

GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the general meeting held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on 12 July 2016 at 7:30pm.

Mrs C. Moughtin (Chairman)
Ms H. Hannan
Mr E. Convery
Mr B. Heath
Mr A. Jones
Mr D. Lace (attended at 7:14pm)

Apologise Mr I. Davison (Deputy Chairman)

In attendance Mr D. Sewell (Clerk to Commissioners);
 Miss L. Bampton (Responsible Finance Officer to Commissioners) and
 Mr I. Begley

		Action
CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	16/028	The Chairman welcomed the Board to the meeting at the new 7:30 pm start time. She thanked the Deputy Chairman for chairing the last meeting and wished to take the opportunity to thank the people of Peel, Peel Commissioners' employees, Jones Services and Mr Davison for a very successful TT fortnight in the town.
ITEM 1 MINUTES	16/029	The Chairman requested confirmation of the minutes. The Board agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2016. Mr Lace proposed and Mr Convery seconded this item. The Chairman proposed Item 13 should be the next item to be considered at the meeting. All Board members agreed to consider Item 13 as the second item of business at the meeting.
ITEM 13	16/030	Mr Begley advised the account documents at the meeting were for the year up to 31 March 2016. These accounts must be audited by 31 July 2016 and must be signed off by 31 October 2016. Mr Begley advised the audit had largely been completed in May and in a meeting last week there remained a couple of minor issues still to resolve. He

hoped the accounts would be signed off within the next week. Mr Begley highlighted the following items within the accounts:

Page 15 showed an £88,000 surplus last year to add to the £401,000 surplus from the previous years in the rate bourn accounts.

Pages 38 to 40 contained an overall summary of the rate bourn accounts. He highlighted the major changes between these accounts and the previous year:

- Salary costs had reduced from £618,000 to £611,000. Although office salaries had increased through the Commissioners making a one off pension payment in 2015.
- Road sweeping employee costs had decreased because this was now service delivered by an external contractor.
- The costs at the Leece Museum had increased from £5,000 to £18,000 to fund the new black hole motorcycle exhibit.
- The income from the campsite had increased.
- The income for street cleaning had decreased because this was no longer a recharge and a separate funding mechanism was introduced in 2015.
- An increase in expenditure had occurred in professional fees relating to two legal actions taken by the Commissioners and the purchase of new Christmas lights.

Mr Begley advised the rest of the rate bourn accounts had remained similar to the previous year.

Mr Begley advised Page 16 and 17 showed the housing aspect of the accounts. He highlighted:

- The rent income had increased.
- The loan charges had decreased in part because the loans had been transferred from the Isle of Man Bank to the HSBC which would result in some of the capital expenditure falling into the first part of the current financial year. In addition, the capital repayments had fallen as a consequence of this transfer.

Mr Begley advised the balance sheet on page 19 changed very little. He highlighted

the following:

The limited works at Close Chairn, Rearyt Aalin and Marine Parade had taken place which had resulted in only minor changes in the balance sheet including Commissioners' assets.

- Debtors had fallen because the Commissioners had received prompt payment on housing deficiency and value added tax.
- Creditors had fallen because a smaller number of capital schemes had taken place and the loan charges had decreased.
- Pension liability had fallen because contributions had increased and actuary changes had reduced the liability.

Mr Jones asked if this applied to all the local authority scheme or just Peel Town Commissioners' pensions. Mr Begley advised the information he was providing only applied to Peel own Commissioners and he could not comment on the overall scheme.

Mr Begley advised the reserves were shown on page 28. He highlighted the following:

- General reserve valued at £489,000
- Housing reserve valued at £234,000
- Capital reserve valued at £153,000

Mr Begley advised these reserves were healthy and were around the 30% of the income levels. He stated the general rate bourn reserve was higher than expected this year and this would need to be reviewed going forward. Ms Hannan stated the deposits for the campsites were not currently in the correct year and this impact on the rate bourn income and reserve. Mr Begley advised this issue had been raised by the auditors and was currently being addressed.

The Town Clerk reminded the Commissioners the quarterly and monthly reports up until February 2016 had forecasted the Commissioners rate bourn budget was in deficit for the year to date and the surplus was acquired in the final month. Mr Convery proposed the Commissioners should get frequent reports

on the debtors from Treasury. Mr Jones stated debt recovery was haphazard and difficult to forecast in advance.

In the absence of any further questions the Chairman thanked Mr Begley and Miss Bampton for attending the meeting and for their work in preparing the accounts. This was endorsed by all members of the Board.

Mr Begley and Miss Bampton left the meeting at 7:51pm

The Chairman returned to the agenda and asked for an update on the matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2016.

