

GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Wednesday 6th July 2011 at 7.00p.m.

Present Mr. N Cushing (Chairman)
 Mr. E C Beale
 Mr. A G Jones
 Mr. D J Lace
 Mr. R M Gimbert
 Mr. R Harmer
 Mrs. C A Moughtin
 Mrs. J O'Halloran

Apologies Mrs T M Birkett

In attendance Mr P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	11/164	The Chairman welcomed Mr. Crookall, MHK to the first meeting of July.
MINUTES	11/165	The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 st June 2011 were taken as read and <i>CONFIRMED</i> subject to an amendment to Minute 11/152 where it was <i>AGREED</i> to include after the last sentence the following "It was <i>AGREED</i> to write to the applicants who had applied for the re-painting scheme to advise them of the current position and whether they were prepared to contribute 50% towards the costs."
CCTV CAMERAS	11/166	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/131 and indicated that the trial run of the infrared camera at West View play area had taken place and that the images provided were suitable to ascertain any activity within the park during the hours of darkness but that it was difficult to clearly identify individuals which would satisfy Police and court requirements. This could only be achieved with a suitable zoom camera. Mr. Jones commented on the matter and indicated that in his view the possible purchase of a covert CCTV system would be the better option. It was noted that the Town Clerk and Technical

Officer were scheduled to meet with the Police expert on CCTV and that the matter would be reviewed by the Board thereafter.

VANDALISM REPORT 11/167

The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/139 and indicated that the approximate costs of repairing vandalised equipment and replacing shrubs and fencing etc was in the region of £2,355.00.

The Town Clerk also indicated that a letter of response had been received from Mrs. S Moore, Head Teacher at the Queen Elizabeth 11 High School indicating that the issue of vandalism in respect of the Commissioners property would be discussed at the next School Council meeting. *NOTED*

ROAD TRAFFIC
REGULATION ACT
1985 11/168

The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/142 and indicated that the draft weight restriction Order did not include buses. *NOTED.*

The Town Clerk referred to a further Vehicle Prohibition Order made by the Department of Infrastructure in respect of a section of Bridge Street from its junction with Duke Street to its junction with Shore Road which precluded vehicular traffic from the 3rd July 2011 until the 14th August 2011 or until the building work was completed whichever was the earlier. *NOTED*

SECOND
SUPPLEMENTAL
VALUATION LIST 11/169

The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/150 and advised Members that the zero rated decision in respect of Shangri-La, Tynwald Road, Peel related to the property being completed gutted and subject to extensive refurbishment. The property was currently uninhabitable and the matter would be monitored by the Valuation Officer regarding completion of works. *NOTED*

SKATEBOARD PARK 11/170

Members considered the previous Minute 11/153 regarding the Police request for a proposal to undertake the design of murals on the skateboard ramps. After discussion Members were fully supportive of the Police initiative and it was *AGREED* to

advise the Police that the Commissioners had no objection to the proposal for a competition for local schools to design murals for the skateboard ramps.

W J CAIN MEMORIAL FUND 11/171

The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/155 and reported that his further enquiries in respect of the 3 ½% war stock held under the W J Cain Memorial Fund had proved fruitless. After discussion Members *AGREED* that the fund in the sum of £94.99 be written off.

PLAY AREAS 11/172

The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/159 and stated that the Lead Member for Recreation, Mrs. Birkett, had with the Technical Officer and Town Clerk, visited the various play areas in Peel and indicated that she would prepare a report on her site visit for consideration at a future Board Meeting. *NOTED*

KITCHEN FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT 11/173

Mr. Gimbert referred back to Minute 11/129 and enquired whether a meeting had been held with staff at the Department of Social Care regarding the issues over the condition of certain of the new kitchen replacements.

