

107. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (a) The Mayor congratulated Councillor Wiggins on the birth of his baby daughter.
- (b) The Mayor reported that, since the last monthly meeting of the Council, he had attended the following events:-
- Judged the 'Best Christmas Decorated Shop Window' and presented the prizes on behalf of the Swanage Chamber of Trade & Commerce.
 - The Rotary Christmas Breakfast on Christmas Day at the United Reformed Church.
 - East Dorset District Council's Carol Service at Wimborne Methodist Church on Sunday, 11th December.
 - Swanage Carol Service at St. Mary's Parish Church on Sunday, 18th December.

Finally, the Mayor referred to the New Year's Eve celebrations in the town, which had generally been a happy and enjoyable event, and wished to thank the proprietor of the White Horse Inn for allowing the use of his balcony to welcome in the New Year. Unfortunately, there had been a serious incident on Shore Road in which a young man had sustained serious head injuries and was fighting for his life in hospital. Members sent their best wishes for a full recovery.

108. DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

The following proposals to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee were put forward for consideration:-

(a) Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

It was reported that Fields in Trust (formerly the National Playing Fields Association) were seeking 2,012 playing fields and other public open spaces to be nominated as Queen Elizabeth II Fields, and if the Council wished to pursue the project, consideration should be given to which area to be nominated.

Following a brief discussion, it was RESOLVED:-

That the Town Clerk and Operations Manager identify areas for consideration for nomination

as Queen Elizabeth II Fields and report to a future meeting of the Council.

(b) **Beacons**

It was reported that a project had been launched to identify 2,012 sites for beacons to be lit on Monday, 4th June 2012.

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the Events Group (consisting of members of the Swanage and Purbeck Rotary, Swanage Carnival and other interested parties) co-ordinated by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and it was agreed that the matter be referred to the forthcoming meeting of the Group.

At the invitation of the Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Bartlett updated those present on ideas for celebrations currently being mooted by the Events Group.

(c) **Commemorative Mugs for Schoolchildren**

Consideration was given to providing schoolchildren with a commemorative mug to mark the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

During the ensuing discussion, Members enquired what alternative commemorative gifts were available, and it was RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred to enable further information to be obtained.

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

There were no matters to report from Council representatives on outside organisations at the present time.

110. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

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

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

(a) **Items of Information**

Road Closure Notices:-

High Street, Swanage 3 days commencing 9th January 2012.

Stafford Road, Swanage 5 days commencing 16th January 2012.

A351 Sandford/Holton Heath 12 weeks commencing 3rd January 2012.

(b) **Items for Forthcoming Agendas**

NHS Dental Services in Swanage.

112. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

113. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Land south of Swanage Bay View Holiday Park**

The Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the occupation of grazing land south of the Holiday Park, and possible settlement negotiations.

It was RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To re-affirm the previous Resolution:

That the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Clerk be given delegated authority to act in the matter, where required by urgent necessity, until the conclusion of the court case scheduled for mid-January.

(b) **De Moulham Estate Back Roads**

A letter dated 18th November 2011 was submitted from the Council's surveyor regarding the granting of access rights from two additional units at Avalon, 5 Rempstone Road onto the Rempstone back road.

It was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That two additional access rights onto the Rempstone back road be granted, subject to payment of the appropriate fees recommended by the Council's surveyor.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:-

That the present owners, or the owners of the development company, be responsible for payment of an annual maintenance charge to the Town Council towards the upkeep of the Rempstone back road.

114. **POTENTIAL RE-LOCATION OF ST. MARY'S SCHOOL**

A letter dated 15th December 2011 was submitted from Dorset County Council (Dorset Property) regarding identification of sites for the potential re-location of St. Mary's RC First School.

During the ensuing discussion, Members felt that not enough information had been provided for the matter to be given meaningful consideration, and that the letter was unclear and confusing.

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

That a letter be sent to Dorset County Council highlighting the Town Council's concerns and seeking further information on the matter.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:-

That a site meeting be arranged to enable Members to visit St. Mary's RC First School.

The meeting concluded at 8.10 p.m.
