

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the Swanage
Town Council held at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY,**
1st SEPTEMBER 2014 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor Mrs A. Patrick (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett
Councillor M. Bonfield
Councillor Miss C. Harris
Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh
Councillor S. Poultney
Councillor M. Pratt
Councillor G.M. Suttle
Councillor W.S. Trite
Councillor M. Whitwam
Councillor A. Wiggins

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, approximately 28 members of the public attended the Meeting.

In the absence of a clergyman, Councillor Mrs. Marsh offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

Before opening the meeting for public participation, the Mayor read a statement on the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 which came into force on 6th August 2014 and would permit members of the public to film, audio-record, take photographs or use social media such as tweeting or blogging to report Council and Committee meetings, whilst they are open to the public. The Town Council had adopted a Policy and Protocol in respect of this legislation at the August Council meeting.

She then referred to Agenda item No. 7, and presented a statement on the proposed gas drilling at California Quarry.

Public Participation Time

The following matters were raised during Public Participation Time:-

- Location of road name sign in Institute Road, and request for it to be re-sited.
- Update regarding proposed reduction in bus services on Routes 40 and 50.
- Concerns were re-iterated regarding the proposals for future gas drilling at California Quarry. Other concerns which were raised again included increased traffic movement along Panorama Road, and access rights granted by the Town Council to the proprietor of Suttles' Quarries.
- A request for a Member to ask for 'Proposals for Future Gas Drilling at California Quarry' to be included on the Agenda for each monthly Council meeting was put forward.
- A concern was raised regarding the discussion of Council business in private session.

The Town Mayor opened the Council Meeting at 7.40 p.m.

71. **APOLOGIES**

An apology for his inability to attend the Meeting was received from Councillor Brown.

72. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare their interest under the Code of Conduct as defined by regulations made under section 30 (3) of the Localism Act 2011.

There were no declarations to record on this occasion.

73. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 4th August 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and
RESOLVED :-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 18th August 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed.

74. **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 Purbeck District Council's Planning Board.

**Delegated
Applications**

6/2014/0418 **Mrs E Read Wilson**

Erect privacy screen to mitigate overlooking from neighbouring house.
32 Newton Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2014/0433 **Ms M Taylor**

Erect ground floor and first floor extensions.
California Farm, Priests Way, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to approval by Purbeck District Council's Conservation Officer.

6/2014/0439 **Mr G Ford**

Erect side and rear single-storey extension.
5 Cliff Avenue, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2014/0442 **Mr Steve Wright**

Demolish existing dwelling and erect detached two-storey dwelling.
31 Northbrook Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2014/0443 **Mrs Rosie Cunnington**
Erect single-storey rear extension.
21 Argyle Road, Swanage.
OBSERVATION: No objection.

Items for information only

6/2014/0423 **Ms Prince**
Certificate of Lawfulness – Existing - Use of building as private residential dwelling.
Breckles Lodge, 20 Ulwell Road, Swanage.

The following application was not discussed by the Town Council as it was considered that a conflict of interest existed, given that the Council had retained the freehold of the Holiday Park.

6/2014/0431 **Mr Fouracre**
Erect decking.
Plot 21, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Swanage.

75. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- The Mayor of Wareham's Civic Walkabout.
- The Mayor of Poole's Civic Service and Parade to commemorate the Centenary of the Start of World War One.
- Parish Fete in the grounds of St. Mary's Parish Church.
- Antiques Fair at Furzebrook Village Hall.
- Songs of Praise at St. Mary's Parish Church.

76. **CONCLUSION OF AUDIT 2013/14**

The Annual Return in respect of the audit for 2013/14 was submitted from BDO LLP (the Council's external auditor), together with a Report on the issues arising from the audit.

It was noted, with satisfaction, that no significant issues of concern had been raised by the auditors. The only matter raised was the annual reminder to the Council to implement the recommendations made by the internal auditor.

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

That the Annual Return in respect of the audit for 2013/14 be approved and accepted, and that the content of the matters arising report be noted.

77. **PROPOSED GAS DRILLING AT CALIFORNIA QUARRY**

Further to Minute No. 58 of the Council meeting held on 2nd September 2013, Minute No. 70 of the Council meeting held on 7th October 2013 and Minute No. 9 of the Special Meeting held on 23rd June 2014 Members were again given the opportunity to share information and air any concerns regarding the proposed gas drilling at California Quarry and related matters. Concerns were raised regarding the impact of increased traffic levels on Panorama Road and the Town Clerk reported that

further to Minute No. 12(c) of the Special Meeting held on 21st July 2014 a full risk assessment would be carried out in the near future.

Following the request made during public participation time that the matter should be placed on all agendas for forthcoming monthly Council meetings it was proposed by Councillor Wiggins, seconded by Councillor Mrs Bartlett and
RESOLVED:

That the proposed gas drilling at California Quarry be placed on the agenda for forthcoming monthly Town Council meetings.

Furthermore, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bonfield and **RESOLVED** with ONE ABSTENTION:

That the public information event being held by Infrastrata at the Mowlem on Monday 27th October be advertised on the Council's information boards and in its newsletter.

78. **GRANTS AND DONATIONS**

(a) **Air Training Corps**

In recognition of the good work and services provided for the benefit of the community by the 2185 Squadron Air Training Corps, Members had expressed a wish to make a donation to that organisation under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

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

That the sum of £400 be donated to the 2185 Squadron Air Training Corps.

79. **SEAFRONT AND DOWNS STABILISATION SCHEMES**

It was noted that the Seafront Scheme was progressing towards completion and that the monthly site meeting would be held on Tuesday 2nd September.

