

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY,**
27th JUNE 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor S. Poultney – Chairman

Councillor J.M. Bishop
Councillor M.P. Bonfield
Councillor G. Green
Councillor A. Harris
Councillor A. Lejeune
Councillor W.S. Trite
Councillor M. Whitwam

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 14 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.

Public Participation Time

The following matter was raised during Public Participation Time:-

- A Presentation given by Richard and Sandra Brown on behalf of the East Devon and Dorset National Park Group prior to the Council meeting at 6.30 p.m. seeking the support of the Town Council for the exploration of the proposals for East Devon and Dorset National Park status.
- Request for supporting Agenda papers to be put online in advance of the meeting.
- A query over the provision of SANGs land in respect of the redevelopment of the former Grammar School site and land adjoining.
- Concerns over threats to local bus services.
- Request for an urgent progress report from the Panorama Road Working Party.

The Chairman opened the Council Meeting at 7.15 p.m.

32. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Finch, Marsh, Morris and Suttle.

33. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare their interests and 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.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Councillor Lejeune declared a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of a family member having passed an audition with the film production company.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Councillor Trite declared a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of being a director of the Swanage Railway Trust.

Agenda Item No. 16 – Councillor Whitwam declared a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of being a director of the Swanage Railway Trust.

34. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Green, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 23rd May 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Green, seconded by Councillor Bishop and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 25th May 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

35. **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 18th May 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

36. **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Whitwam, seconded by Councillor Green, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport Committee held on 1st June 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Consideration was given to the following recommendation contained in the Minutes:-

5) **Cow Lane – consideration of traffic calming measures on Town Council owned part**

Proposed by Councillor Whitwam and seconded by Councillor Bonfield:-

That, subject to confirmation of the Council's legal powers and an assessment of costs, approval be given to the introduction of traffic calming measures on the Town Council owned section of Cow Lane, including the installation of speed bumps and new signage, a reduction in speed limit to 20 mph, and the introduction of an appropriate vehicular weight limit (e.g. 7.5 tonnes).

Upon being put to the Meeting, SEVEN Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and there was ONE abstention, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

37. **PLANNING AND CONSULTATION COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and
Consultation Committee held on 6th June 2016 be
approved as a correct record and signed.

38. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 31st May 2016 was submitted for
information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

39. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Trite, seconded by Councillor Bishop, and
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer
Nos. 3 and 3a, amounting to £68,041.66 and £40,331.13
respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

40. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that he had attended the following events during the past
month:-

- Girl Guiding Tea Party at Sandpit Field on 5th June.
- D-Day Commemoration event at the War Memorial on 6th June,
followed by an evening with the war veterans at the Royal British
Legion.
- A meeting of the Swanage Town Twinning Association held for
members to finalise arrangements for the forthcoming visit to
Rudesheim am Rhein.

Finally, the Mayor congratulated the Town Clerk on achieving the Certificate
in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification. This qualification is one of
the sector-specific qualifications that meets the criteria for eligibility for the Town
Council to operate The General Power of Competence under the Localism Act 2011,
sections 1 to 8.

41. **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Further to Minute No. 9 of the Annual Council meeting held on 23rd May
2016, consideration was given to membership subscriptions paid annually.

It was RESOLVED:-

That the following annual membership
subscriptions be paid:-

Renewal	Date	Amount (approx.) £
Dorset Assn. of Parish & Town Councils	1 st April	1,182
Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management	1 st April	90

British Destinations	1 st April	120
LAVAT (now PS Tax)	1 st April	1,650
Society of Local Council Clerks	1 st June	310
South West Councils	1 st June	434
National Assn. of Allotment and Leisure Gardens	18 th September	66
National Association of Memorial Masons	1 st December	205
Fields in Trust	1 st February	50
Local Council Advisory Service (Zurich)	1 st February	114

42. **GRANTS AND DONATIONS 2016/17**

Consideration was given to a request received from Swanage Regatta and Carnival seeking a donation towards the cost of the firework displays.

It was proposed by Councillor Trite, seconded by Councillor Harris, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That, under section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972, the sum of £500 be donated to the Swanage Regatta and Carnival towards the cost of the firework displays.

