

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the
Swanage Town Council held at the Town Hall,
Swanage on **MONDAY, 5th DECEMBER 2011**
at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett
Councillor M. Bonfield
Councillor I. Brown
Councillor Miss C. Harris
Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh
Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick
Councillor S. Poultney
Councillor M. Pratt
Councillor G.M. Suttle
Councillor M. Whitwam
Councillor A. Wiggins

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, 7 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Public Participation Time

MS. HELEN O'CONNOR, updated those present on matters relating to Education Swanage and their quest to set up a 'Free School' in Swanage. She reported that, following a meeting with the Department of Education, plans had now progressed to the project management stage, and it was intended that a Project Manager would be appointed in the New Year.

MR. J. JAMES enquired whether it was intended that the 'Free School' would be sited on the former Grammar School site in Northbrook Road. He was informed by **MS. O'CONNOR** that Partnership for Schools must consider all options, but she confirmed that the former Grammar School site was the location preferred by Education Swanage for the 'Free School'.

The Town Mayor then welcomed Revd John Wood to the meeting, and congratulated him on his recent appointment as a Canon of Salisbury Cathedral. Revd Wood offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

The Town Mayor opened the Council Meeting at 7.10 p.m.

88. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for inability to attend the Meeting.

89. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were invited to declare their interest as per the Parish Councils Model Code of Conduct Order 2007 Number 1159.

Agenda Item No. 4 (b) – Councillor Brown declared a personal and prejudicial interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a member of the Auxiliary Coastguard.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Councillors Mrs. Patrick and Suttle declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Planning Application No. 6/2011/0742 by reason of a business connection with the applicant. Councillor Wiggins declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Planning Application No. 6/2011/0742 by reason of being a friend of the applicant.

90. **MINUTES**

(a) Proposed by Councillor Bonfield, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 7th November 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 21st November 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

91. **TOURISM COMMITTEE**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by Councillor Bonfield, and
RESOLVED:-

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Tourism Committee held on 7th November 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

92. **GENERAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Operations Committee held on 9th November 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

Further to his declaration of interest under Minute No. 89, Councillor Brown left the Meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

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

Public Conveniences Working Party

Proposed by Councillor Poultney and seconded by Councillor Pratt:-

That the public conveniences at North Beach be closed due to ongoing maintenance and cleaning costs, and that the Council's resources be focused on improving a smaller number of public conveniences to a high specification.

An AMENDMENT was moved by Councillor Suttle and seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett:-

That the public conveniences at North Beach be closed during the winter period and that discussions be entered into with the Maritime Coastguard Agency regarding the replacement of the existing toilets with a smaller facility.

Upon being put to the Meeting, SIX Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Amendment and FOUR AGAINST, whereupon the Amendment was declared CARRIED.

The Amendment was then put as a SUBSTANTIVE MOTION and CARRIED with SIX Members voting IN FAVOUR and FOUR AGAINST.

93. **TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Transport Committee held on 22nd November 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

94. **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

6/2011/0713 **Mr & Mrs Price**

Replace existing roof with new higher roof to form living rooms at first floor level with front balcony and rear Juliette balcony.

46 Bay Crescent, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal. This application constitutes overdevelopment of the site and is out of keeping with the scale and character of the street scene. Concerns were also expressed regarding overlooking of neighbouring properties.

6/2011/0727 **Mr & Mrs McKiddie**

Install galvanized steel balcony handrail (retrospective).

44 Bay Crescent, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, but some concern was expressed regarding the construction of a balcony in this location.

6/2011/0739 **Mr & Mrs M Mitchard**

Variation of condition 2 of PP 6/2010/0628 (Demolish existing dwelling and erect detached dwelling with integral garage in lower ground floor) to allow the insertion of two rooflights within the new roof.

42 Queens Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

Further to their declarations of interests under Minute No. 89, Councillors Mrs. Patrick, Suttle and Wiggins left the Meeting prior to consideration of the following item.

6/2011/0742 **Mr J Wood**

Erect rooftop extension to flats 1, 2 and 3 to form additional living accommodation with roof terrace and make alterations to windows on east elevation at first floor level. Revised scheme to PP 6/2009/0260. Retain position of north wall of top floor as built. New glazed box window on top floor on west elevation.

Ocean Bay, 2 Ulwell Road, Swanage

OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal on the grounds that the application represents overdevelopment of the site.

6/2011/0743 **Mr M Humpherson**

Erect telescopic bollards in the north-east entrance to church yard. St Mary's Church, Church Hill, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

Items of information

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.

6/2011/0597 **Mr Morris**

Erect timber decking.

Plot 256a, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road, Swanage.

6/2011/0736 **Mrs J Adkins**

Erect single storey rear extension, insert roof lights on rear roof slope, replace covering to part of front roof slope – Certificate of Lawful Use or Development – Proposed.

181 High Street, Swanage.

95. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (a) The Mayor referred to the Christmas Street Market that had been held on Saturday, 3rd December, and thanked Councillor Mrs. Bartlett and members of the Swanage Lights Committee for the sterling work undertaken in staging such a successful and enjoyable event.
- (b) The Mayor reported that, since the last monthly meeting of the Council, he had attended the following events:-
- Armistice Day Remembrance Service at the War Memorial on 11th November.
 - Remembrance Day Service and Parade at St. Mary's Parish Church on Sunday, 13th November.
 - In the absence of the Mayor who had been on holiday, Councillor Brown had attended the re-opening of Durlston Castle on Thursday, 17th November.

96. **PEDESTRIAN SIGNAGE**

Further to Minute No. 7 of the Tourism Committee meeting held on 7th November 2011, and subsequent liaison with officers of Purbeck District Council and other interested parties, consideration was again given to the suggested improvements to the fingerpost signs around Swanage.

Discussion ensued, during which it was noted that the total cost of the replacement signs (including 10% contingency) would be £11,236.50, of which £5,592 was potentially recoverable from interested parties.

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

That the replacement signage be approved, and that the Town Council makes a budget provision up to a maximum sum of £5,644.50 for the replacement signs that were not eligible for partnership funding.

97. **ELECTRONIC CIRCULATION OF SUMMONS AND AGENDA PAPERS**

Consideration was given to the possibility of moving towards the electronic circulation of summons and agenda papers.

During the ensuing discussion, it was acknowledged that such a move would reduce photocopying and paper costs, and also free up officer time in copying, filling and delivering envelopes. Members were reminded, however, that the summons and agenda together form an important legal document, and in accordance with guidance received from the National Association of Local Councils, an appropriate resolution would need to be passed if Members wished to receive the summons and agenda papers electronically.

It was proposed by Councillor Suttle, seconded by Councillor Poultney, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That, in future, summonses to Council meetings, agendas and supporting papers be circulated electronically.

In passing the above resolution, Members were requested to provide guidance to officers on when documentation would be required in hard copy.

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

- (a) Councillor Mrs. Marsh reported that she had recently attended a meeting of the Swanage Pier Trust. She also reported that negotiations were continuing regarding the proposals to re-open James Day Home.
- (b) Councillor Mrs. Bartlett reported that she had attended a meeting at Swanage Football Club to consider proposals for Diamond Jubilee celebrations in Swanage in 2012. Ten local organisations had been represented at the meeting and various suggestions were being mooted.
- (c) Councillor Brown, Chairman of PACT, updated Members on matters relating to incidents of anti-social behaviour in the Lower High Street.

99. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

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

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

(a) **Items of Information**

Swanage & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce wished to record their appreciation of the free parking that the Town Council had made available in its car parks over the Christmas period.

101. **LEGAL ISSUES**

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

The meeting concluded at 8.15 p.m.
