

BOARD MEETING

The MINUTES of a GENERAL MEETING held in the Board Room, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 18th November 2008 at 7.00p.m.

Present Mrs. T M Birkett (Chairman)
 Mr. E Beale
 Mr. R Gimbert
 Mrs. J O'Halloran
 Mr. A Jones
 Mr. D J Lace
 Ms. P Hardman
 Mrs. C A Moughtin

Apologies Mr. I Skidmore

In attendance Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

MINUTES	08/357	The Minutes of meeting held on 4 th November 2008 were taken as read and <i>CONFIRMED</i> subject to an amendment to Minute 08/339 whereby the words "had been" on line six were deleted and the word "should" be substituted. <i>AGREED</i>
HEADLANDS DAISY PATH	08/358	Mr. Gimbert reiterated his concern that there were potholes on the daisy path on the headlands requested repair at the same time the main resurfacing of the lower footpath by Colas was undertaken. <i>AGREED</i>
BALLAQUANE ROUNDAABOUT	08/359	The Town Clerk advised of notification from the Department of Transport which indicated that a new footway would be constructed from Close Corlett to a point twenty metres beyond the roundabout on Ballaquane Road to provide safe passage for pedestrians and a safer crossing place. The work would commence in January 2009. <i>NOTED</i>
SKATEBOARD PARK AND BMX TRACK	08/360	Mr. Gimbert referred back to Minute 08/339 and indicated that four youths had been co-opted onto the sub-committee looking into proposed improvements to the skateboard park and the BMX track on the headlands field.
ALLOTMENTS	08/361	Members were advised of a possible alternative site for the establishment of an allotment in Peel for use by residents. <i>NOTED</i>

DOCTORS SURGERY	08/362	Reference was made back to Minute 08/340 and it was reported that a planning application had been submitted by the Department of Health and Social Security for a new doctors surgery in Peel. <i>NOTED</i>
WESTERN CIVIC AMENITY SITE	08/363	Mr. Lace referred to public concern over the impending closure of the site for upgrading. The matter had been reported in the local press but no date for the closure had been given and as a result had caused concern to members of the public. Mr. Gimbert indicated that he would ensure the date for closure was publicised.
LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSING RENTS	08/364	After discussion and consideration it was <i>AGREED</i> to recommend to the Department of Local Government and the Environment that local authority rents be increased by 5% for the financial year 2009/2010.
PANTOLOONS	08/365	Consideration was given to a request from the Peel Pantoloons for sponsorship of this years pantomime entitled "Little Red Riding Hood" which was scheduled to run from 8 th December to 13 th December 2008. Having regard to previous commitments it was decided that the Board would be unable to assist. Mr. Gimbert indicated that he was willing to offer individual financial support to the pantomime. <i>NOTED</i>
SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN	08/366	Consideration was given to a letter from the Isle of Man Safeguarding Children Board signed by Carol Beck, Head Teacher at Jurby Community School. Before any information was offered it was <i>AGREED</i> that enquiries be made as to this particular group which was not known by Members.
GOOD TRADER CONSULTATION	08/367	Members gave consideration to a consultation document involving good traders. Mr. Gimbert indicated that the document failed under the provisions of the Data Protection Act and was also concerned at the administrative costs to businesses that undertook to join the scheme. It was deemed somewhat unnecessary and could possibly link into the work permit process with regard to UK firms. Mr. Jones was of the opinion that the proposals provided little benefit and entailed too much bureaucracy.
HGV OPERATORS LICENCES	08/368	Consideration was given to a consultation document from the Department of Transport. Mr. Gimbert was not in favour of extending the current HGV restrictions to vehicles at 3.5 tonnes. He was

of the opinion that it should remain at 7 tonnes and reference was also made to the provision of heavy good vehicles parking provided by the Commissioners at the Mill Road HGV park.

Arising therefrom reference was made to certain containers that had been placed within the park and it was *AGREED* that the owner be requested to remove these containers.

Arising therefrom Mr. Lace also indicated that there were boats on trailers along the Mill Road verge contrary to the Harbour Division signs and it was *AGREED* that the matter be raised with Captain Brew and Mr. Crookall, MHK for their removal.

EDUCATION BILL 08/369
2008

Members considered a letter from the Department of Education following the consultation exercise for the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2008. A subsequent letter had been received indicating that forty five responses had been made from the public and local authorities together with Departments and other organisations. Some revisions had been made to the Bill, however Mr. Gimbert was of the opinion that the replacement of the Board of Governors by Department appointees gave cause for concern as it was felt that there was a need for more elected appointments as opposed to ones appointed by the Department.

Mr. Gimbert indicated one subsequent change related to clause 6 whereby charges could be made for absences from school which may be waived only in exceptional circumstances. This would have a major impact on parents whose business/work was based around the summer holiday period. Mr. Jones indicated that the Bill contained many good points which were to be supported but was also concerned at the stronger centralisation control by the Department of Education. It was *AGREED* that a further letter reiterating the Commissioners concerns be sent to the Department and copied to Mr. Crookall, MHK.

REVIEW OF THE 08/370
PLANNING
SYSTEM

Members considered a consultation paper from the Department of Local Government and the Environment regarding a review of the planning system. Mr. Gimbert indicated his opposition to the proposed charging for Appeals. This would favour those that could afford to take matters to Appeal and be a disadvantage to those of lesser means. Mr.

Gimbert also indicated that the provision for retrospective approvals had been omitted and that in such cases building firms should be fined. *NOTED*

DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE	08/371	The Town Clerk referred to an email from the Disasters Emergency Committee which indicated they were planning to launch an Appeal for the Democratic Republic of Congo. It was suggested that if an Appeal went ahead it would take place during the weekend 28 th and 29 th November 2008. Members noted that a collection was already scheduled for Saturday 29 th November 2008 and it was <i>AGREED</i> to advise the Committee accordingly with the availability of Friday 28 th November only.
WEST QUAY	08/372	Upon enquiry from Mr. Lace it was indicated that the Department of Transport, Harbour Division had commenced clearance of the ditch on West Quay, Peel.
WESTERN PARTNERSHIP	08/373	Mr. Jones updated Members on the recent meeting of the Western Partnership and indicated that a revised list of organisations had been prepared and recommended that the Commissioners pay for the printing of a new booklet. In this respect Mr. Jones <i>AGREED</i> to obtain costings before a decision was made.
PLANNING AUDIT	08/374	Mr. Gimbert referred to a recommendation from Mr. McCauley, Director of the Planning Committee concerning the provision of play areas in new developments. It was <i>AGREED</i> to write to Mr. McCauley indicating that the planners undertake a planning audit of Peel with regard to this matter.
HEAD TEACHERS – PEEL SCHOOLS	08/375	Mr. Gimbert suggested that the Commissioners arrange a date to meet both Head Teachers of the Clothworkers School and the QE11 School to discuss a range of matters including school routes, litter, dog walking and poop scoopers. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the date be fixed accordingly.
ISLE OF MAN GOVERNMENT REPORT	08/376	It was <i>AGREED</i> to obtain copies of the current Isle of Man Government report which required to be discussed in some detail. <i>AGREED</i>
RETAIL STUDY	08/377	It was <i>AGREED</i> that the meeting previously arranged to discuss the retail study with the Minister, Mr. Cretney be amended from Wednesday 10 th December 2008 to Monday 8 th December 2008. It was also <i>AGREED</i> that invitation be extended to Members of the Regeneration Committee. The

December Board meeting was also moved to
Wednesday 10th December 2008 at 7.00p.m.

This part of the meeting ended at 7.40p.m.