The importance of promoting the new beach huts was noted, and it was agreed that the Seafront Stabilisation Scheme working party should give consideration to an opening celebration to be held once the works are completed.

80. **BEACH HUTS – SCALE OF CHARGES 2015/16**

In acknowledging the timescale for publicity material to be available prior to summer 2015, consideration was given to the scale of charges to be levied for beach hut hire for 2015/16.

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

That the following charges for beach huts be approved for incorporation into the Scale of Fees and Charges 2015/16.

Period	Daily charge –Shore	Daily charge – Spa	Weekly charge (Saturday to Friday) - Shore	Weekly charge (Saturday to Friday) - Spa	Whole Period (Shore Road)	% discount applied for whole period
28 Mar to 22 May	£15.00	£6.50	£55.00	£26.50	£330.00	25%
23 May to 17 Jul	£20.00	£8.50	£97.50	£46.50	£700.00	10%
18 Jul to 4 Sep	£30.00	£18.50	£200.00	£116.50	£1,400.00	0%
5 Sep to 18 Sep	£20.00	£8.50	£97.50	£46.50	£175.00	10%
19 Sep to 30 Oct	n/a	£5.00	n/a	£25.00	n/a	
19 Sep to 25 Mar	£5.00	n/a	£25.00	n/a	£500.00	26%
31 Oct to 25 Mar	£5.00	n/a	£25.00	n/a	£400.00	24%
28 Nov to 25 Mar	£5.00	n/a	£25.00	n/a	£320.00	25%
19 Dec to 25 Mar	£5.00	n/a	£25.00	n/a	£250.00	29%
30 Jan to 25 Mar	£5.00	n/a	£25.00	n/a	£150.00	25%

During the debate, the possible introduction of a charge for annual beach hut rental was mooted. Some concerns were raised regarding possible legal implications, and it was AGREED:-

That the matter be deferred for consideration by the Seafront Stabilisation Scheme Working Party to enable further information to be obtained, and referred to the next meeting of the Council to be held on 15th September 2014.

81. **PURBECK RAIL PARTNERSHIP**

It was noted that, at the present time, the Town Council was not represented on the Purbeck Rail Partnership.

During the ensuing discussion, the important role of the Partnership in relation to the national rail network link, the Swanage Railway and the tourist industry, was acknowledged, and it was proposed by Councillor Trite, seconded by the Town Mayor, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Town Council pursues the option of representation on the Purbeck Rail Partnership.

It was FURTHER RESOLVED:-

That Councillor Whitwam be nominated to represent the Town Council on the Purbeck Rail Partnership.

82. **SWANAGE MUSEUM**

The Clerk reported on informal discussions held with representatives of the Swanage Museum regarding the possible future re-location of this facility.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That a Working Party be set up to explore options for the possible future re-location of the Swanage Museum.

It was **FURTHER RESOLVED:-**

That Councillors Bonfield, Brown and Whitwam be appointed to the Working Party, together with representatives from the Swanage Museum.

83. **AUTHORISATION OF URGENT RE-SURFACING WORKS**

(a) **Beach Gardens – Tennis Court No. 7**

It was reported that the condition of Tennis Court No. 7 (Basketball Court) had deteriorated to such an extent that urgent re-surfacing works were required.

A budget allowance of £8,000 had been approved in 2013/14, and a final fixed price quotation had now been received in the sum of £12,255.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Miss Harris, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

To authorise re-surfacing works to Tennis Court No.7 at a cost of £12,255.

(b) **Gannetts Park/Beach Gardens Service Road**

Further to Minute No. 46 of the Council meeting held on 5th August 2013, it was noted that a budget provision of up to £19,000 had been approved for necessary works to the service road at the rear of Beach Gardens/Gannetts Park utilising funds from the De Moulham Trust Back Road reserve.

A final fixed price quotation had now been received in the sum of £19,635.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Miss Harris, seconded by Councillor Suttle, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That a Working Party comprising of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Bonfield, be set up to consider all service roads on the De Moulham Estate.

(c) **North Beach Car Park**

It was reported that an advertisement had been placed in the local press inviting tenders for re-surfacing, drainage and associated works at North Beach Car Park.

84. **COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

There were no matters to report from Council representatives on outside organisations at the present time.

85. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

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

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

Items of Information

(a) Navitus Bay Wind Farm – Notice of Preliminary Meeting – 11th September 2014 at Bournemouth International Centre.

(b) Herston Post Office – Confirmation of completion of works.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

87. **SEAFRONT AND DOWNS STABILISATION SCHEMES**

The Clerk updated Members on a letter received from the Contract Administrators incorporating an Assessment of Main Contractor's Extension of Time Application dated 13th August 2014.

Following detailed consideration of the application, during which concerns were raised regarding the pace of progress towards completion, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Town Council agrees to the Extension of Time Application from the main contractor for an extension period of three weeks.

88. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Lease – Sea Breeze Restaurant**

Further to Minute No. 70 of the Council meeting held on 4th August 2014, the Clerk updated Members on matters relating to the lease of the Sea Breeze Restaurant.

Members noted the current position.

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

That a letter of acknowledgement be sent to the lessee.

(b) **RNLI Boathouse Project**

Further to Minute No. 15 of the policy and planning meeting held on 18th August 2014, there were no matters to report regarding the RNLI Boathouse Project at the present time.

It was AGREED:-

That the matter be referred for consideration at the next policy and planning meeting scheduled to be held on 15th September 2014.

The meeting concluded at 8.40 p.m.
