

Minutes of the **MONTHLY MEETING** of the
Swanage Town Council held at the Town Hall,
Swanage on **MONDAY, 3rd OCTOBER 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.W. Pratt
Councillor G.M. Suttle
Councillor M. Whitwam

In addition to Members of the Council and officers, approximately 40 members of the public attended the Meeting.

Navitus Bay Wind Farm

The Town Mayor welcomed Mr. Chris Sherrington and Ms. Rebecca Evans, from Eneco, to the Meeting.

A detailed Presentation on the proposals for the Navitus Bay Wind Farm was then given on behalf of Eneco.

On the conclusion of the Presentation, the Mayor thanked Mr. Sherrington and Ms. Evans for the information provided and invited questions and comments from the audience.

During the ensuing discussion, deep concern was expressed at the lack of formal consultation over the location of the turbines within the area originally allocated by the Crown Estate for the Navitus Bay Wind Farm. Particular concern was raised in relation to the visual impact of this development on the Purbeck coast, given that the area selected is the closest to the shore within the allocated zone.

In reply, Eneco stated that the area had been selected in response to a number of factors, including surveys of the sea bed, shipping lanes and MOD firing zones.

The Mayor opened the meeting for Public Participation at 7.35 p.m.

Public Participation Time

MRS. C. SANDERSON expressed her concerns regarding planning application No. 6/2011/0598 (3 Ballard Estate) which she considered to be overdevelopment of the site and out of keeping with the neighbourhood.

MR. D. HOLMAN referred to the annual ‘Swanage Triathlon’, which attracted many entrants from outside of the town. He requested that, in order to reduce unintentional breach of parking regulations, the organisers of the event be sent maps indicating the location of Council-owned car parks and charges applicable, for distribution to the entrants prior to the event. He also requested that a schedule of roads in the vicinity of Sandpit Field where the parking of camper vans is prohibited be provided, and that Dorset County Council Enforcement Officers be notified of the date of the event.

MR. M. NORRIS expressed his appreciation of the support given by the Town Council to the successful campaign to re-open James Day Home. In reply, the Town Mayor thanked Mr. Norris and his colleagues from the James Day Action Group, for their dedicated work on this issue.

MR. A. CROSSLEY referred to the removal of two litter bins in the vicinity of Church Hill, and questioned why these and other litter bins in the town had been removed. It was explained that this decision had been approved by the Town Council’s Working Party, but that the main responsibility for the supply of bins lay with Dorset Waste Partnership.

MR. M. STOLLERY requested that information relating to the De Moulham Estate be included in the next edition of ‘Swanage Matters’.

MR. I. SAUNDERS referred to the closure of the toilets at Burlington Chine, and was informed that this was in accordance with the Council’s policy whereby, in order to reduce cleaning and maintenance costs, the toilets would be closed on weekdays during the period October to March each year. It was agreed that a notice should be displayed stating the opening times of these facilities.

Revd. Simon Frankin, from the United Reformed Church, offered a short prayer before the commencement of the Meeting.

The Town Mayor then opened the Council Meeting at 8.10 p.m.

65. **APOLOGIES**

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

66. **MINUTES**

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

That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 5th September 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed, subject to deletion of the word ‘west’ in planning application No. 6/2011/0531.

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

That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council held to discuss policy and planning matters on 19th September 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed.

67. **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

6/2011/0578 **Mr M Inman**

Erect split level dwelling with integral garage. Create new vehicular access.

5 South Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to a condition that the development be restricted to a single dwelling to remain in keeping with this location.

6/2011/0579 **Mr & Mrs P Clein**

Erect single storey side extension and front porch.

Harbour St. Bride, Durlston Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2011/0581 **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 addition of a projecting balcony on first floor elevation.

42 Queens Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to there being no significant overlooking of neighbouring properties.

Before consideration of this item, Councillors Mrs. Patrick and Suttle declared their interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of a business connection with the applicant, and as this interest was prejudicial, they left the Meeting during the debate.

6/2011/0585 **Mr B Harries**

Roof alterations and enlargements comprising insertion of dormer windows, roof lights and increase in roof height.

28 Ulwell Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection.

6/2011/0589 **Mr N Pierce**

Demolish existing conservatory and car port and erect side extension to form garage, utility and sunroom and side porch extension.

Alterations to roof include rooflights, extension of front gable to facilitate loft conversion. Erect replacement detached garage.

38 Queens Road, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, although concern was expressed regarding the poor quality of the plans.

6/2011/0598 **Mr & Mrs J Smith**

Sever land and erect a detached dwelling; widen existing vehicular access.

Cefyn Bryn, 3 Ballard Estate, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: Recommend refusal. It was considered that this proposal is overbearing, represents overdevelopment of the site and would be out of keeping with the street scene.

Before consideration of this item, Councillors Patrick declared her interest under the Model Code of Conduct by reason of a potential business connection with a family member, and left the Meeting during the debate.

6/2011/0603 **Mr R Turner**

Demolish dentist surgery building and erect building containing two flats at ground floor with two maisonettes over. Layout car parking area. Create pedestrian access.

