

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage  
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY,**  
**19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016** at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor S. Poultney – Chairman

Councillor J. Bishop

Councillor M.P. Bonfield

Councillor C. Finch

Councillor G. Green

Councillor A. Harris

Councillor A. Lejeune

Councillor G. Marsh

Councillor T. Morris

Councillor G.M. Suttle

Councillor W.S. Trite

Councillor M. Whitwam

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, approximately 20 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Before opening the Meeting, the Chairman welcomed members of the public and read a short statement regarding the fire evacuation procedure, filming/audio recording etc. of the Meeting, and a summary of the procedure for Public Participation Time.

Father Paul Keys, from St. Edwards Catholic Church, offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

**Public Participation Time**

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- Appreciation of the support given by the Town Council to ‘Switch on Swanage’, and the sterling work undertaken by Committee members in fundraising.
- A petition that had been organised by ‘Swanage & Purbeck Semi-colons’ (bowel cancer support group), against the proposed closure of the A and E unit at Poole Hospital.

It was agreed that this matter be considered at the next meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

The Chairman opened the Council Meeting at 7.10 p.m.

155. **APOLOGIES**

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

156. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare their interests and consider any requests for Grants of Dispensations in accordance with paragraphs 9 - 13 of the Council's Code of Conduct and regulations made under chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011.

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

157. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Morris, seconded by Councillor Marsh, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

158. **TOURISM COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Finch, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tourism Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

159. **GENERAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Bishop, seconded by the Town Mayor, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Operations Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

160. **PLANNING AND CONSULTATION COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by the Town Mayor, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Consultation Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

161. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016 was submitted for information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

162. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Harris, seconded by Councillor Finch , and  
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 9 and 9a, amounting to £1,602.28 and £56,834.37 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

163. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that he had attended the following events during the

past month:-

- A meeting with Swanage Bowling Club on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016.
- A meeting with representatives of the National Trust on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016.
- A meeting at Durlston Country Park regarding the ‘Durlston Project’ for the restoration of George Burt’s Victorian Garden on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016.
- The town’s Carol Service at St. Mary’s Parish Church on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

164. **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR 2017**

Further to Minute No. 148 of the Council meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016, the Mayor invited nominations for Volunteer of the Year Award 2017 for submission to Purbeck District Council.

In view of the worthy nominations received, it was AGREED:-

That the Mayor and Councillors Bonfield, Finch and Trite consider the nominations and report back to the next meeting of the Council to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017 prior to submission to PDC.

165. **SWANAGE MUSEUM**

A detailed briefing note giving background information on options explored by the Museum Working Party for enhancing and re-developing Swanage Museum on a new site was submitted for information. It was noted that the Working Party had been meeting regularly with representatives of the museum, together with the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and the County Museums Advisor, to examine similar facilities in other nearby towns, and the potential for a much improved facility in Swanage had been highlighted.

Following a site assessment of land in Swanage, the former shelter site on Shore Road had been identified as the best location for such a new facility, and the potential for a joint Museum/Heritage Centre and Tourist Information Centre had been mooted.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Whitwam, seconded by Councillor Green, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To agree in principle to the former shelter site and adjoining land, between Forte’s ice cream kiosk and the Tourist Information Centre, being allocated as the preferred site for the Swanage Museum and Heritage Centre, under a long lease to the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust.

It was further RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

To authorise costings being obtained for further work to establish the viability of the project (for example instructing the District Valuer and a structural engineer/ geo-technical adviser to report on ground stability). These to be presented to a future meeting of the Council for approval.

It was further AGREED:-

That the Town Mayor and Councillors Green and Whitwam be nominated to work with the Museum Committee to further develop the project.

Further discussion ensued, following which, it was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Morris, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Visitor Services Manager, together with the TIC Working Party, be authorised to examine proposals for the inclusion of the Tourist Information Centre in the project.

166. **SPORTS FACILITIES WORKING PARTY**

Consideration was given to the recommendations of the Sports Facilities Working Party in respect of the following:-

(a) **Swanage & Herston Football Club – Lease of land at Day’s Park**

The Clerk provided detailed information regarding the lease of land at Day’s Park by Swanage & Herston Football Club.

During the ensuing discussion, the increasingly dilapidated condition of the Sports Hall was highlighted, and also the need of the Club to acquire security of tenure in order to progress into a higher football league.

It was reported that the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust had been working with the Football Club to develop a business plan, setting out proposals for its future development, and it had been recommended by the Sports Facilities Working Party that this be brought forward for consideration by the full Council.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Bishop, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That in principle agreement be given to lease land at Day’s Park (the precise area to be determined) to the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust for a term of 100 years, subject to a sub-lease being entered into with Swanage and Herston Football Club for the football ground and agreement of acceptable Heads of Terms.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:-

To authorise expenditure from the Council’s budget for legal and professional services to seek advice on legal matters, including revising an existing draft lease (the Development Trust and Football Club to fund their own costs).

(b) **Swanage Bowling Club – Artificial surface and lease of bowling green at Beach Gardens**

The Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the installation of an artificial bowling green at Beach Gardens.

It was noted that at the meeting of the Policy, Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016, it had been recommended that this project be included on the priority capital programme for the 2017/18 financial year – a final decision to be taken by full Council at the Estimates Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017.

In view of the significant financial investment in this project, the Bowling Club was seeking some security of tenure and had requested that the Club enter into a lease with the Council for the bowling green at Beach Gardens. Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Finch, seconded by Councillor Green, and RESOLVED:-

To agree in principle to grant a lease of the bowling green at Beach Gardens to Swanage Bowling Club, subject to the agreement of acceptable Heads of Terms.

167. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

- (a) Councillor Whitwam reported that he had attended the monthly meeting of 'Pub Watch', and was pleased to report that no incidents of anti-social behaviour had been reported during the past month. He had also attended a meeting of the Community Rail Partnership.
- (b) Councillor Marsh reported that she had attended a recent meeting of the DAPTC Towns and Larger Councils at Sturminster Newton. The next meeting of the DAPTC Towns and Larger Councils was scheduled to be held at Wareham Town Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017.
- (c) Councillor Lejeune reported that she had attended a meeting of the Purbeck Family Partnership. It had been a very positive meeting, and hopefully would become an annual event.

168. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

There were no delegated matters to report at the present time.

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

**Items of Information**

- (a) **Registration Service** – Councillor Trite reported that Dorset County Council's Cabinet would be considering a recommendation that the Registration Service would be retained in Swanage (albeit for reduced hours), subject to an appropriate contribution from the Town Council towards the staffing/travelling costs in providing the service.
- (b) **The Centre (formerly Swanage Youth Centre premises)** - Councillor Bishop reported that a Presentation would be given to the Town Council by the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust on progress of The Centre project.
- (c) **NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group** – Councillor Morris reported that a workshop was being held at the Emmanuel Baptist Church on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. regarding Dorset's Clinical Services Review.

**Matters for Forthcoming Agendas**

- (a) The Centre (formerly Swanage Youth Centre premises) – Update.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.

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