Mr. Jones indicated that no meeting had taken place yet as it was intended to hold a meeting involving the Lead Members of Housing and Works with staff to investigate the issues further. Mr. Jones indicated that certain of the faults referred to by Mr. Gimbert had been repaired by the contractor upon request from the Technical Officer. It was Mr. Jones view that a proper working relationship with Central Government was necessary and that matters should only progress further if there was appropriate justification that the current system was not working.

Mr. Jones tabled a housing report which was *NOTED*. At the proposed meeting the work schedule would be discussed with regard to the housing stock. In response Mr. Gimbert indicated that the kitchens that had been signed off with defects had still not been rectified and that the fault was being laid at the door of the

Commissioners workforce rather than the independent contractors who had undertaken the work. In conclusion it was *AGREED* that the best way forward notwithstanding the approved Notice of Motion from Mr. Gimbert was a staff meeting in the first instance involving the two Lead Members for Housing and Works.

BUSKERS LICENCE 11/174

Upon enquiry the Town Clerk indicated that a letter offering Mr. Locke a busker's licence for a one month period had been made and that a response was currently awaited. *NOTED*

BALLAQUANE ROAD 11/175

Members noted receipt of a letter issued to residents on Ballaquane Road regarding the Department of Infrastructure's intention to reduce the on-road parking nearest to the junction with Peveril Road. The matter of cars currently parking near to the junction was causing traffic flow problems entering Ballaquane Road. To alleviate the situation the Department proposed to reduce the parking bay by six metres from the current twenty two metre bay to a sixteen metre bay. This would provide space for three vehicles. It was *AGREED* to confirm to the Department that the Commissioners supported the proposal.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT 11/176

The following planning applications were considered as follows:-

11/00789/B

Refurbishment works including removal of chimneys and application of insulation render, 14-18 and 20-24 West View, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

11/00809/B

Alterations and erection of extension to dwelling, Shangri-La, Tynwald Road, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

11/00848/B

Extension to dwelling, 5 Links Close, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PLANNING
DECISIONS NOTIFIED

11/177

The following planning decisions had been notified by the Planning Committee as follows:-

PA 11/00676/B Alternations, erection of extension to dwelling and driveway amendments, The Haven, Tynwald Road, Peel for Mr. & Mrs. C Quirk. *APPROVED.*

PA 11/00672/B Installation of replacement dormer windows, former Post Office, 4 Douglas Street, Peel for Mr. & Mrs. J R Graham. *APPROVED.*

PA 11/00664/B Erection of an extension to dwelling, Rose Cottage, 44 Derby Road, Peel for Mr. & Mrs. D Cannon. *APPROVED.*

PA 11/00596/B Erection of garage extension, installation of dormer and roof light, 22 Close Cubbon, Peel for Mr. P G Cain. *APPROVED.*

PA 11/00452/B Extension to dwelling, 8 Ballaquane Park, Peel for Mr. & Mrs. R Wilson. *APPROVED.*

PA 11/00945/B Installation of replacement windows and doors, 5 Peveril Terrace, Peel for K & C Property Limited. *APPROVED.*

PA 11/00252/C ON
APPEAL

11/178

Members noted receipt of a letter from the Planning Appeals Administrator which indicated that the Appeal by Mr. John Richard Tarrant against approval for additional use of residential apartment as self catering holiday accommodation at 3 Captain Cannon's House, 7 Michael Street, Peel had been withdrawn.

PERMITTED
DEVELOPMENT
REVISION

11/179

The Chairman referred to the public consultation issued by the Planning Office at the Department of Infrastructure regarding proposals to increase the extent of permitted development for householders and Government Departments. It was *AGREED* that detailed consideration of the consultation document be deferred to the next Board Meeting.

