

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Swanage Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND PLANNING** matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 15th MARCH 2010** at 9.30 a.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor M. Pratt (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor B. Audley

Councillor C.R. Bright

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick (from 10.25 a.m.)

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor W. Trite (from 9.37 a.m.)

Councillor M. Whitwam

Public Participation Time

There was one member of the public present at the Meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Gloyn-Cox, Hadley, and Wiggins.

2. **CLOSURE OF JAMES DAY HOME**

Further to Minute No. 128 of the Council Meeting held on 15th March 2010, a letter dated 4th March 2010 was submitted from Dorset County Council in response to the Town Council's letter of the 2nd March.

During the ensuing discussion, Members did not consider that the response had fully addressed the Council's concerns. Questions were also raised regarding the objectives of Care South and its charitable status.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That a further letter be sent to Dorset County Council conveying the Town Council's concern and anger at the closure of James Day Home and reminding the Chief Executive of the commitment given to the close involvement of the Town Council in discussions over the future use of the site.

It was **FURTHER RESOLVED:-**

That a letter be sent to the Charity Commissioners questioning the actions of Care South in respect of James Day Home in the light of its charitable status.

3. **PLANS**

Councillor Mrs. Marsh did not vote on, or propose, or second any of the motions on the following planning applications, by reason of being a Member of the

Plan No

**Delegated
Applications**

- 6/2010/0129 **Mr & Mrs Frost**
Replace existing flat roof with pitched roof.
66 Hoburne Park, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0132 **Ms E Pearson**
LISTED Internal alterations to relocate toilet.
83 High Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0135 **Mr P Roe**
Erect first floor balcony to south west elevation.
12A Institute Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0137 **Mrs A Stevens**
Erect first floor balcony on rear elevation.
247 High Street, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0138 **Mr M Tomes**
Demolish existing garage and car port. Sever land and erect
detached dwelling.
20 Redcliffe Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: Defer.
- 6/2010/0139 **Mr & Mrs R Claridge**
Convert and extend roof to facilitate loft conversion and erect
rear conservatory, detached greenhouse and shed.
32 Bay Crescent, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.
- 6/2010/0140 **Mr Barrett**
Erect single storey side extension.
47 Hoburne Park, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

4. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 28th February 2010 was submitted for information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

5. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Bright, and

RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 12 and 12a, amounting to £6,935,397.12 and £109,153.26 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

Arising from the above, the Clerk explained that the sum of £6,814,000 relating to the sale of the Holiday Park had been transferred to the Council's Investment Fund.

Questions were also posed regarding costs incurred for the termination of contracts at the Holiday Park, and following discussion, it was RESOLVED:-

That a letter be sent to the Council's legal advisers, appointed to act on the Council's behalf in the disposal of the Holiday Park, requesting an offer of compensation to ensure continued client satisfaction.

Councillor Mrs. Patrick joined the Meeting at 10.25 a.m.

6. **SUMMER EVENTS – DRAFT USER AGREEMENT**

Further to Minute No. 8 (a) of the Policy and Planning meeting held on 15th February 2010, consideration was given to a draft "User Agreement" in respect of events held on Council-owned premises. It was noted that the amended document had been drawn up following consultation with another neighbouring authority.

Detailed consideration was given to the "User Agreement", and some minor amendments suggested.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED:-

That the "User Agreement" be approved and adopted, subject to the incorporation of the minor adjustments in the document.

7. **REQUEST FROM ARMED FORCES CAREERS OFFICE TO SITE MOBILE RECRUITING OFFICES**

A letter dated 22nd February 2010 was submitted from the Armed Forces Careers Office requesting permission to site mobile recruiting offices on Shore Road on a fortnightly basis, commencing 8th April 2010.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Trite, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the request be approved, subject to the availability of the site.

8. **METEOROLOGICAL RECORDS**

The meteorological records for the months of January and February 2010 were submitted for information.