**ITEM 2 MATTERS
ARISING** 16/031

Item 16/003 Condition of East Quay
The Town Clerk reported he met the Director of Ports and Mr Harmer MHK on 24 June and they had agreed to investigate the possibility of installing the sewer and reconstructing East Quay prior to the Manx Utility capital scheme to provide sewer treatment facilities for Peel. He stated this was an option because the current facilities terminated on the Promenade and the sewer pipes would need to pass along East Quay to take the sewerage to a treatment facility. No further update had been received to date on this option.

Item 16/020 Campsite Wi-Fi

Mr Heath reported there were two options under consideration. He stated the first option was to install a Wi-Fi antenna at the rear of the swimming pool building. This option would permit a sharing of costs with the swimming pool and the potential to charging for these facilities. Mr Heath advised the second option was to seek a telecommunications partner to supply this service. Mr Heath advised he would bring a report to a future meeting which would include costings.

Item 16/025 Fees for Public Events

The Town Clerk stated this action would be taken forward later this year once the general election had taken place because there was insufficient time for the current Council of Ministers to bring forward

legislation on this matter.

Item 16/026 Peel Viking Longship Association

The Town Clerk reported the Chairman and Treasurer of this organisation had asked to be invited to the Board meeting on 26 July 2016.

Item 16/026 Peel Dredging Work

The Town Clerk reported he met the Director of Ports and Mr Harmer MHK on 24 June and they had agreed to provide more notice of the works in future. He advised the short notice given in this instance was because the increased cost of the dredging works had only received Treasury concurrence the week before the works were scheduled to commence. The works then were cancelled because spawning was taking place in the river. Mr Lace asked what the works located further upstream were seeking to achieve because it was already full of silt. Ms Hannan stated all mariners of this type have similar problems and the silt traps had not worked to date.

Item 16/027 Plaque in Albany Road Gardens

The Town Clerk reported the plaque had gone missing and had not been recovered to date. He stated the plaque would require replacing. The Board **agreed** to replace the plaque with improved fixings to its plinth.

HOUSING ITEMS 16/032

Item 3 Planning Applications for Comment

The Town Clerk reported the application for 40 Douglas Street was of interest because it did not provide any off street parking when parking could be access from the rear lane. The Board **agreed to oppose** planning applications 16/0729 for 40 Douglas Street because it did not provide off street parking. Planning applications 16/0708 Marine Parade, Peel; 16/0726 Laharna, Peveril Road, Peel 16/730 Ebor, Peveril Road, Peel 16/0667 Sea Peep, Poortown Road, Peel were viewed by the Board and they **agreed not to oppose** these applications.

Item 4 Planning Decision Notified

The Board noted planning application 16/00253/B, 16/00333/B, 16/00449/B, 16/00564/B, 16/00551/B, 16/00563/B and

16/00566/B was approved and **agreed** to take no further action.

WORKS ITEMS 16/033 Item 5 East Quay – Disabled Person’s Vehicles Parking Order 2016
The Board noted the content of the proposed Disabled Person’s Vehicles Parking Order 2016 for East Quay. Mr. Jones supported this proposal. The Town Clerk advised he had asked the Department of Infrastructure the purpose of the disabled space and he was informed it was to provide access to the businesses. Ms Hannan stated the disabled space would be serve the fitness studio which ran classes specifically for the disabled and the two hour restriction needed to be clearly advised to users. Mr. Heath stated the nearest disabled space was on Peel Promenade and this location would better serve East Quay businesses.

RECREATION ITEMS 16/034 Item 6 Civil Defence
The Board noted the content of the communication from the Civil Defence Association thanking the Commissioners for donating discarded TT camping equipment.

Item 7 Manx Telecom Parish Walk
The Board noted the contents of the letter dated 27 June 2016 thanking the Commissioners for their assistance in with the Parish Walk.

Item 8 Peel Sunset Bowling Club
The Board noted the notice of application for express consent to display an advertisement dated 8 July 2016 by the Sunset Bowling Club. The application for this sign had previously been supported by the Board under Item 3.

Item 9 Living Hope Church
The Board noted the contents of the email dated 18 June 2016 from the Living Hope Church to use the Commissioners’ Campsite showers from 5 to 7 August 2016. Mr. Jones wondered why they would want to use showers which were located a long way from Patrick. Mr. Heath asked how many persons would wish to use the showers during this period including those already booked onto the campsite. The Board **agreed** the Town Clerk would seek this

information from the Living Hope Church.

Item 10 Peel Carnival

The Board noted the application from Peel Carnival for a blanket trader's licence. The Board **agreed** to support this application. Mr. Jones proposed and the Chairman seconded this item respectively.

