

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on
MONDAY, 22nd MAY 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor B.A. Audley
Councillor C.R. Bright
Councillor Mrs. J.A. Farrow
Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough JP
Councillor M. Hadley
Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh
Councillor M.W. Pratt
Councillor G.M. Suttle
Councillor W.S. Trite
Councillor M.A. Tyrer

1. **APPOINTMENT OF TOWN MAYOR**

Proposed by Councillor Trite, seconded by Councillor Bright, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That Councillor Gary Maurice Suttle be
appointed Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

Councillor Suttle completed the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of
Office, and thanked his fellow Councillors for their unanimous support.

COUNCILLOR SUTTLE IN THE CHAIR

2. **DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR**

Proposed by Councillor Tyrer and seconded by Councillor Mrs.
Gainsborough:-

That Councillor Michael William Pratt
be appointed Deputy Town Mayor for the
ensuing year.

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

Councillor Pratt then completed the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of
Office and was privileged to accept the appointment.

3. **APOLOGIES**

An apology for her inability to attend the Meeting was received from
Councillor Mrs. Bartlett.

4. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, seconded by Councillor
Bright, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held
on 24th April 2006 be approved as a correct record
and signed.

Arising from the above, Councillor Bright referred to Minute No.189, and enquired whether the exact locations of the flower planters to be painted had been specified. It was established that only those situated at the Main Beach Car Park had been specified, and Members were extremely pleased with those that had been painted so far.

It was AGREED:-

That letters of appreciation be sent to the 1st Ulwell and 7th Swanage Brownie Groups thanking the children for their excellent work.

Councillor Bright then referred to Minute No. 9 and wished it to be recorded that it had been agreed that matters relating to the public conveniences be deferred for consideration at the next Meeting of the Council to be held on 22nd May 2006 and not 19th June 2006, as recorded.

- (b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Tyrer, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss planning and other matters on 7th April 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed.

- (c) Proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters on 15th May 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**

Proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED:-

That the Notes on the Public Participation Time held on 24th April 2006 be accepted.

6. **CARAVAN PARK COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Caravan Park Committee held on 26th April 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed.

7. **CAR PARKING ORDER ADJUDICATION PANEL**

Proposed by Councillor Tyrer, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Car Parking Order Adjudication Panel held on 15th May 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed.

8. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman had no specific announcements to make this month.

9. **TOURISM REPORT**

The Tourist Information Centre Manager reported on the following matters:-

- (a) Accommodation was almost fully booked for the forthcoming Bank Holiday Weekend and a large influx of visitors was expected. The beach bungalows on Shore Road were fully booked, but there was still limited availability at the Spa.
- (b) “Purbeck Aware” month had now commenced, and this year the events were themed around “living off the landscape”. A full list of events was available at the Tourist Information Centre.
- (c) Swanage has again achieved the prestigious “Blue Flag” Award for cleanliness and beach management. One of the initiatives is “Beach Awareness Week”, which was scheduled to commence on Saturday, 27th May, and is set to include the RNLI beach safety roadshow, together with displays and general information. A display to promote the “Beach Clean” on Sunday, 28th May, was also to be included.
- (d) 500 children’s activity packs will be distributed from the Information Centre, and an additional 180 packs will be given to local children from Mount Scar School who will be walking along the beach as part of “Walk to School” week.

10. **OPERATIONS REPORT**

The Operations Manager had no specific matters to report on outside works at the present time, other than to say that general maintenance works were continuing, together with preparations for the forthcoming holiday season.

11. **2006 EVENTS**

(a) **Shore Road**

A letter dated 12th May 2006 was submitted from Mr. Stephen Leaton requesting permission for the “Gugge 2000” band to perform on Shore Road for approximately one hour on Saturday morning, 15th July 2006. It was proposed by Councillor Tyrer, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and RESOLVED:-

That the request be approved.

(b) **Sandpit Field**

A letter dated 10th May 2006 was submitted from Mr. Nick Viney of Swanage requesting permission to hold a “Youth Event” on Sandpit Field on Thursday, 27th July 2006 from 7.30 pm until midnight.

During the ensuing discussion, concern was expressed that the proposed finishing time of the event would contravene the terms of the Premises Licence, and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Tyrer, and RESOLVED:-

That the request be granted, subject to the event finishing no later than 11 pm.

12. **ANY OTHER MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT**

(a) **Standing Orders**

Further to Minute No. 3 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 15th May 2006, consideration was given to the appointment of Council Committees and Sub-Committees and representation on outside bodies in accordance with paragraphs 12 (f) and 12(g) of the Standing Orders.

Having regard to the impending Town Council bye-election and the absence of Councillor Mrs. Bartlett at the present meeting, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bright, and RESOLVED with ONE ABSTENTION:-

That the existing composition of the Committees and representation on outside bodies should remain in force until after the Town Council bye-election on 15th June 2006.

(b) **Delegation of Authority**

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 5th May 2006, the matter of “delegation of authority” was again raised. Having regard to the nature of the business to be discussed, it was AGREED:-

That this matter be deferred for consideration later in the Meeting when the press and public had been excluded.

13. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of April 2006 were submitted for information.

14. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 2, 2a and 2b, amounting to £242,115.62, £98,457.19 and £102,984.05 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

15. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, and RESOLVED:-

That, as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

16. **DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY**

Further to Minute No. 12 (b) above, and a Briefing Note prepared and submitted on behalf of Councillor Bright, consideration was given to the scope of “delegation of authority”, with particular reference to the negotiation of contracts.

The issues raised were considered to be policy matters, and, as such, should be given detailed consideration at a future meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters. However, some specific points were highlighted, and it was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Tyrer, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the matter be deferred for consideration at the next Special Meeting of the Council to be held on 19th June 2006 to enable further information to be provided by the Town Clerk.