

Minutes of the Meeting of the
CAPITAL PROJECTS SUB-COMMITTEE
held at the TOWN HALL, Swanage on
WEDNESDAY, 19th FEBRUARY 2025 at 4.00 p.m.

Present:

Councillor M. Bonfield - Chairman	Swanage Town Council
Councillor T. Foster	Swanage Town Council
Councillor C. Tomes	Swanage Town Council

Also in attendance:

Ms G. Percival	Assets & Compliance Manager
Mrs S. Relph	Administration Officer

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies for her inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillor Monkhouse.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members were invited to declare their interests and consider any requests for Grants of Dispensations in accordance with section 9 and Appendix B of the Council's Code of Conduct.

No declarations of interest were made on this occasion.

3. Peveril Point Road Stabilisation Scheme – To consider options appraisal

A report produced by the Dorset Council Highways Team had been circulated prior to the meeting, providing an options appraisal and estimated costings to carry out work on a section of Peveril Point Road. It was noted that the Council's Capital Programme 2025/26 contains a sum of £200,000 in respect of this work.

All options detailed in the report were reviewed. The report raised the number of services running beneath the road and the poor construction methodology of the current surfacing. It was suggested that the retaining walls and the road be dealt with as separate matters.

The report highlighted significant challenges arising from groundwater and recommended action to improve drainage to address the runoff of water into the area from the Local Nature Reserve. After careful consideration, it was AGREED:

TO RECOMMEND:

That Option 3 within the report should be further explored by Dorset Council's Highways Team, including further work to assess the feasibility of the proposed drainage improvements and the assessment of the proposals regarding retaining wall structures by a structural engineer.

It was also agreed that matters regarding parking in specific locations should be referred to the Property Panel for further review and that a residents' meeting should be held prior to any works commencing.

4. Adoption of Panorama Road and Cow Lane – To consider e-mail from Dorset Council regarding final cost of works

Consideration was given to a briefing note that had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that during 2023 Dorset Council had incurred additional costs when carrying out improvement works to Cow Lane and Panorama Road in preparation for their adoption as highway maintainable at public expense. Although the Town Council had not been informed of these additional costs at the time, the Head of Highways had explained that the costs had been legitimately incurred in accordance with the adoption process.

It was noted that resolution of this matter was required prior to the adoption agreement being executed, and that it was due to be given consideration at the Council Meeting scheduled for 24th February 2025. In accordance with paragraph 2.2 of its terms of reference, it was AGREED:

TO RECOMMEND:

That the Town Council should consider making a contribution of 50% towards the additional costs incurred by Dorset Council in carrying out the improvement works to Cow Lane and Panorama Road.

5. Information Centre – Update on refurbishments

It was reported that the refurbishment works at Swanage Information Centre will commence on Wednesday 26th February and that it is anticipated that they will take two weeks to complete. The staff will relocate to the Operations Depot whilst works are ongoing.

6. Update on Planned Works 2025/26

It was reported that a package of works is being prepared for issue for competitive pricing which includes:

- Internal refurbishment of the public conveniences at Burlington Chine
- Resurfacing and kerbing of an area of the Recreation Ground
- Internal reconfiguration of Beach Gardens kiosk
- Refurbishment of the Swanage Information Centre garden area
- Town Hall - refurbishment of internal flooring and the first floor WC.

The timing of the works to the Council Chamber was discussed and it was proposed these works should be completed in August, pending an assessment of booked ceremonies. The provision of additional power points in the Chamber was raised and it was suggested that this should be reviewed at the same time as the flooring works.

7. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the date of the next meeting will be confirmed in due course.