

GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of a GENERAL MEETING held in the Board Room, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 15th September 2009 at 7.00p.m.

Present Mr. R Gimbert (Chairman)
 Mrs. T M Birkett
 Mr. D J Lace
 Mrs. C A Moughtin
 Mr. A G Jones
 Mr. E C Beale
 Ms. P Hardman

Apologies Mr. I Skidmore
 Mrs. J O'Halloran

In attendance Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	09/279	The Chairman welcomed the Press to the meeting and indicated the early part of September had been busy with a site visit to the Meary Veg Treatment Works, attendance at the Ballaugh and Marown Civic Services together with the presentation of prizes at the Peel Gardeners Show on 10 th September 2009. On the 14 th September the Chairman had attended the opening of the Harbour Marina performed by the Chief Minister and indicated that no slight had been intended following his initial decision not to attend due to a duplication of meetings. As the Vice-Chairman was unable to attend at short notice the Chairman had made the effort to attend the opening but expressed his disappointment that the Department had agreed to name the new footbridge as the Fenella Bridge rather than the John Lightfoot Bridge. In conclusion the Chairman indicated that he had also attended the Queen Elizabeth 11 High School prize presentation on 14 th September.
MINUTES	09/280	The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 st September 2009 were taken as read and <i>CONFIRMED</i> .

IRIS SCHEME	09/281	Reference was made to the site visit to Limavady and Carrick Fergus with the Department of Transport and it was noted that Ms. Hardman had indicated that she would be unable to attend due to work commitments and it was <i>AGREED</i> that Mr. Jones attend in her place.	
AUDITOR GENERAL BILL	09/282	Reference was made back to Minute 09/270 and consideration was given to the draft Auditor General Bill. The Chairman referred to his concerns over the exemption clause in which the Council of Ministers would be exempt and he felt this should not be the case. It was noted that the Chief Minister and Government could have the veto on any document and it was his opinion that the Auditor General should have access to all information and data. In the Chairman's view this went against the premise of open Government. Mr. Jones indicated that the legislation aims were laudable but indicated that it appeared more onerous on local authorities. Mrs. Moughtin indicated why there was a need for change which would make things more complicated for local authorities and inevitably involve more cost. In conclusion the Board were concerned at the possible implications for additional administration and cost and were opposed to exceptions for Central Government. It was stated that some issues needed to retain confidentiality and that applied to local authorities as well as Government.	PGL
ST GERMANS PLACE	09/283	Reference was made back to Minute 09/275 and the Town Clerk indicated that the pot holes would be repaired in due course.	PGL
PEEL HEADLANDS	09/284	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 09/276 and indicated that the automatic closer on the play area gate had been repaired. <i>NOTED</i>	
DOG CONTROL BYELAWS	09/285	Reference was made to the Board's intention to amend the Dog Control Byelaws and it was noted that a public meeting to be chaired by Mr. John Kennaugh, Captain of the Parish, would be held on Monday 21 st September 2009 at 7.00p.m. in the Corrin Hall.	

The Town Clerk tabled copies of the current 2007 Byelaws and the matter was discussed in advance of the public meeting with regard to the proposed amendments. Mr. Jones indicated some concern with regard to the issue of dogs being kept on leashes. After a lengthy discussion it was confirmed that the proposed amendment to the 2007 Byelaws should include (1) a total ban from Peel main beach from 1st April to 30th September in each and every year. (2) a total ban with regard to the headlands recreational field. This would not include the daisy path.

As the meadow field to the north of the recreational field would be earmarked for unfettered access by dogs it was *AGREED* that the gorse required cutting back.

THE CREEK INN	09/286	The Chairman referred back to Minute 09/274 and reported that the barrier at the edge of the designated walkway had not been replaced at the Creek Inn. It was <i>AGREED</i> to contact the proprietor accordingly.	PGL
---------------	--------	---	-----

AWARENESS DAY	09/287	Reference was made back to Minute 90/278 and the Chairman distributed individual invitations to Members to attend the Awareness Day scheduled for 20 th September 2009 at the former swimming pool site, Marine Parade.
---------------	--------	--

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN	09/288	Discussion ensued over the proposed Peel Traffic Management Plan and the Chairman referred to the operation of the Lhergydhoo Quarry by JCK Limited. The Chairman indicated that the company did not currently have planning approval to work from the site with regard to issues over waste disposal and after discussion with Members expressing concern at the use of the streets of Peel by JCK HGV vehicles on a regular basis that a request be made to the Department of Local Government and the Environment, Planning Division requesting enforcement of the planning conditions in force.	PGL
-------------------------------	--------	---	-----

A general discussion ensued over the use of the streets of Peel by HGV vehicles and it was *AGREED* that possible restrictions on certain

streets of the Town should be included as part of the Traffic Management Plan.

