

# GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of a GENERAL MEETING held in the Board Room, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2009 at 7.00p.m.

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

Apologies                Ms. P Hardman  
                                 Mr. I Skidmore

In attendance            Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

CHAIRMAN'S  
WELCOME

09/231    The Chairman welcomed the public and Press to the meeting together with the categories winners in the Peel in Bloom Competition. Mrs. O'Halloran the Lead Member of Recreation and Entertainment presented the Cups, Rosettes and cheques to the various category winners:

#### Commercial Category

1<sup>st</sup> – Mrs. F Wade, Carines Coffee Shop  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Mrs. C Kelly, Peveril Hotel  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Mrs. J Lace, Shamy Hey Tearoom

#### Garden Category

1<sup>st</sup> – Mr. N Sperring, Albany House, Albany Road, Peel  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Mrs. S Williamson, 45 Bluebell Close, Peel  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Miss L Kneen, 24 Kerroo Coar, Peel

#### Hanging Basket Category

1<sup>st</sup> – Mrs. J Griffiths, 31 Douglas Street, Peel  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Mrs. Rothwell, 33 Douglas Street, Peel  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Mrs. V Barber, 28 Douglas Street, Peel

The Chairman reported that he had attended the RNLI Service on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2009 and also wished to thank all those who had attended the recent "Meet the Commissioners" meeting.

MINUTES

09/232    The Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2009 were taken as read and *CONFIRMED*.

Action

STREET LIGHTING	09/233	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 09/206 and indicated that the street light in Circular Road was a down lighter and would not require replacement. The Technical Officer was prepared to alter the street light in Market Street to assist the resident who had concerns over excessive light. The Chairman referred to a further light in St. Germans Place which it was <i>AGREED</i> would be replaced with a down lighter.
CREEK INN	09/234	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 09/207 and reported that approval had been received from the Department of Local Government and the Environment consenting to the issue of a licence for the placement of tables and chairs on the highway. <i>NOTED</i>
22 PATRICK STREET	09/235	Reference was made back to Minute 09/210 and the Town Clerk reported that a further letter had been received from Ayre Construction which set out the proposed works to be undertaken at 22 Patrick Street. The work would involve the complete removal of the front wall, location of the foul drain to be checked and work to remove and replace the roof once the front wall had been rebuilt. It was anticipated that the planning application would take eight to ten weeks with the construction works taking sixteen to twenty weeks thereafter. The Board <i>AGREED</i> this course of action be undertaken by Mrs. Manson owner of the property through her consultant architect and contractor.
RAGWORT	09/236	Mr. Jones referred back to Minute 09/211 and reported that ragwort was growing at the four bungalows in North View scheduled for demolition and rebuild. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the ragwort be removed. Reference was made to the broughs owned by the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry to the rear of Patrick Street and Glenfaba Road. Ragwort was growing profusely in this area and it was <i>AGREED</i> to write to the Department with a request that it be attended to especially as a resident had a stability problem with the rear wall caused by the roots of weeds undermining the wall. Mr. Lace also indicated that ragwort weeds were in evidence around the former scout hut at St. Germans Place. It was <i>AGREED</i> that it be removed.

STREET SIGNS	09/237	Mr. Lace referred back to Minute 09/214 and the Town Clerk reported that a request had been made for the directional sign indicating Douglas to be replaced. It was suggested that some temporary sign be erected in the interim.
PEEL TRAFFIC PLAN	09/238	Upon enquiry from the Chairman it was noted that the Department of Transport through Mr. Sewell had undertaken public consultation over the Peel Traffic Management Plan at the recent “Meet the Commissioners” evening. Both Mr. Jones and Mr. Lace wished to extend their appreciation to the Department of Transport staff who had attended the public meeting and explained the Traffic Management Plan to residents. The Town Clerk indicated that Mr. Sewell wished to undertake a further public consultation with specific reference to the proposals for Church Street.
BMX TRACK	09/239	The Chairman reported that due to the recent spate of poor weather delays had occurred in the completion of the BMX track on the headlands field. <i>NOTED</i>
HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT BILL 2009	09/240	Members considered the proposed Housing and Local Government Bill 2009 and Mr. Jones requested that the Town Warden be tasked with considering the various proposals for later consideration by the Board. The Chairman referred to part five relating to compulsory purchase and requested that local authorities should be exempted from this clause. Members were supportive of this proposal as it was felt that local authority social housing should remain within Government ownership.
DOGS ACT 1990	09/241	Members gave consideration to a consultation exercise regarding proposed amendments to the Dogs Act 1990. In conjunction with this the Board also reviewed the current Peel Dog Control Byelaws. Consideration was given to a proposal that dogs should be banned completely from Peel Beach during the summer period from April to September. It was further suggested that such a ban should also apply to church yards and parks.
		It was Members views that dogs at large should be targeted with particular emphasis on dog fouling. General discussion ensued as to the definition of dogs being under “effective control” and Mrs.