43. **PROPOSAL FOR DORSET AND EAST DEVON NATIONAL PARK**

Further to the Presentation given prior to the commencement of the Council meeting, consideration was given to a request received for the Council's support for the exploration of the proposal for Dorset and East Devon National Park as part of potential local government reorganisation in Dorset.

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

That the Town Council writes to Dorset County Council and Purbeck District Council asking them to ensure that the Dorset and East Devon National Park proposal is seriously evaluated as part of any moves towards local government re-organisation.

44. **ADOPTION OF GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

Having acquired the CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration), the Town Clerk reported that this qualification was one of the two key criteria required for the Town Council to be eligible to operate 'The General Power of Competence' under the Localism Act 2011, sections 1 – 8.

The other key criteria was that at least two-thirds of councillors had been elected. Swanage Town Council met the criteria, with all twelve councillors having been elected and the Town Clerk having recently been awarded the Certificate in Local Council Administration, with distinction.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Lejeune, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That Swanage Town Council fulfils the eligibility criteria to exercise the General Power of Competence, as follows:

- the number of councillors elected at the last ordinary election, equals or exceeds two thirds of its total number of councillors;
- the Town Clerk holds the Certificate in Local Council Administration and has completed relevant training in the General Power of Competence.

45. **ACQUISITION OF SWANAGE YOUTH CENTRE**

The Clerk reported on letters dated 13th June and 22nd June 2016 received From Children’s Services, Dorset County Council, confirming the cabinet decision to transfer the freehold ownership of Swanage Youth and Community Centre to Swanage Town Council.

It was noted that as the Town Council is an existing legal entity and the transfer has now been confirmed, subject to contract, it was intended to complete the transfer of the property by 1st September 2016.

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

(a) Councillor Whitwam reported that he had attended a meeting of the Purbeck Transport Action Group at which attention had been drawn to a number of bus routes that were currently under review.

Concerns had also been expressed at the excess surface water on Shore Road during periods of heavy rainfall.

(b) Councillor Lejeune reported on positive engagement with Swanage Town & Herston Football Club.

Arrangements had been made to meet the newly-appointed Youth Worker at Wareham Youth Centre on Wednesday, 13th July 2016.

47. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

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

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

Items of Information

(a) ‘Litter Free Purbeck’ community meeting, Harmans Cross Village Hall, 2.30 p.m. 14th July 2016.

(b) Notification of Public Consultation re Registration Service – to be discussed at the forthcoming Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting.

(c) Proposal to implement changes to traffic flow and road layout along Shore Road for an experimental period – in light of concerns expressed, it was considered to be imperative that further consultation be undertaken before the proposals were implemented. It was agreed that an officer from Dorset County Council Highways be invited to meet with the Town Council for further discussion.

(d) South Coast Rowing Regatta held on Saturday, 25th June 2016 – Councillor Bonfield had attended the event, and presented the trophies to the successful competitors.

- (e) Regrettably, after 40 years, the Lions Club of Swanage would be disbanding on 30th June 2016.
- (f) Two 'Comments Slips' had been completed at the Council meeting held on 23rd May 2016 as follows:-
 - Concerns expressed regarding cyclists using the pedestrianised section of Shore Road – Enforcement action to be taken.
 - An enquiry regarding the possible live-streaming of Council meetings on a members only website – Referred to the Council's Communications Working Party.

Further to their declarations of interest under Minute No. 33, Councillors Lejeune, Trite and Whitwam remained in the meeting during consideration of the following item, but took no part in the debate.

49. **REQUEST FOR USE OF NORTH BEACH CAR PARK AND JOURNEY'S END FOR FILM PRODUCTION**

Further to Minute No. 20 of the Council meeting held on 23rd May 2016, the Clerk updated those present on subsequent negotiations with the film company regarding the final proposals and requirements for the feature film production.

Following discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bishop and RESOLVED:-

That the proposals for the use of Council-owned property in connection with the feature film production be agreed, subject to final negotiations regarding fees to be approved by the Town Clerk, Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 p.m.