BRADDAN PARISH COMMISSIONS	09/289	The Chairman referred to the report of the Select Committee of Tynwald on the affairs of Braddan Parish Commissioners and requested that it be deferred to the next meeting on 6 th October 2009 for detailed discussion and consideration.
SEWERAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL	09/290	Reference was made to the consultation exercise in respect of the Department of Transport's Sewerage Amendment Bill and it was <i>AGREED</i> that it be deferred to the next meeting scheduled for 6 th October 2009 for detailed consideration and response. <i>AGREED</i>
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1985	09/291	Consideration was given to a draft Order regarding speed limits at school entrances. This Order had been prepared as a result of a recent Court case which had thrown up anomalies with regard to the restriction of speed at school entrances. The Board <i>AGREED</i> that the draft was acceptable and should be supported. Members noted the making of an Order by the Department to create a reserved parking place in front of 7 Marine Parade, Peel. <i>NOTED</i>
MANX HEDGEROW MANAGEMENT	09/292	Members considered a letter from the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry concerning a Code of Best Practice for the Management of Manx Hedgerows. Mr. Lace indicated that the Department of Transport should direct resources to the cutting back of the minor country roads as well as the main roads which appeared to be neglected. The Board had no comment to make on the draft.
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FRAMEWORK	09/293	Consideration was given to a Department of Health and Social Security draft document regarding a Physical Activity Framework for the Isle of Man. Members supported the need for more effort to be made in this area and felt that in conjunction with the draft framework the Department of Transport should ensure that country roads, where possible, had pavements so that people could exercise in PGL

safety. Mr. Lace indicated his support for the former railway line from Peel to Douglas being improved to encourage cyclists and walkers. Members supported the draft document and *AGREED* that the above concerns be highlighted to the Department.

CIVIC SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS	09/294	The Town Clerk indicated that Civic Sunday celebrations were to be held by Jurby Parish Commissioners on 27 th September 2009, Castletown Commissioners Civic Sunday to be held on 4 th October 2009, Braddan Parish Commissioners Civic Sunday to be held on 11 th October 2009 and Ramsey Town Commissioners Civic Service to be held on 18 th October 2009. The Chairman indicated that he would attend each of these four Civic Sunday Services.	RMG
LETTERS OF THANKS	09/295	The Town Clerk referred to two letters of thanks from Mr. Clarkson of the Peel Beach Mission who wished to thank the Commissioners and staff for permitting the annual Peel Beach Mission to take place during the summer together with a letter from a Mr. & Mrs. Armstrong of Surrey who wished to congratulate those concerned with organising to Peel Carnival Day on 2 nd August. <i>NOTED</i>	
FIXED PENALTY NOTICE	09/296	The Town Clerk referred to the issue of a fixed penalty notice by the Town Warden to a Miss Kerry Adams of Hythe, Kent. Miss Adams had been issued with a £50 fixed penalty notice for exercising her dog on Peel beach after the time when dogs were not permitted. Ms. Adams had written to the Commissioners appealing against the issue of the notice and the matter was discussed at some length. Having noted that the Town Warden had acted in a correct manner it was <i>AGREED</i> that the fixed penalty notice should stand and that Miss Adams be given a further fourteen day period in which to pay the fixed penalty notice.	PGL
ANNE FRANK EXHIBITION	09/297	Consideration was given to a letter from the Project Co-ordinator with regard to the Anne Frank Exhibition to be held in St Germans Cathedral in March 2010. The Co-ordinator had asked the Commissioners to support the	PGL

venture financially and it was noted that the matter could be considered when the revenue budget estimates were considered for the ensuing year. However, it was noted that the organisers were a charitable institution it was not possible to give financial support was not possible. However it was *AGREED* to advise the project Co-ordinator that a charitable collection during the exhibition period and the display of notices around the Town could be permitted.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGMENTS	09/298	Discussion ensued over turning on of the Christmas lights and it was <i>AGREED</i> that this take place at 4.30p.m. on Saturday 28 th November 2009. Members were asked to consider who might be invited as a VIP guest to turn on the lights.	
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT	09/299	<p>The following planning applications were considered as follows:</p> <p>PA 09/01428/B Demolition of existing and rebuilding of replacement front wall of dwelling, 22 Patrick Street, Peel. <i>RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.</i></p> <p>PA 09/01448/B Alterations and erection of replacement extension to dwelling house, Perwick, 20 Peveril Road, Peel. <i>RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.</i></p>	PGL
PA 09/00731/C ON APPEAL	09/300	Members noted that an Appeal had been requested in respect of the refusal for change of use of strip of land from amenity space to residential curtilage and repositioning existing fence, 2 Campion Crescent, Reayrt ny Keylley, Peel for Mr. Denis Robert Keith Howden. Having noted that the Commissioners had opposed the previous application it was <i>AGREED</i> that a further letter confirming the Commissioners objection be forwarded to the Planning Appeal.	PGL
RATING APPEAL	09/301	Members noted receipt of an Appeal for a reduction in rates by Mrs. E M Hill of Close Beg, 9 Atholl Street, Peel as a result of the demolition work at 13-15 Atholl Street by Street Heritage Limited. Members had no objection to the request for a temporary	

reduction.