Birkett was of the view that within the Town (roads and highways) all dogs should be kept on a lead. Mrs. O'Halloran suggested that some areas should be designed for unfettered access. Mrs. Moughtin was of the view that the headlands field was designated for recreational use and that dog fouling and children playing should not take place in the same area. Mr. Lace confirmed that he had reports of children being covered with dog faeces and that owners should be more responsible in clearing up after their dogs. It was suggested that the Commissioners field immediately north of the headlands field be designated for dogs to be able to roam freely with the Headlands being designated for dogs on lashes.

In conclusion it was *AGREED* that the Peel Town Control Byelaws be amended to (a) Ban dogs in total from the beach during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September. (b) That the field to the north of the headlands recreational field be designated for free access to dogs. (c) That the town, highways and roads be designated as areas where dogs must be keep on a leash.

FLOOD RISK  
MANAGEMENT  
ACT

09/242 Members gave consideration to the consultation paper regarding flood risk management and the Chairman requested that enquiries be made as to whether consultation had taken place with the Data Protection Officer. In addition the Chairman indicated that local authorities should have the right of Appeal against any decisions of the Department.

SULBY  
CLADDAGH

09/243 Members gave consideration to the consultation exercise with regard to the proposed amendments to usage of Sulby Claddagh. It was felt that Members as a whole favoured the retention of the status quo and that the current proposal from the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry to reduce the camping area from five acres to two acres was unacceptable together with a limit of five days camping at any one time. It was *AGREED* that an appropriate letter be sent to the Department outlining the Commissioners concerns and that the current management regime of the Claddagh be retained.

AUDITOR  
GENERAL BILL

09/244 It was *AGREED* that this consultation exercise be held over to the next meeting to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009.

The Town Clerk reported that the Department of Local Government and the Environment had recently appointed PKF (Isle of Man) LLC as the new public auditor for the Islands local authorities with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009. *NOTED*

MANX TELECOM RALLY 09/245

Consideration was given to a request from Manx Autosport to hold a stage of the 2010 Manx Telecom Rally to be held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May 2010 through certain streets of Peel. A map showing the proposed route from Patrick Street, Mill Road, East Quay and the promenade was attached to the request. Discussion ensued as to the merits or otherwise of the request and Mr. Jones indicated that providing it was properly organised it would be wrong to object to the proposal. Messrs Beale, O'Halloran and Moughtin were in favour of the event as it brought business and people to Peel. Mrs. Birkett was opposed with specific reference to the request for financial assistance. Mr. Lace also favoured the application but wished to express his disappointment that the Chairman had chosen to make comments on the local radio in advance of the matter being discussed at the Board meeting. The Chairman indicated that he was opposed to the event on health and safety grounds and felt that in principle motor sports should not be held in the Town. The Chairman indicated that he had expressed his own opinion on the radio which may have been misinterpreted. Mrs. Birkett indicated that the organisers would need to notify all property owners and businesses affected by the route of the rally if it were to be approved.

After taking a vote it was *AGREED* by five votes in favour with two against (the Chairman and Mrs. Birkett) that approval be given for the section to be held within Peel on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010. The request for financial assistance would be discussed when the budget was set for the 2010/2011 financial year.

MAUGHOLD CIVIC SERVICE 09/246

The Chairman indicated that he would attend the Maughold Parish Civic Service to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2009. *NOTED*

HOUSING (FLATS) REGULATIONS 1982 09/247

Consideration was given to a request from the Environmental Health Officer recommending the registration of Flat 7, The Penthouse, Viking Longhouse and Flat 5, Net Loft, Mariners Wharf,

		East Quay, Peel. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the flats be registered in accordance with the regulations.
SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL VALUATION LIST	09/248	Members noted receipt of the second supplemental valuation list.
2 CAMPION CRESCENT	09/249	The Town Clerk indicated that an Appeal request had been made in respect of the refusal to allow the change of use of strip of land from amenity space to residential curtilage and re-positioning the existing fence at 2 Campion Crescent, Reayrt ny Keylley, Ballawattleworth, Peel. The Town Clerk indicated that the Board had previously submitted an objection to the original application. The Town Clerk reported however that the conveyance of the property to the owner Mr. Howden had shown that the area concerned was part of their property. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the Town Clerk investigate whether the masterplan for the planning approval for the design of the estate indicated that this area was an amenity space or shown as part of the property 2 Campion Crescent.
PLANNING APPLICATION	09/250	The Town Clerk referred to receipt of additional drawings in respect of planning application 09/00807/B for installation of roof lights, replacement of window/doors, rendering and roofing works to 24 Castle Street, Peel. <i>RECOMMEND APPROVAL</i>
PEEL HERITAGE TRUST	09/251	The Town Clerk read out a letter from the Secretary to the Peel Heritage Trust dated 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2009 concerning the Trust Members concerns over the proliferation of advertising signs and display boards around the Town. It was noted that this matter had been referred to at the previous Board meeting and it was noted that the proposed amendments to the legislation governing the display of advertising boards was awaited.
PEEL CAMPSITE	09/252	The Town Clerk referred to an email from a Miss Fieldhouse concerning her recent stay at Peel campsite. Miss Fieldhouse had praised the site and the friendly attitude of the campsite attendant, Mr. P Quane. <i>NOTED</i>
STREET TRADERS LICENCE	09/253	Consideration was given to a request from P Kermeen, Family Butchers Limited for a street trading licence on Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2009 on

the occasion of the Viking Longboat Races.  
*AGREED*

SHAMYR HEY           09/254   Consideration was given to a letter from Mrs. J  
 TEAROOMS            Lace for permission to erect a windbreak around  
                               the outdoor seating area in Atholl Place. On the  
                               basis that the windbreak was removed at the end  
                               of each working day it was *AGREED* to permit the  
                               request.