BOUNDARY REVIEW 11/180

The Chairman reported on his attendance with the Town Clerk at the Boundary Review Committee deliberations. It was noted that Peel was one of the most under represented constituencies on the Island and the Commissioners view that the size of the Island's constituencies should be based on the numbers on the electoral role. It was noted that the Committee was considering a number of options including one Island wide constituency of twenty four MHK's, some double constituencies and others with single seats. A further option of twenty four single seat constituencies across the Island was under consideration. The Committee had been advised of the Commissioners preferred option of single seat constituencies.
NOTED

LOCAL AUTHORITY 11/181
FINES

Members noted receipt of a letter from the Local Government Unit dated 23rd June 2011 setting out the current position regarding the collection and distribution of local authority fines. Members noted the letter but in reality options were limited as the cost of pursuing debtors through the courts was prohibitive. Mr. Harmer suggested that the cost of taking court proceedings could be shared with Central Government. However, it was noted that the Attorney General's Chambers would only give advice to Government Departments and not local authorities.
NOTED

VIKING LONGBOAT 11/182
RACES

Consideration was given to a request from IOMA Solutions to hold a bbq on Peel beach on 20th August 2011, the day of the Viking Longboat Races in Peel. Members had no objection to the request providing the organisers cleared up any litter.

The Town Clerk also referred to a request from DHL Isle of Man regarding a request to hold a charity bucket collection on the same day in support of the Special Care Baby Unit at Nobles Hospital. It was indicated that the Viking Longboat Race Organisation usually held a charity collection on this day and it was *AGREED* that this be clarified before a decision was

made.

MULTI STOREY CAR PARK 11/183

Consideration was given to an email from Mr. Crookall, MHK concerning a letter he had received from Mr. Gimbert as Chairman of the Peel Chamber of Trade and Commerce regarding the proposals for a multi-storey car park facility. The Peel Chamber of Trade and Commerce had submitted a business case prepared by Top Deck Parking to Mr. Crookall for consideration alongside the estimate obtained by the Department from Another Level Company. Mr. Crookall had sought the views of the Commissioners as to whether they supported the Chamber of Trade's submission. Mr. Jones indicated that the Commissioners needed to work closely with Government and the Chairman stated that all options should be considered. Mr. Gimbert referred to the Notice of Motion that he had submitted and obtained Board approval, which gave support to the Chamber of Trade and Commerce proposal, the Chairman confirmed that this position still applied.

HOUSING CAPITAL SCHEME 11/184

Mr. Lace referred to the next capital improvement scheme in respect of the Commissioners housing stock which entailed the removal of chimney stacks from certain dwellings. Mr. Lace queried the value of such a scheme and that some tenants sought to retain their fireplaces. *NOTED*

SWIMMING PLATFORM 11/185

Mr. Lace referred to a previous suggestion submitted by himself that a swimming platform be provided in Peel Bay. The Town Clerk indicated whilst this had been considered at a previous budget meeting it had ultimately been decided to delete this item on cost grounds when the town rate was being set. *NOTED*

TYNWALD CEREMONY 11/186

Mr. Lace referred to the Tynwald Ceremony held the previous day and enquired of the Chairman as to why he had not taken his place on Tynwald Hill along with the other local authority Chairmen. The Chairman replied that it had been his intention to present a petition of grievance

to the Tynwald Court. In correspondence with the Clerk of Tynwald's Office the Chairman had been advised that his intention to co-present a petition of grievance would be deemed disruptive. The Chairman had therefore found himself in a difficult personal situation and after deliberation had decided that he could best serve the community of Peel by presenting the petition as opposed to taking his seat on Tynwald Hill. In the Chairman's opinion the Town of Peel was adequately represented by Mr. Crookall as the MHK for Peel. Mr. Lace, Mr. Jones and Mrs. Moughtin expressed their deep concern at the Chairman's actions on the Island's National Day. It was suggested that the Chairman could have arranged for the Vice-Chairman to take his place or that the petition could have been presented by other representatives of Ballawattleworth Action Group.

In the Chairman's defence Mr. Gimbert indicated that he had a democratic right to present a petition of grievance and that in his opinion the Chairman made the right choice, not to be disruptive to the Tynwald Court. Mr. Gimbert also voiced his concerns over the ability of Tynwald Members to present petitions but invited guests to be denied this course of action.

