



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the
Swanage Town & Community Partnership
held at The Town Hall, Swanage on
WEDNESDAY 11th JULY 2018 @ 3.30 p.m.**

Present:

Kim Gallagher, Swanage Lions and Outgoing Chair ST&CP
Councillor Mike Bonfield, Swanage Town Council and Outgoing Vice Chair ST&CP
Dr Martin Ayres, Town Clerk; Honorary Treasurer ST&CP
John Bishop, Swanage Town Council
Peter Bowyer, Studland Parish Council
Robin Brasher, Isle of Purbeck Model Railway Group; Swanage Walking Group
Niki Clark, Management Support Officer, Swanage Town Council
Peter Clark, Swanage Cricket Club
Tom Clarke, National Trust
Jude Evans, Help & Care; Friends of Swanage Library
Bob Foster, Rotary; Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
Jean Gibbs, Swanage Area Dementia Friendly Community
Sylvia Libicka, Swanage Chamber of Trade and Commerce
Mel Norris, Swanage Museum & Heritage Centre
Bill Trite, Dorset County, Purbeck District, and Swanage Town Councils
Mike Whitwam, Purbeck District and Swanage Town Councils

Also in attendance:

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

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair, Mrs Kim Gallagher, welcomed all Partners to the meeting.

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Mrs Mo Andrews (SADFC), Mrs Ann Faulkner (Swanage Library), Mr Laurence Gloyn-Cox (SCCF & Probus 2), Mr Neil Hardy (Swanage RNLI), and the Purbeck South Neighbourhood Policing Team.

2. Election of Chair

Proposed by Councillor Mike Bonfield, seconded by Mr Mel Norris, and AGREED:

That Mrs Kim Gallagher be appointed Chair of the Swanage Town & Community Partnership for the ensuing year.

3. Election of Vice Chair

Proposed by Mr Bob Foster, seconded by Councillor John Bishop, and AGREED:

That Councillor Mike Bonfield be appointed Vice Chair of the Swanage Town & Community Partnership for the ensuing year.

4. **Election of Honorary Secretary**

No nominations had been received for the position of Honorary Secretary. It was therefore agreed that the Town Council would cover secretarial duties for the ensuing year.

5. **Election of Honorary Treasurer**

As set out in the Swanage Town & Community Partnership (ST&CP) Constitution, Dr Martin Ayres, in his capacity as Town Clerk, would continue in his role as Honorary Treasurer.

6. **Election of Steering Committee Members in line with Paragraph 7 of the Constitution**

It was reported that one 'Expression of Interest' form for the position of Steering Committee Member had been received from Mr Tom Clarke.

In accordance with Paragraph 7. of the ST&CP Constitution, it was therefore AGREED:

That, in line with Paragraph 7. of the Swanage Town & Community Partnership Constitution, the Steering Committee Members for the ensuing year would be; Dr Martin Ayres, Councillor John Bishop, Councillor Mike Bonfield, Mr Tom Clarke, Councillor Caroline Finch, Mr Bob Foster, Mrs Kim Gallagher, Mr Mel Norris, and Councillor Mike Whitwam.

7. **Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accounts**

It was reported by the Chair that Darkin Miller Limited, accountants, had been appointed as Auditor for the ensuing year, all were in agreement with this appointment.

8. **Chair's Annual Report**

The Chair reported that during the year ST&CP had continued to build strong relationships with strategic partners. The Partnership's Executive Committee, Swanage2027, had continued to work hard to find solutions to priorities identified in the Swanage Local Plan, which had been formally adopted by the District Council in June 2017. The Chair welcomed Mr Tom Clarke to the Executive Committee.

Brief updates were given on key projects, which had been identified as follows:

- Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy – which had been formally adopted by the District Council in June 2018.
- Heritage of Swanage.
- Sea defence.
- Outdoor performance space.
- Local listing.
- Conservation areas.

It was further reported that, working with key partners, progress had been made with proposals for expanding the Swanage Museum on its current site, and substantial improvements to Days Park Football Ground. The Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust had also had a successful first year of operation at The Centre.

9. **Statement of Audited Accounts 2017/18**

A copy of the Certified Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2018 was provided and a brief overview given. During the course of the financial year the Partnership did not apply for or receive any grants or contributions, and financial activity was limited to bank charges incurred of £79. Total funds held now sat at £9,524 (non-allocated).