IRIS SCHEME           09/255   The Chairman wished to indicate that the recent  
                               press article by Mr. David Quirk, MHK in the  
                               local paper was not in accord with the  
                               understanding of the discussions previously held  
                               with Commissioners. As a result it was suggested  
                               that a Commissioners public statement was  
                               required to clearly set out the position following  
                               previous discussions held with the Department  
                               under its proposed consultation process.

From the outset the Commissioners stance had  
 been that it must have the right to comment and  
 have input on the proposed site and the technology  
 to be used for the sewage works. The Chairman  
 referred to the original review paper of the  
 Department which set out various options for the  
 proposed works. The latest business case  
 submitted by the Department to the Council of  
 Ministers had however centred on a treatment  
 works that could only be of traditional build and  
 technology. Mr. Quirk had indicated that  
 consultation had taken place with the  
 Commissioners and this was refuted by Members  
 as being inadequate. The suggestion of the  
 Department putting any project for Peel and the  
 West to the back of the queue was deemed  
 unacceptable. The Board was firmly of the view  
 that the correct site, technology and the housing of  
 the works with a vented chimney must be pursued  
 even if it meant that the Peel Sewage Works was  
 left to the end of the IRIS Scheme for completion.  
 Members expressed the view that the Department  
 and its Minister and Members had no intention of  
 listening to the Commissioners and that they  
 should be ashamed at the inadequate level of  
 consultation deemed to have taken place. It was  
 stated that the first meeting with the Department  
 held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2008 had outlined the  
 proposals and deferred pending receipt of the  
 Faber Maunsell report scheduled for February  
 2009. This subsequent meeting had not taken

place until after the matter had been approved by Tynwald in July 2009. Mrs. O'Halloran indicated that all the Commissioners were under the impression from the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2008 that the works would be enclosed whether it was sited in the field immediately adjacent to the Total Oil Depot or the fourth field out. Mrs. Moughtin indicated that whilst the Board accepted the need for the sewage works it must follow proper consultation. Mr. Lace suggested that a letter be sent to Mr. T M Crookall, MHK for Peel to seek his views on where he stood in the matter and whether he supported the stance taken by the Commissioners. Mr. Lace also expressed disappointment that the proposal would not utilise the access route purchased by the Commissioners but would entail a roadway being created from the Glenfaba Bridge. The Chairman referred to an email he had received from Mr. Peter Winstanley, Director of Drainage dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 2008 which he read out and which indicated that the Department would review all available and suitable technologies. This was not the case. It was *AGREED* that a public statement be drafted by the Town Clerk on the current position regarding the treatment works for Peel and the West.

BOILLEY  
SPITTAL  
SHOWERS

09/256

Mr. Jones referred to tenants continuing concerns over defective showers in Boilley Spittal. The Town Clerk indicated that he would ascertain the current position with a view to the matter being resolved.

WESTERN  
AMENITY SITE

09/257

Mr. Lace referred to a resident's concerns over the proposed redevelopment of the Western Amenity Site and requested that a sign would be required at the entrance indicating the date of closure. Mr. Beale indicated that the Western Civic Amenity Committee had issued an information sheet showing that the site would close on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009 and after a four day period for site clearance would then be handed to the contractor for redevelopment. It was anticipated that the works would be completed by February 2010 and that in the meantime residents would have to use one of the other civic amenity sites. It was however noted that green waste could be taken to the Ballaneven Site.



STREET SIGNS            09/258    Consideration was given to a letter from Mrs. P Quine of Peveril Avenue concerning the lack of a Ballaquane Road sign for visitors coming down the Poortown Road.

It was also requested that a “no entry sign” be placed at the top of Michael Street to prevent vehicles and bicycles entering the one way street the wrong way. It was *AGREED* that the matter be investigated and costed.

JETSKIS                    09/259    The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 09/212 and reported that he had met with the proprietors of Manx Jetski Adventures who operated out of Peel. Mr Kelly had stated that they operated in a responsible manner and carried public liability insurance. The problem of inconsiderate usage appeared to rest with two unknown individuals.

A letter from Captain Horsley was read out by the Town Clerk which indicated that he was prepared to recommend that the safe bathing area be extended to the northern end of Marine Parade which would then cover the whole beach area. The Division, in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, would also look into putting up suitable signs at the Lifeboat Slipway. It was, however, noted that it was unlikely that a new slipway would be constructed at the northern end of the promenade.

This part of the meeting ended at 8.30p.m.