

Minutes of the Meeting of the **CARPARKS**
BEST VALUE REVIEW WORKING GROUP held at the
Town Hall on **Monday, 9th February 2004** at **9.30 a.m.**
continued on **Monday, 16th February 2004** at **2.15 p.m.**

Present:-

Councillor A.H. Miller – Chairman 9/02/04 (not present 16/02/04)
Councillor C. Bright – (Chairman 16/02/04)
Councillor Mrs. J. Farrow (until 12.30 p.m. – 09/02/04)
Councillor Mrs. H. O'Donovan
Councillor M. Tyrer

Also in attendance:-

Mr A.J. Leeson Town Clerk
Mr G. Brookes Operations Manager
Mr A. Burnet Peveril Point Resident (until 12.35 p.m. 09/02/04 – until 3.00 p.m. 16/02/04)

The Chairman welcomed Mr Burnet to the Meeting as a co-opted member.

1) **Apologies**

The Chairman made his personal apologies for his inability to attend the Meeting held on 16 February 2004.

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2) **Review of Minutes – Meeting held on 11th November 2003**

Referring to Minute 2) a general discussion arose as to the required signage in the carparks. It was stated that the decision to purchase new machines had been taken by the Council and that only a certain amount of information can be placed on these. However the entrance signs still needed to indicate the class of carpark and the type of vehicle that are prohibited from the carpark. The main concern was how to ensure that vehicles were parked within the marked bays, with many ideas being put forward. After further discussion:

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Bright, **SECONDED** by the Chairman and **AGREED**:
That the Clerk produce a draft of the proposed signage boards and that these and other information are distributed prior to the next Meeting to enable further discussion.

With reference to Minute 2) it was stated that the Council had decided on a policy to introduce 45 parking permits for the residents of Peveril Point at a cost of £125 per permit. Councillor Bright requested clarification on what steps had now to be taken in order for the permit to come into force. The Clerk stated that the car parking order had to be advertised, a review panel of Councillors would then be established in order to assess any objections that may be received. If any legal representations were made against the Council then the matter could be subject to a public enquiry. The timescale for this would be approximately three months.

Councillors agreed that the route to a public enquiry was not in the interest of either the residents or the Council, however action had to be taken on Peveril Point Road in order to provide suitable access for emergency vehicles. The need for wide consultation and discussion with residents was recognised by Members. The possibility of starting the consultation process through instigating the start of the procedure to broaden the car parking order was discussed. Councillor O'Donovan raised concern over the possibility of legal action being taken and stressed the need for negotiations. The Mayor confirmed that consultation had already occurred and that many of the issues had been addressed. The Mayor referred to a letter received from Mr Burnet in order to illustrate this. After a lengthy discussion:

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Bright, SECONDED by Councillor Tyrer and AGREED, with four INFAVOUR and one ABSTAINING:

That the Clerk commence the procedure to extend the car parking order to Peveril Point Road.

Mr Burnet asked that the issue be brought back to the beginning and that the Council look at the scheme with an open mind. The need to differentiate between residents and those who have businesses at Peveril Point was raised and recognised. The issue of the lease on land at Peveril was also raised and the effect that this issue could have was discussed.

The Chairman suggested that Mr Burnet comes back to the Council with the resident's proposals. The possibility of deferring the advertisement for the car parking order, so that Mr Burnet could compile a report on the views of property owners at Peveril Point, was highlighted. After a lengthy discussion:

It was PROPOSED by the Chairman, SECONDED by Councillor Tyrer and AGREED with three INFAVOUR and one AGAINST:

That the Town Clerk defer the advertisement for six weeks to allow for the views of property owners to be sought.

With reference to Minute 3) and in view of letter that had been received from Mr Macrow, a resident of Seaward Court Flats, Councillors reviewed the planting of the Leylandi hedge in North Beach car park. After a brief discussion:

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Tyrer, SECONDED by Councillor O'Donovan and AGREED:

That the Leylandi hedge be removed from North Beach Car Park and the cost of repairing the fence be assessed.

The Meeting closed at 12.50 p.m. Further matters on the Agenda not discussed at the Meeting were deferred to a Meeting to be held on **Monday, 16th February 2004** in the **Town Hall** at **2.15 p.m.**

The Meeting reconvened on Monday 16th February 2004 at 2.15 p.m. Councillor Millernominated Councillor Bright as the Chairman of the Meeting and left the Meeting.

With reference to Minute 2) the Clerk clarified the Council's position and the action that had been agreed by the Working Group. The Clerk also clarified the judgement and expanded upon the principles established by Primrose Hill. The Clerk outlined the Council's position and advised that the period of consultation be entered into with an open mind.