Further to Minute No. 6 of the Swanage Town & Community Partnership Quarterly Meeting held on 13th December 2017, a recommendation had been made that consideration of a pledge of £5,000

to the Swanage Museum and Heritage Centre Project should be given by the Partnership at its Annual General Meeting. Following the decision to shelve plans for relocating the museum to an alternative site, this recommendation would now be put on hold pending future discussions.

10. **Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting held on 21st March 2018**

Proposed that these were a true record by Mr Bob Foster, seconded by Mr Robin Brasher, and agreed, subject to Minute No. 9 being amended to read that the Studland Village Fete had been held on 30th June 2018, and not 3rd June 2018.

11. **Matters arising**

Swanage Emergency Plan (SEP) – it was reported that a draft copy of the SEP had been drawn up, and community engagement was planned later in the year. Attention was drawn to the recent severe weather conditions, and a comment was made that it would be vital for the plan to be formalised as soon as possible.

12. **Swanage2027 Project (S2027)**

a) Update on identified projects and priorities

A copy of the updated list of S2027 priorities for 2018/19 was provided to Partners. A review of the list of priorities had been undertaken, and updates were provided on each project (highlighted in green on the list). The following matters were also reported:

- **Transport links and traffic flow improvements** – the Town Council would be meeting with officers from DCC on 13th July 2018 to review feedback received at the recent Public Consultation and Exhibition regarding the proposed improvements to Institute Road.
- **Caring Communities** – it was proposed that a representative from Dorset Community Action would be invited to a future ST&CP meeting to discuss the way forward with this project.
- **Improve and expand Museum/Heritage Centre** – the working group (STC/Museum/S&PDT) would be meeting on 12th July 2018 to discuss next steps.
- **Multi-Function Centre** – block plans had been drawn up, and an artist's impression was being created, which would go out to future public consultation. An update/announcement would be made at Swanage and Herston Football Club's AGM on 12th July 2018. The working group would be visiting RiversMeet Leisure Centre in Gillingham on 18th July 2018, currently the only community owned and managed sports and leisure facility within the UK.
- **Community bus/transport** – a plea was made for a driver for a local community minibus. Any interested party was requested to contact the Chair, Mrs Kim Gallagher, accordingly. It was reported that DCA was holding an 'Integrated Transport Programme Stakeholder Workshop' on 17th July 2018. Councillor Peter Bowyer would be attending the workshop and invited comments from Partners accordingly.
- **Conservation Areas** – the Purbeck Society would be invited to a future meeting to give a presentation to Partners on its Local Listing Project, which was progressing well.
- **Town Centre improvements** – concerns were raised that the number of A-boards on pavements in the town centre had been increasing, and at times had created major difficulties for pedestrians, wheelchair users, and children's pushchairs. A request would be made for the County Council to review this situation.
- **Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy** – the SGIS had been formally adopted by the District Council in June 2018, and a working group would now be established to review the actions required. Any interested parties were requested to contact the Chair, Mrs Kim Gallagher, accordingly. Comments were made that this was a significant and detailed document, and provided the potential to transform and improve the town. A link to the document would be sent round to Partners for their information.

b) Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust – update

Updates were given as follows:

- **Herston Village Hall** – it was reported that the hall was now covering its costs, although there were still a number of repairs to be undertaken. A Business Plan was being developed for the future, and funding routes would be explored. It would be critical for the hall to obtain a good level of lettings, and interest was increasing.
- **The Centre** – it was reported that operations were going well, and that The Centre was ‘vibrant’ and paying for itself. Fundraising was being undertaken for new audio-visual equipment, and the reroofing works would commence imminently. The Jazz Festival would be using The Centre for some of its concerts this year.

c) Swanage Town Council (STC) – update

It was reported that the Council had undertaken a significant capital programme of works over the winter months. Updates were given as follows:

- **Public toilet upgrade schemes** – refurbishment works undertaken to the facilities in Main Beach and Mermond Place car parks, new DDA compliant facilities in the Town Hall, and a new standalone unit in Beach Gardens.
- **Boat Park stabilisation works** – the Boat Park had now reopened and a new Boat Park Attendant was in situ for the summer season.
- **Boat Park slipway improvements/new winch** – a grant application had been submitted to the European Maritime Fisheries Fund.
- **Bandstand restoration project** – out to tender in due course in respect of the refurbishment of the Bandstand and the surrounding amphitheatre.
- **Relocation of Council Depot** – it was anticipated that the Operations Department would be relocated to its new premises in Prospect Business Park before the end of the year.
- **Transfer of assets from DCC/PDC** – it was reported that the former St Mark’s Primary School Playing Fields were being taken over by STC from DCC on a new 21-year lease. Discussions with PDC regarding the Museum and Heritage Centre and adjoining toilets were ongoing.
- **Elections May 2019** – a reminder was given regarding the upcoming elections in 2019. If anyone was interested in standing as a Councillor they were invited to contact the Town Mayor and/or the Town Clerk for further information.

13. Updates

- a) Sandbanks Ferry – Proposed increase in ferry tolls – Notification of Public Inquiry** – the Public Inquiry would be held on 25th and 26th September 2018. It was reported that the District Council would be taking the lead in preparing for the Inquiry, and had instructed a barrister to present the case/objections to the increase at the hearing.

14. Member Organisations – updates

Chamber of Trade

Problems with litter/the lack of bins in Institute Road was discussed, which had been having an adverse impact on businesses. Contact with Dorset Waste Partnership was advised.

Help & Care

It was reported that funding for the ‘Wayfinders and Champions’ service had ended, however, it was anticipated that DCC and Dorset CCG would be looking to retain the service locally. Help & Care hoped to be successful in applying for the contract again in the future. The service enabled more people to live safely and for longer in their own homes.

Friends of Swanage Library

It was reported that permission had been obtained from DCC to create a small communal garden in the grounds of the library. Plans were in early stages, and the library was looking for volunteers to help with this project.

The Purbeck Society

It was reported that the Society's winter programme was now available on its Facebook page and website www.purbeckociety.co.uk, and an invitation to the events/talks was extended to all.

Studland Parish Council (SPC)

A reminder was given regarding the consultation on the third tranche of Marine Conservation Zones, which closed on 20th July 2018.

It was reported that SPC and the National Trust were keen to discuss/consider the improvement/joining up of footpaths in the area to reduce the dangers to pedestrians, currently seen walking on the roads around the Studland area, and at North Swanage. Councillor Peter Bowyer would provide more details regarding this matter.

Swanage Cricket Club

The Club was now in its busy match season, and had sadly lost a number of key players recently. However, the youth teams were currently doing well.

Swanage Area Dementia Friendly Community

The group's new newsletter had now been published, and Partners were requested to contact Mrs Jean Gibbs or Mrs Mo Andrews for copies. It was noted that the group was keen to work with S&PDT and make use of the proposed new multi-function centre in the future.

Town Twinning Association

A successful visit to Rudesheim had been made in June 2018. Association members had enjoyed a cruise on the Rhine, a firework display and a picnic. The association now had some new members, who were currently learning to speak German.

Isle of Purbeck Model Railway Group

It was reported that a show would be held in Harmans Cross Village Hall in August 2018, which would be publicised in due course.

Swanage Railway

A reminder was given regarding the trial summer Saturdays rail service from Salisbury to Corfe Castle, which would run until 8th September 2018.

15. Any other business

Agenda items – a reminder was given that if anyone wanted to place an item on the agenda of a future meeting then contact should be made with the Chair, Mrs Kim Gallagher, for consideration.

Nine Barrow Down – concerns were raised regarding the spraying of this area to control vegetation, and the possible adverse effect this could have on the butterfly population. Contact would be made with the Town Clerk to research this matter further.

'Refill your water bottle here for free' initiative – it was reported that a number of shops in the town were willing to provide drinking water free of charge, which it was hoped would reduce the purchase of single-use plastic bottles. A suggestion was made that a poster/stickers could be designed which ST&CP could use to promote to business owners, and it was therefore proposed that a draft poster would be created and brought to a future meeting for further consideration. Concerns were raised regarding the amount of 'fish and chip' litter seen along the seafront, and it was noted that one business had gone 'green' and now used recycled/recyclable cartons.

16. Provisional Date of Next Annual General Meeting, and Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday 12th June 2019, and Wednesday 19th September 2018, both at 2.15 p.m., at the Town Hall, Swanage.

The meeting closed at 5.00 p.m.