WESTERN COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP	09/302	The Town Clerk referred to the preparation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Police and Commissioners. The purpose was to cement the close liaison and working relationship between the Police and the Commissioners with the aim of working together to keep Peel a safe place to live, work and visit. The Chairman signed the Memorandum on behalf of the Commissioners.
CROSBY AND DISTRICT SILVER BAND	09/303	Consideration was given to a letter from Canon Brian Kelly the Secretary to the Crosby and District Silver Band in which he sought permission for the band to play in Peel on Saturdays mornings during December namely 5 th , 12 th and 19 th of December. <i>AGREED</i> It was also suggested that the band be invited to perform on the afternoon of 28 th November when the Christmas tree lights would be switched on. PGL
2010 POPPY APPEAL	09/304	Consideration was given to a letter from the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal requesting permission to hold a street collection in support of the 2010 Poppy Appeal from 30 th October to 13 th November. <i>AGREED</i> It was also noted that for this year the collection would take place from 24 th October to 7 th November with Remembrance Day being on Sunday 14 th November 2009.
LITTER CONTROL NOTICES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2009	09/305	The Town Clerk referred to a letter from the Department of Local Government and the Environment regarding the new litter control regulations. It was noted that the regulations had been introduced to address the issue of litter disposed at or around commercial premises including cigarette litter. The new regulations had been drafted with the objective of allowing local authorities to take action to deal with litter outside such premises. The Department intended to issue guide lines to local authorities so that authorities would be aware that litter control notice should only be issued as a last resort. In the first instance it was hoped that local authorities would work in partnership with local businesses to tackle the problem of

street litter. The Chairman indicated that in his opinion the legislation penalised businesses. However Mr. Jones suggested that this legislation was required and that good and proper evidence would be required before action could be taken with regard to the issue of notices.

DRAINAGE
DIVISION

09/306

The Chairman referred to a letter addressed to the Town Clerk from Mr. David Quirk, M.H.K, Member with responsibility for Drainage in which it was stated that the Commissioners had previously sought information direct from Officers of the Drainage Division and from the Department's Consultants and that this approach could lead to duplication of effort and crossed lines of communication. Mr. Quirk requested that the Commissioners be advised that requests for information from the Department should be through the Clerk and not direct to Officers or Consultants by Commissioners.

PGL

The Chairman indicated that the Department was trying to restrict access and that he was less than pleased with the letter from Mr. Quirk. The Chairman continued that it appeared that the Department was trying to prevent the Commissioners from getting the relevant and appropriate information that it required and he indicated that the Commissioners required full disclosure to enable the Commissioners to do what was best for Peel. Mr. Jones indicated that the Department was trying to dictate lines of communication and as a result it was *AGREED* that the Board nominate the Chairman Mr. Gimbert to be the liaison point of contact with the Department over sewerage matters in this respect.

REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY

09/307

Mr. Jones referred to the previous practice whereby the rocket was launched to mark the two minutes silence on Remembrance Sunday and indicated that as this was no longer possible what audible notice would be given of the two minutes silence for this year. It was *AGREED* that a letter be sent to Government Office with this enquiry.

PGL

PEEL ACHIEVERS	09/308	Mrs. Moughtin indicated that consideration should be given to the hosting of a small reception/s for the Town's achievers which should be recognised by the Commissioners. Members <i>AGREED</i> that it would be an appropriate function to hold and that it could be considered for later in the municipal year.	
STREET LIGHTING	09/309	The Chairman enquired whether the new down lighter had been ordered and the Town Clerk undertook to liaise with the Technical Officer in this respect. Reference was also made to the failure of the solar lights in the Castle Street Garden and it was noted that the Technical Officer would liaise with the Chairman accordingly with regard to the reasons for the damage and its current non-working condition.	TQ
BANNER ADVERTISING	09/310	The Chairman referred to previous discussion over banner advertising around the Town and it was <i>AGREED</i> that the Town Clerk liaise with Douglas Corporation over the costings thereof.	PGL
		Arising therefrom reference was made to the provision of additional community notice boards and the Town Clerk indicated that this would be included as a budget item for 2010-2011.	
PEEL ALLOTMENT	09/311	Reference was made to the current position regarding the provision of an allotment field for the Town. Mr. Beale indicated that the matter was progressing with the Committee having been set up and the constitution drafted. It was <i>AGREED</i> that a copy of the Constitution be sought in due course from the Committee.	ECB
SUNFLOWER COMPETITION	09/312	Mr. Lace referred to the Sunflower Competition and it was <i>AGREED</i> that the Lead Member for Recreation, Mrs. O'Halloran be requested to contact the schools to judge the entries made in this competition.	J O'H

This part of the meeting ended at 8.40p.m.