

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council, held at the Town Hall, Swanage, on
MONDAY, 31st MARCH 2003 at 7.20 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

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

The Mayor welcomed Capt. Philip Layton of the Salvation Army, who offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

160. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies to report for inability to attend the Meeting.

161. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Gainsborough, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and

RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 24th February 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Farrow, and

RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss planning and other matters on 7th March 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(c) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Wheeldon, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and

RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and resources matter on 24th March 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

162. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

It was RESOLVED:-

That the notes on the Public Participation Time held on 24th February 2003 be accepted.

163. **BOAT PARK BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Boat Park Best Value Working Group held on 24th February 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

164. **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Cemetery Committee held on 24th February 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

165. **SWANAGE TOWN MARKET COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Swanage Town Market Committee held on 18th March 2003 be approved as a correct record and signed.

166. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported on the following matters:-

- (a) New equipment, costing approximately £12,500, had been ordered for the Skate Park, with an expected delivery date in June.
- (b) The installation of new lighting at the Bandstand was scheduled to commence on Monday, 7th April 2003.
- (c) On Saturday, 31st March 2003, the Mayor had attended the Official Opening of the new signal box at Swanage Station, and wished to congratulate the volunteer workers for the sterling work undertaken.
- (d) The second edition of the Council's newsletter, Swanage Matters, had been printed, and would shortly be distributed to all households in the parish.
- (e) Finally, the Mayor reported on the refurbishment of the Vista Complex, and announced that a "Welcome Drink" would be offered to everyone visiting

the Complex on Saturday, 5th April 2003 between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.

167. **TOURISM REPORT**

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

- (a) In connection with the “Beach Awareness Week”, the RNLI would be staging their roadshow on Sunday 25th May. Confirmation of the Wall’s Ice Cream Water Safety roadshow from 26th to 30th May was still awaited.
- (b) A brochure listing events and activities during the Easter period was currently being prepared and should be available for circulation later in the week.
- (c) Staff at the Tourist Information Centre had recently attended a Southern Tourist Board course aimed at improving the services provided for the disabled. Signs at the TIC had now been changed to help the visually impaired, and the staff had been taught some basic sign language.
- (d) The “Great Dorset Beach Clean” would take place on Sunday, 13th April 2003 between 10 a.m. and noon, and anyone wishing to take part should meet at the new Jetty, where they would be provided with a rubbish sack.
- (e) Finally, the decision to open the Tourist Information Centre on Saturdays during the winter months had proved very successful – often being the busiest day of the week on footfall figures.

168. **HOLIDAY PARK REPORT**

The Holiday Park Manager reported on the following matters:-

- (a) Caravan sales and bookings were good at the present time, and all indications were on target for an excellent summer season.
- (b) The Vista Complex had re-opened and catering services were available. This was proving popular, with approximately 60 meals being served on Mothering Sunday.
- (c) The refurbishment work had progressed well, and a pictorial report was submitted for Members’ information.
- (d) Further to Minute No. 166(e), the Holiday Park Manager, reported on the “Grand Opening” of the facilities on Saturday, 5th April 2003.

Councillor Mrs. Bartlett congratulated the Manager on the results of the refurbishment programme, which was aesthetically very pleasing.

169. **DORSET COMMUNITY ACTION**

A letter dated 21st March 2003 was submitted from the Community Development Manager of Dorset Community Action seeking "in kind" support from the Town Council for the newly-appointed Community Partnerships Worker.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, seconded by Councillor Mrs. O'Donovan, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That "in kind" support be provided for the Community Development Manager, including the provision of office accommodation on one day per week, as requested.

Councillor Mrs. Wheelon declared her interest in the following matter under the Model Code of Conduct, by reason of being a member of the Swanage Folk Festival Committee, but as her interest was non-prejudicial, remained in the Meeting during the discussion.

170. **SWANAGE FOLK FESTIVAL**

A letter dated 24th March 2003 was submitted on behalf of the Swanage Folk Festival seeking the Council's support for the proposed Road Closure Orders for the 2003 Festival.

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

To support the proposed Road Closure Orders.

171. **ANY OTHER MATTERS WHICH THE MAYOR DECIDES ARE URGENT**

There were no additional matters in need of urgent attention.

That the request be granted.

172. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the month of February 2003 were submitted.

173. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

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

That the accounts specified in the Order on Treasurer Nos. 12, 12a and 12b, amounting to £399,610.52, £40,475.43 and £31,446.52 respectively be paid and that cheques be drawn therefor.

174. **STATEMENT OF CASH BALANCE**

The Clerk submitted a statement of cash balance as at 28th February 2003 (copies having been circulated to all Councillors), a copy attached at end of these

Minutes.