Mr Burnet requested further clarification as to whether or not the formal process had commenced. It was stated that the formal process would properly commence when the advertising for the car parking order was lodged. The proposals now being considered were a method of getting discussions underway and that the consultation process should start afresh from the current point onwards.

The reasons for determining to introduce controlled parking at Peveril Point Road were outlined. It was noted that the Council had a statutory right to introduce controlled parking, but the main issue was compliance with the Health & Safety requirements. It was highlighted that the Council originally started the review as a result of two requests from residents at Peveril Point for private parking places.

Councillor Bright highlighted the fact that the Council had an obligation to make other residents of Swanage aware of the Council's intentions. The possibility of receiving objections from non-residents was recognised. After a brief discussion:

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Farrow, SECONDED by Councillor Tyrer and AGREED:
That the Town Clerk compile an appropriate notice to place on the
Town Council's noticeboard.

Mr Burnet raised the issue of the effect on drainage that the changing of the surface or widening of the road could have in the area. It was noted that this issue would be expanded upon during consultation and if more time was needed for expert advice then further time would be granted.

Mr Burnet stated that he would compile a questionnaire in order to gauge the opinions of the property owners at Peveril Point. The need for Mr Burnett to remain independent of the Council was noted and that this could be the only way forward. It was agreed that the Clerk write to all property owners at Peveril Point to inform them Mr Burnet had been co-opted onto the Working Group and to outline his role. The letters should also state that this was a new beginning for consultation, prior to commencement of any formal process.

With reference to Minute 2) the Operations Manager stated that a formal survey of Peveril Point Road had not taken place. Councillors outlined the need for a survey to be undertaken in regard to the width and condition of the road, particularly in light of discussions over possible parking schemes.

ACTION: The Operations Manager will arrange for a survey of Peveril Point Road.

With further reference to Minute 2) the Operations Manager reported that he had taken steps to employ an Enforcement Officer for the summer season.

Referring to Minute 3) the Operations Manager reported that he had received a quote for the remarking of Main Beach and North Beach car parks. It was noted that Swanage Railway had been informed of the movement of the reserved bays in Main Beach car park.

3) **Matters Arising from the Site Visit**

This site visit was held on Friday 6th February 2004. The main issues arising from the visit was the condition and width of the road with the need for passing places was noted. It was agreed that most of the issues would be addressed once a survey of the Peveril Point Road had been carried out.

4) **General Issues**

Disabled Parking at Health Centre

Councillor Tyrer questioned the agreed policy to install pay and display facilities outside the Health Centre on Station Approach. Other members also voiced concern over this policy. After a brief discussion:

It was AGREED:

That the policy of installing pay and display machines on Station Approach be reviewed.

b) **New Ticket Machines**

The Operations Manager stated that nine new ticket machines had been purchased at a cost of £18,750 to the Town Council and with a delivery date of the end of March 2004. It was also noted that there was a lead time for the printing of tickets suitable for the machines. The installation would cost approximately £500 per machine.

c) **New Signs**

The location of the machines were confirmed as being two at Central, two at Main Beach, two at North Beach and two at Broad Road car park. It was noted that this would leave one spare machine.

As a result of the meeting held 9th February 2004, the Working Group considered signs for the

carparks which had been drafted by the Clerk. It was noted that the charges would be on a separate plate and could be interchanged. The need to inform the public and coach drivers of the market at Main Beach carpark was noted, particularly as coaches are prohibited from Main Beach on market days and the word "including" should be omitted from the drafted sign. The need to put more information on the signs at Broad Road was recognised. Information was needed to inform the public with regard to the Boat Park and the launching of jetskis and boats. After a brief discussion:

It was AGREED:

That the entrances signs be implemented as drafted, excepting Main Beach carpark which should have a plate to inform coach drivers that parking is prohibited on market days in the summer season. The Town Clerk will consider Broad Road carpark separately.

The potential cost of the new signs was discussed. It was noted that eight entrance signs and fifteen Pay & Display signs would be required. The Operations Manager highlighted the likely cost as being approximately £1,000 each. The size of the signs was considered. The possibility of reducing the Pay & Display signs was discussed in order to reduce the cost. After a brief discussion:

It was AGREED:

That the Operations Manager obtains a quote for the required signs and reports informally to Working Group members at the earliest possible opportunity.

5) **Date of Next Meeting**

A Meeting to consider developments with Peveril Point residents was set for **March 2004** in the **Town Hall** at **2.15 p.m.**

Monday 29th

The Meeting closed at 4.00 p.m.
