

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Swanage Town Council held to discuss **POLICY AND PLANNING** matters at the Town Hall, Swanage on **MONDAY, 20th AUGUST 2012** at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

Councillor W.S. Trite (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillor M. Bonfield

Councillor I. Brown

Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh

Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick

Councillor S. Poultney

Councillor M. Pratt

Councillor M. Whitwam

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

Public Participation Time

MR. J. JAMES referred to the ‘Core Strategy’, and enquired whether the policies contained within the strategy were being progressed. He was informed that a public examination of the ‘Core Strategy’ had been undertaken, and subsequent consultation on the ‘Main Modifications’ had also been held. The ‘Core Strategy’ was a live policy document, and, when finally approved by the Inspector and formally adopted, would be complimented by a ‘Local Plan’ for Swanage.

He then referred to the subsidence in the vicinity of the Recreation Ground, and was informed that structural engineers were currently preparing a Report which would be considered in conjunction with the overall seafront stabilisation scheme.

The Council Meeting commenced at 7.10 p.m.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillors Mrs. Bartlett, Miss Harris, Suttle and Wiggins.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

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.

Agenda Item No. 12a – Councillor Mrs. Patrick declared a pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of a business association with the lessee.

Agenda Item No. 13 – Councillor Bonfield declared a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct by reason of a family connection with the Head Teacher of St. Mary’s RC School.

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 Purbeck District Council's Planning Board.

**Delegated
Applications**

6/2012/0473 **Mr & Mrs Lerche-Lerchenborg**

Outline P.P. Demolish existing dwelling and erect four detached dwellings with integral garages and associated parking; modify vehicular access. Sea Mist, Cobblers Lane, Swanage.

This application was withdrawn.

Item for Information Only

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.

**Delegated
Application**

6/2012/0479 **Mr M Cooke**

Erect vinyl decking.

Plot 46, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road, Swanage.

4. **BUDGET MONITORING**

(a) **Statement of Cash Balance**

A Statement of Cash Balance as at 31st July 2012 was submitted for information (a copy attached at end of these Minutes).

5. **PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

Proposed by Councillor Poultney, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and
RESOLVED:-

That the accounts specified in the Orders on Treasurer Nos. 5 and 5a, amounting to £166,064.13 and £113,765.61 respectively be paid, and that cheques be drawn therefor.

6. **CONCLUSION OF AUDIT 2011/12**

The Annual Return in respect of the audit for 2011/12 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. It was felt that there was no requirement for an Action Plan as matters raised by the internal auditor are considered by the Finance and Performance Management Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Annual Return in respect of the audit for 2011/12 be approved and accepted, and that the content of the matters arising report be noted.

7. **BEACH BUNGALOWS – SCALE OF CHARGES 2013**

Consideration was given to the charges to be levied for the hire of beach bungalows in 2013.

Attention was drawn to the need to establish the impact of the seafront stabilisation works on the letting period for next summer.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the following scale of charges for the hire of beach bungalows in 2013 be approved and adopted:-

Scale of Charges 2013 (inclusive of VAT at 20%)

Period	The Spa Daily	Weekly	Shore Road Daily	Weekly
Easter 30 th March- 26 th April	6.00	26.00	11.00	51.00
27 th April-5 th July	8.00	45.00	15.25	88.00
6 th July – 6 th September	17.50	113.00	25.00	160.00
7 th September - 27 th September	8.00	45.00	15.25	88.00
28 th September -25 th October	6.00	26.00	11.00	51.00

Numbers 12 to 27 of the Spa Bungalows were the least popular huts and it was agreed that a discounted rate be offered for the full season of £1,086.00 (a 40% discount against the £1810.00 full price).

8. **TRANSFER OF ARCHIVES**

It was reported that the Swanage Museum, the Dorset History Centre and the Town Council had worked jointly over a period of time to digitise the archive of the Swanage Urban District Council.

Sterling work had been carried out by volunteers from Swanage Museum in photographing large sections of the archive, including rate books, minute books, poor law material and cemetery records with a view to ultimately making digital copies available by all three partners in the project. The project would increase public access to the archive and ensure its preservation.

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

To authorise the deposit of the archive of Swanage Urban District Council at the Dorset History Centre, and the exchange of a limited amount of material with Swanage Museum to complete their collection of correspondence.

9. **QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLAYING FIELDS**

Further to Minute No. 12 of the Council Meeting held on 16th April 2012, it was reported that the Deed of Dedication of Forres Field as a Queen Elizabeth II Playing Field had now been received.

In light of recent issues, it was proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by the Town Mayor, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the matter be deferred for consideration at a future meeting of the Council.

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

Items of Information

- (a) **Superfast Broadband** – There were no additional matters to report at the present time.
- (b) **War Memorial** – The Council’s workforce had recently carried out cleaning works to the War Memorial on the Recreation Ground, and it was AGREED:-
That a letter of appreciation of the excellent work be sent to those responsible.
- (c) **Beach Hut** – A letter of appreciation for the use of the beach hut in 2012 was read from the Swanage Lions Club.
- (d) **Navitus Bay Wind Farm** – A request from Challenge Navitus seeking permission to erect a display on Shore Road in the vicinity of the Tourist Information Centre on Monday, 27th August 2012 was approved.

11. **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, 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**

Further to her declaration of interest under Minute No. 2, Councillor Mrs. Patrick left the Meeting during consideration of the following item.

- (a) **Fortes Ice Cream Kiosk – Lease and Rent Review**
The Clerk updated Members on negotiations relating to the lease and rent of Fortes ice cream kiosk on Shore Road.
Following discussion, during which Members supported the principle of going out to tender, it was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That the matter be referred for consideration by the Seafront Stabilisation Working Party.
- (b) **Land south of Swanage Bay View Holiday Park**
The Clerk updated those present on matters relating to the debt recovery in respect of the occupation of land south of Swanage Bay View Holiday Park.

13. **SCHOOLS REVIEW AND FREE SCHOOL**

Further to his declaration of interest under Minute No. 2, Councillor Bonfield left the Meeting during consideration of the following item.

Members were updated on meetings held earlier in the day at Dorset County Council and Swanage to consider matters relating to the schools review, the provision of a Free School and sporting facilities in Swanage.

The meeting concluded at 8.05 p.m.