

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the  
Swanage Town Council held at the Town Hall,  
Swanage on **MONDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2012**  
at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT:-

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

Councillor Mrs. C. Bartlett  
Councillor M. Bonfield  
Councillor I. Brown  
Councillor Mrs. G.A. Marsh  
Councillor Mrs. A. Patrick  
Councillor M. Pratt  
Councillor G.M. Suttle  
Councillor M. Whitwam

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

### **Public Participation Time**

**MR. CARL STYANTS**, updated those present on matters relating to Education Swanage and their quest to set up a Free School in Swanage. He reported that the purchase of a site in the vicinity of the former Grammar School had been negotiated for a SANG (Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space), and that an outline planning application had been submitted to Purbeck District Council for both the school and SANG. Flood risk and environmental surveys were being progressed by the current landowner, and technical advisers had been appointed to conduct a formal feasibility study, and detailed buildings survey, before the launch of the formal 'design and build' construction procurement process. Partnership for Schools had commissioned Dorset County Council Highways to prepare a Transport Statement for the school. The Department for Education had appointed a firm of professional project managers (PKF) to monitor and facilitate the whole project. He also reported that curriculum planning and modelling was progressing with the Department for Education. A 'drop-in' information service had been provided at the Sure Start Children's Centre, Swanage on 20<sup>th</sup> January, and the statutory consultation on the project would commence after the half-term school holiday period. Finally, on behalf of Education Swanage, Mr. Styants thanked the Town Council for its continued support and for the use of the Town Hall building for its meetings.

**MR. DAVID HOLMAN** referred to the impending loss of NHS dental services in Swanage, and enquired whether there had been any progress regarding the future provision of these services in the town. The **TOWN MAYOR** understood that expressions of interest had been received by the Primary Care Trust from 10 dentists wishing to provide NHS dental services in the town, and a tendering process was now underway through the PCT.

Speaking on behalf of the Auxiliary Coastguards, **COUNCILLOR BROWN** referred to the proposed withdrawal of the coastguard helicopter service from the Portland base.

As a member of the local Auxiliary Coastguard, he had first-hand knowledge of the valuable service provided by the helicopter team, and requested that every effort be made to retain the helicopter at Portland.

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

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

115. **APOLOGIES**

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

116. **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. 5** – Councillor Mrs. Patrick declared a prejudicial interest under the Model Code of Conduct in Planning Application No. 6/2012/0030 by reason of a household member's connection with the applicant.

**Agenda Item No. 11 (b)** – Councillor Brown declared a personal and prejudicial interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being an employee of Dorset Police.

**Agenda Item No. 12** – Councillor Bonfield declared a prejudicial interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of being a personal friend of an applicant.

117. **MINUTES**

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

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(b) Proposed by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bartlett, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss Estimates and seasonal charges on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed.

(c) Proposed by Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Pratt, and  
RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed.

118. **FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

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

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012 be approved as a correct record and signed.

There were no recommendations brought forward from the Committee.

119. **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**

6/2012/0025 **Mr S a'Barrow**

**LISTED** Install pedestrian gate and stone piers in south boundary wall. Install en-suite shower/reconfigure bathroom at first floor.

Newton Manor Hall, 170 High Street, Swanage.

**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

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

6/2012/0030 **Mrs J Scadden**

**LISTED** Replace four windows with sash-type windows.

Ulwell Cottage, Ulwell, Swanage.

**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

6/2012/0041 **Mr G Lambert**

**LISTED** Rebuild existing stone wall.

Land adj. 349 High Street, Swanage.

**OBSERVATION:** No objection.

**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.

6/2012/0028 **Swanage Bay View Holiday Park Darwin Ltd**

Create two new concrete caravan bases.

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

120. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(a) The Mayor reported that, since the last monthly meeting of the Council, he had attended the following events:-

- The official appointment of Revd. John Wood as a Canon of Salisbury Cathedral.
- The launch of Swanage Sea Rowing Club's Appeal to raise funds for a new boat house.

(b) Further to Minute No. 7 (a) of the Policy and Planning Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011, the Town Mayor reminded those present that the consultation period in respect of the site options for gypsies and travellers in Dorset was due to finish on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012 and all comments should be submitted for consideration prior to that date.

- (c) The Mayor reported on a recent meeting held with the Manager of Swanage Day Centre, at which it was pointed out that, whilst the Day Centre was not currently under threat of closure, ideas for additional useage of the building would be welcomed.

Finally, the Mayor was pleased to report that the young man who had sustained serious head injuries as a result of an incident in Swanage on New Year's Eve had now been discharged from hospital and was making steady progress at home.

121. **EDUCATION SWANAGE**

The Town Mayor fully concurred with the update on matters relating to Education Swanage and their quest to set up a Free School, given by Mr. Carl Styants during Public Participation Time prior to the commencement of the Meeting, and thanked him for the informative presentation.

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

(a) Councillor Brown reported that he had recently attended a meeting of the Swanage Museum. He reported that 60,000 people had visited the Museum and Heritage Centre during the past year, and he wished to commend the sterling work undertaken by the volunteers who manned the Centre.

(b) Councillor Mrs. Bartlett updated those present on events planned for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. These included a 'street party' in the Lower High Street, live music, street performers, stalls and a fireworks display (subject to funding).

123. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

Further to Minute No. 8 (a) of the Policy and Planning meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011, it was reported that approval had been given by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the provision of the new information boards, at a cost of £3,801.

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

(a) **Items for Forthcoming Agendas**

Proposed closure of southern section of Shore Road prior to the Easter Bank Holiday period.

125. **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.

126. **LEGAL ISSUES**

(a) **Swanage Bay View Holiday Park**

Members were updated on matters relating to commission claims on caravan sales, which had been referred to the Council's legal advisers.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor and seconded by Councillor Pratt:-

To approve the authorisation of the appointment of a barrister to act in the matter on behalf of the Town Council.

Upon being put to the Meeting, SIX Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition and there were THREE ABSTENTIONS, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

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

(b) **Town Hall Annexe – Proposals for Re-location of Police Services in Swanage**

Further to Minute No. 6 of the Policy and Planning meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011, Members were updated on lease negotiations with Dorset Police for the re-location of police services in Swanage to the Town Hall Annexe.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Whitwam, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the matter be referred to the District Valuer for advice.

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

127. **MONKEY BEACH PONTOON**

Members were informed of the expressions of interest received for the opportunity to operate a passenger/pleasure boat concession from an area adjoining the Stone Quay.

It was proposed by Councillor Pratt, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Marsh, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That a Working Party be convened, consisting of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Brown, to assess the expressions of interest submitted.

The meeting concluded at 7.50 p.m.

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