

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council, held at the Town Hall, Swanage, on
MONDAY, 27th JANUARY 2003 at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT: -

Councillor A.H. Miller (Town Mayor) – Chairman.

Councillor Mrs. C.A. Bartlett
Councillor Mrs. J. A. Farrow
Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough
Councillor Mrs. G. A. Marsh
Councillor Mrs. H. O'Donovan
Councillor J Roscoe
Councillor W.S. Trite
Councillor Mrs. J.D. Wheeldon
Councillor M. R. Woolley

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

129. **APOLOGIES**

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

130. **MINUTES**

- (a) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and RESOLVED:-
That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16th December 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.
- (b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, and RESOLVED:-
That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters on 16th December 2002 be approved as a correct record and signed.
- (c) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and RESOLVED:-
That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss planning and other matters on 10th January 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.
- (d) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and RESOLVED:-
That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss Estimates and seasonal

charges on 13th January 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Arising from the above, the Clerk referred to the proposals to discontinue the weekly tickets for boats and trailers in the Peveril Boat Park. These tickets had proved very popular with holidaymakers in the past, and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and RESOLVED:-

That the weekly ticket be reinstated at a charge of £60.00 per week (incl.VAT) – the same charge as in 2002.

The Clerk reported on the charges that had been levied for Advertising “A” Boards at the Tourist Information Centre in 2002, and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and RESOLVED:-

That the price of the 3ft x 4ft Advertising Board be increased to £141.00 (incl.VAT) for 2003.

The Clerk also reported on the Registration Fee that is charged to new proprietors of holiday accommodation establishments who have missed the deadline to advertise in the Swanage & Purbeck Guide. The amount charged by the Wareham Information Centre is £70.00 (incl.VAT), and it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and RESOLVED:-

That, in order to be consistent, the charge be increased to £70.00 (incl.VAT).

(e)

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matters on 20th January 2003, be approved as a correct record and signed.

131. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was RESOLVED:-

That the notes on the Public Participation Time held on 16th December 2002 be accepted.

132. **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had no matters to report this month.

134. **TOURISM REPORT**

The Tourist Information Centre Manager reported that January had given a very encouraging start to the 2003 tourist trade.

She then reported on the following matters:-

- (a) The TIC had become an agent for Coach House Travel, based in Dorchester, which operates coach tours ranging from week long holidays to weekend breaks.
- (b) The staff, at both Swanage and Wareham TIC offices, are encouraging the organisers of local events to display advertising material to promote the area as a whole.
- (c) Endeavours were being made with the Wilts & Dorset Bus Co. to put together an "Explorer" package, to encourage foreign students attending the language schools in Bournemouth to visit the Studland/Swanage/Wareham area.
- (d) The National Express figures were down, compared with previous years, and attempts were being made to regenerate interest in this service, through the National Express advertising agency.

135. **HOLIDAY PARK REPORT**

The Holiday Park Manager reported that January had been a busy month at the Park, with caravan sales being considerably higher than during the corresponding period in 2002.

He reported that a new website had been set up for caravan sales, and a separate one for holiday lettings and enquiries.

Staff incentives were also being considered.

136. **BUDGET REVIEW - CAPITAL PROGRAMME**

Further to Minute No. 4 of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 20th January 2003, the Clerk submitted details of types and designs of play equipment available from two different companies, together with relevant costs.

£5,000 had been allocated in the Council's budget, but the estimated costs of the proposed equipment were in excess of this budget.

Following discussion, during which Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon expressed concern at the timescale for the delivery and installation of the equipment, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, and RESOLVED:-

That the matter be deferred for consideration at the Special Meeting of the Council to be held on 17th February 2003.

It was FURTHER AGREED:-

That Mrs. Sue Bryant be invited to attend the Meeting.

137. **ANY OTHER MATTERS WHICH THE TOWN MAYOR DECIDES ARE URGENT**

There were no additional matters in need of urgent attention.

138. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of December 2002 were

submitted.

139. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

It was proposed by Councillor Trite, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Order on Treasurer Nos. 10, 10a and 10b, amounting to £233,943.51, £48,171.70 and £8,604.92. respectively, be paid and that cheques be drawn therefor.

140. **STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCE**

The Clerk submitted a statement of cash balance as at 31st December 2002 (copies having been circulated to all Councillors), a copy attached at end of these Minutes.

141. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

142. **SWANAGE BAY VIEW HOLIDAY PARK**

The Clerk reported on the proposals to introduce an incentive scheme regarding the sale of caravans at the Swanage Bay View Holiday Park.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Woolley, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, and RESOLVED:-

That approval be given to the introduction of a staff incentive scheme.

143. **LEASE**

The Clerk updated Members on the current position regarding the lease of the shop at the Holiday Park, and consideration was given to its future operation.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Roscoe, and RESOLVED:-

That delegated powers be given to the Town Mayor, Town Clerk and Holiday Park Manager in determining the details of the concession.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:-

That a one year lease be advertised, and that local traders be notified of the availability of the lease.

During the discussion, the importance of essential stock items was identified, and it was agreed that Councillors Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Farrow compile a list of essential items to be included within the saleable stock.