271 High Street, Swanage.

OBSERVATION: No objection, subject to the Highways Authority being satisfied that there will be no detrimental impact arising from the vehicular access to the site, bearing in mind the approved redevelopment of the nearby site of the former Emmanuel Baptist Church. Planning officers are also requested to ensure that the bat survey is adequate and that this development will not have a detrimental impact on bats.

The following applications were 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.

Items of information only

6/2011/0597 **Mr Morris**

Erect timber decking.

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

6/2011/0599 **Mr B Thompson**

Erect timber decking.

Plot 308, Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, Panorama Road, Swanage.

The following application was not discussed by the Town Council by virtue of being the applicant and owner of the property.

6/2011/0601 **Swanage Town Council**

Extension and alterations to existing toilets.

Public Toilets, Shore Road, Swanage.

68. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that, since the last monthly meeting of the Council, he had:-

- (a) Attended the Mayor of Poole's Civic Day;
- (b) With other Councillors, visited the Dorset ambulance control 'Hub' at St. Leonards, with particular reference to concerns about ambulance cover in Swanage;
- (c) Joined in the Swanage Folk Festival Parade and the Festival Church Service;
- (d) Attended the Battle of Britain Service at St. Mary's Parish Church, Swanage;
- (e) Attended the Mayor of Ferndown's Civic Day;

- (f) Joined a photocall at the James Day Home, now it has been confirmed that it will re-open next year;
- (g) Attended the Mayor of Chickerell's Civic Day;
- (h) Attended the Mayor of Weymouth and Portland's Civic Day;
- (i) Participated in the Carnival Committee's Charity Awards Presentation.

69. **NAVITUS BAY WIND FARM PROPOSALS**

Following the Eneco Presentation on the Navitus Bay Wind Farm proposals, consideration was given to issues raised.

During the ensuing discussion, Members again expressed concern at the area designated for the proposed wind farm, bearing in mind the close proximity to land and the visual impact that it would have from Swanage and the South West Coast Path along the Jurassic Coast (designated as a World Heritage Site). Attention was also drawn to the wider area originally mooted for the proposed turbines, and it was felt that consideration should be given to an alternative, less visual zone within this area.

Concerns were also raised regarding the impact that a wind farm in the proposed location would have on the fishing and tourism industries, and the birds and sealife in the area.

It was RESOLVED:-

That Members submit to officers their comments on the Navitus Bay Wind Farm proposals for consideration at a future meeting of the Council to enable an appropriate response to be formulated for submission to Eneco and the Crown Estate.

70. **SEAFRONT STABILISATION**

Further to the Presentation given by Smith Foster at the Council Meeting held on 19th September 2011, consideration was given to a Report on the Ground Slope Stability and Options for Stabilisation at the Recreation Ground.

During the ensuing discussion, it was felt that a further detailed Report on the stabilisation options would also provide the information required for inclusion in the tender documents if it was decided to progress the matter.

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

That Smith Foster be commissioned to provide a detailed Report on the stabilisation options at the Recreation Ground.

71. **BEACH CONCESSION – APPOINTMENT OF NEW WORKING PARTY**

Having regard to expressions of interest received from Members under the Model Code of Conduct, consideration was given to the appointment of a new Working Party to consider the beach concession.

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

That Councillors Mrs. Bartlett, Brown, Suttle and Whitwam be appointed to serve on the Beach Concession Working Party.

72. **CONCLUSION OF AUDIT 2010/2011**

The Annual Return in respect of the audit for 2010/11 was submitted from BDO LLP (the Council's external auditor), together with a Report on the issues arising from the audit.

It was noted that, on the whole, officers felt that the new audit regime had been successful, and that no significant issues of concern had been raised by the auditors.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, seconded by Councillor Mrs. Patrick, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the Annual Return in respect of the audit for 2010/11 be approved and accepted.

It was FURTHER AGREED:-

That an action plan to address the two matters raised in the auditor's report be referred to the next meeting of the Finance and Performance Management Committee.

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

(a) Councillor Brown reported that, at a recent meeting of the Swanage Museum, a problem relating to a drain outside of the Heritage Centre had been raised.

(b) Councillor Mrs. Bartlett reported that, at a recent meeting of PACT, matters had been raised relating to the Lower High Street.

It was AGREED:-

That PACT priorities be referred for consideration at the Council's Policy and Planning meeting to be held on 21st October 2011.

74. **REPORTING OF DELEGATED MATTERS**

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

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

Items of Information

Further to Minute No. 57 of the Council Meeting held on 5th September 2011, it was reported that an additional Purbeck Community Meeting had been scheduled to be held in Wareham on Monday, 17th October 2011 at 7 p.m. to provide the opportunity for full consultation regarding the future provision of day care services and vocational services in Dorset.

It was AGREED:-

That the Town Council's Policy and Planning Meeting, scheduled to be held on the same evening, be re-arranged for Friday, 21st October 2011 at 7 p.m.

The meeting concluded at 9.10 p.m.