9. **THE BOURNEMOUTH, POOLE AND DORSET LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION**

Consideration was given to the Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset Local Transport Plan Stakeholder Consultation document.

During a brief discussion, it was noted that a full consultation on the proposals

was scheduled to take place in the autumn.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and

RESOLVED:-

That the matter be a regular Agenda item
to consider points raised as and when appropriate.

10. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND MATTERS FOR FORTHCOMING AGENDAS**

(a) **Swanage Tennis Club**

Further to Minute No. 12 (a) of the policy and planning meeting held on 15th February 2010, the Clerk reported that the Working Party and representatives of the Swanage Tennis Club had met on two occasions to progress matters relating to the operation of the tennis facilities at Beach Gardens.

Following a brief discussion, it was RESOLVED:-

To accept the arrangements agreed by the Working Party
at the Meeting held on 8th March 2010.

(b) **Monitoring of Efficiency Savings**

Further to Minute No. 12 (b) of the policy and planning meeting held on 15th February 2010 and the Meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 8th March 2010, the Clerk updated Members on the priorities and urgent items that had been assessed.

(c) **Proposed Scheme of Delegation to Officers when Determining Planning Applications**

Following receipt of an e-mail from Purbeck District Council, it was noted that implementation of the scheme of delegation to officers when determining planning applications had been delayed. Further information would be provided in the near future.

Members were reminded of a "Planning" related training event for Town and Parish Councillors on 9th and 12th April 2010. Further information would also be provided for this event.

(d) **Annual Parish Meeting**

It was AGREED:-

That the Annual Parish Meeting be held on
Monday 26th April 2010 in the Mowlem
Community Room at 7.00 p.m.

(e) **Use of Beach**

A letter dated 2nd March 2010 was submitted from the Beach Chair Concessionaire expressing concern at the detrimental effect of the South Coast Rowing Regatta on his business. The event is being held on the busiest weekend of the year (31st July 2010), and it was requested that before permission is granted for the use of the beach for this event in the future, the Beach Concessionaire be consulted regarding a more appropriate date.

(f) **Footway Works – Institute Road**

A letter dated 5th March 2010 was submitted from proprietors of businesses in Institute Road expressing concern at the possible detrimental effect that the footway works may have on their businesses over the busy Easter period.

(g) **Swanage Bowling Club**

A letter dated 4th March 2010 was submitted from the Swanage Bowling Club requesting exclusive use of the bowling green on Club nights (Fridays) throughout the season. The use of the rinks for special matches and competitions on 17 additional days was also requested.

It was proposed by Councillor Bright, seconded by the Town Mayor, and
RESOLVED:-

That the requests be approved.

A further request for permission to erect a shed (12' by 8') in the vicinity of the bowling green was also submitted, and it was RESOLVED:-

That the matter be referred to the General Operations
Manager.

(h) **Planning Appeals**

The Deputy Town Clerk updated Members on decisions relating to planning appeals, and the position was noted.

(i) **Audit Fees**

The Clerk reported on a legal objection to the Town Council's Accounts 2007/08 lodged by a member of the Caravan Owners' Association with the Audit Commission. As a direct result of this objection, additional audit fees had been incurred and an Interim Bill received in the sum of £38,019.00. Grave concern was expressed at the impact of such a large sum on the Council's accounts for the current financial year.

It was AGREED:-

That an item be included on a future Agenda:
Registration of electors at Swanage Bay View
Holiday Park.

11. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

That, under Standing Orders Nos. 67 and 68, by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be excluded from the Meeting during consideration of the following matters.

12. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Cow Lane**

Further to Minute No. 144 (a) of the Council Meeting held on 1st March 2010, the Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the disposal of land at Cow Lane.

During the debate, concern was expressed regarding the making up of the road and future maintenance responsibilities, and it was RESOLVED:-

That detailed professional advice be obtained regarding the Town Council's options in respect of the land and any cost implications that may be applicable.

The Meeting concluded at 12 noon.