In conclusion Mrs. Moughtin indicated that a number of residents had contacted her with concerns over the issue and in her opinion it was a sad day for Peel that the Chairman had abrogated his position as representative of the Town of Peel on the Manx National Day. Mrs. Moughtin further commented that the Chairman had not made the remaining Board Members aware of his proposed actions prior to Tynwald Day and if he had done so then steps could have been taken for the Vice-Chairman to represent the Town on Tynwald Hill. In conclusion Mrs. Moughtin enquired as to the cost of hire of the Chairman's morning suit and in reply the Chairman indicated that he would be paying the hire costs himself. Mr. Harmer indicated that in his opinion the Chairman

was ill advised to take the action he did.

RAGWORT	11/187	Upon request from Mrs. O'Halloran it was <i>AGREED</i> that the necessary steps be taken to eliminate ragwort from the headlands as in previous years.
MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION	11/188	Mr Gimbert updated Members on his recent attendance at the last Municipal Association. In particular he referred to a Minute which made reference to the Association appearing to be in favour of the Department of Infrastructure's waste strategy. It was noted that the Association existed to enable the exchange of views at local authority level and that it should not be seen to represent the views of the Board of Peel Town Commissioners.
PEEL BEACH	11/189	Mr. Gimbert referred to the dog byelaws notices preventing access to Peel beach and suggested that one was required at the slipway immediately in front of the Sailing Club. <i>AGREED</i> Mr. Harmer indicated that a beach clean had been arranged with volunteers for 30 th July 2011 and that the required gloves and bags would be supplied. <i>AGREED</i>
SKATEBOARD PARK	11/190	Mr. Gimbert indicated that there was damage evident to the plywood ramp on one of the skateboard park ramps. It was <i>AGREED</i> that this be repaired. Mr Harmer stated that skateboarders had issues in using the new ramps in that it was proving difficult to pivot and that a roll bar at the top may assist. The Technical Officer was asked to review the position.
BMX TRACK	11/191	Mr. Gimbert indicated that the Queen Elizabeth 11 High School pupils were prepared to carry out improvements to the BMX track on the headlands field during the forthcoming enrichment week. This would be subject to the supply of one tonne of earth. It was <i>AGREED</i> that this be supplied to the students and that the immediate area be strimmed.
CHURCH STREET	11/192	The Chairman referred to a letter submitted by Mrs. Oliver of 14 Church Street, Peel

which had an additional twenty supportive signatures from residents of Church Street expressing concern at the speed of traffic in Church Street following the changes implemented under the Peel Traffic Management Plan. The residents sought the reinstatement of the halt sign at the bottom of Church Street. After discussion it was *AGREED* at this stage to seek from the Highways Division of the Department of Infrastructure a speed test on traffic passing through Church Street and that the matter be reviewed with the Department thereafter.

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| SEAGULLS | 11/193 | Mrs. O'Halloran referred to an email from Mr. Oliver of Kerroo Coar regarding the problem of voracious seagulls. The matter had previously been investigated and with the legal protection afforded to certain species of seagulls it was noted that there was a limited amount that could be done. It was suggested that Mrs. Lace the proprietor of the Shamyrr Hey Tearooms had obtained a licence to remove seagulls. It was <i>AGREED</i> that this be clarified. Mrs. Moughtin suggested that the most effective method would be to remove gull nests out of the breeding season from the rooftops of properties. |
| ADULT EXERCISE
EQUIPMENT | 11/194 | Members considered a plan of Peel and discussed the proposed location of the eight items of equipment currently on order. After discussion it was <i>AGREED</i> that four items be placed at the headlands play area and four items be placed on the former swimming pool site at Marine Parade. |
| LEECE MUSEUM | 11/195 | Mr Harmer referred to the need for a sign at the Museum indicating if the Curator was temporarily absent. It was <i>AGREED</i> to obtain such a sign. |

This part of the meeting ended at 8.25p.m.