Item 11 Tea Touring Bus

The Board noted the content of the email dated 17 June 2016 from the operators of the Tea Touring Bus. Mr. Jones asked what size was the bus. The Town Clerk reported it was a double decker bus. Mr. Heath asked if the bus was licensed to sell refreshments or was it a touring bus. Mr. Lace opposed the application because existing retailers already offered this service on the Promenade all year round. The Board **agreed to oppose** this application because refreshments were currently available from existing businesses on the Promenade. The Chairman highlighted the Kiosk on the breakwater was no longer open in the evenings during the summer months. She believed this was a requirement of the lease and requested the Clerk write to the Department of Infrastructure to obtain clarification on this matter.

FINANCE AND
GENERAL ITEMS

16/035

Item 12 Notice of Motion from Ms Hannan to provide plastic recycle bottle banks

The Board noted the contents Ms Hannan's motion dated 29 June 2016. Ms Hannan stated the Commissioners should install plastic bottle recycling facilities at their bring bank locations to reduce the Commissioners transport costs and to reduce the emissions of toxic gases including PCBs when this material is burnt in the Energy from Waste Plant. Mr. Convery seconded this motion although he stated when this facility was previously provided at Shoprite it frequently was too full which caused problems. Mr. Jones stated he supported recycling however, plastic bottles are a good material to be processed by the Energy from Waste Plant because they are light, highly combustible and leave little residual bottom ash. Mr. Jones advised the gases from the energy from waste plant are filtered to remove harmful chemicals and the Shoprite

plastic recycling bin was removed because it created mess for local residents. The Board **agreed** to ask the Department of Infrastructure to supply a recycling service for plastic bottles in Peel at the current bring bank sites.

Item 13 Peel Town Commissioners Accounts 2015/16

This matter was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Item 14 King Scallop Consultation

The Board noted the content for the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture consultation document. Mr. Jones proposed this item be deferred until the next meeting to permit the Commissioners to consult with local businesses. Mr. Lace supported the proposal but how was it to be enforced and he expressed concerns over disposal of scallops caught accidentally as a consequence of other scallop fishing activities. The Town Clerk stated the consultation appeared premature because they were currently undertaking a stock survey which would provide useful information for policy development. Ms Hannan believed the policy was being brought forward because Scotland and Wales had introduced similar controls. The Board **agreed to defer** this item until the next meeting.

Item 15 Poppy Appeal Street Collection

The Board considered the application for a street collection made in the Royal British in their letter dated 21 June 2016. The Board agreed to support this application. Mr. Jones proposed and Mr. Lace seconded this item respectively.

ITEM 13 ANY
OTHER BUSINESS

16/036

The Town Clerk reported he had received a response from the Crown and Election Division of the Cabinet Office dated 11 July 2016 in response to the Commissioners' letter to the Chief Minister concerning the Register of Elector's item. He advised this issue including the Commissioners' concerns were raised in Tynwald on 21 June 2016 by Mrs. Beecroft MHK and Mr. Karran MHK respectively. The Cabinet Office had provided a copy of the Hansard

transcript. The Town Clerk highlighted the Attorney General had stated the Electoral Registration Officer had used Section 11 of the Register of Electors Act 2006 to remove persons from the Register of Electors. This was contrary to the information supplied by the Cabinet Office on 21 August 2015 where they stated the documents had been issued under Section 5(3) of the Act. The Town Clerk advised if the letters sent to every elector on the island was a Section 11 notice of their intention to remove the whole population from the registers. The Electoral Registration Officer would have been inundated with appeals which must be referred to the High Bailiff in accordance with Section 11 of this Act. The Board **agreed** the Town Clerk should write the Cabinet Office outlining their concerns and copy the response to Mrs. Beecroft MHK, Mr. Karran MHK and Mr. Harmer MHK.

The Town Clerk reported the pedestrian shelter was currently under construction on Peel Promenade opposite to the Commissioners toilets.

Mr. Jones asked if the Commissioners had received a response on the disposal of leachate from the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture. The Town Clerk reported he had not received a response from the Chief Executive and he would press for a response.

Mr. Jones reported Mr. Convery and he had attended the Municipal Association meeting. A request had been made for the reconstitution of the Richmond Hill Committee which was supposed to meet four times per year and had not met from the previous 18 months. Mr. Convery along with Mr. Jessop from Braddan Commissioners were elected by the Municipal Association to attend. Mr. Convery stated he is still waiting for the first meeting to take place and he asked the Town Clerk to write to the Minister to remind him of his responsibilities.

Mr. Heath reported he had met the temporary librarian. He raised issues concerning the condition of the walls and

the roof by the front door for the Town Clerk to investigate.

Mr. Convery requested the Commissioners assist the Royal Manx Show by providing barriers. The Town Clerk reported this request had previously been made and approved by the Commissioners.

Ms Hannan reported weed growth in North View, Glenfaba Park and the steps from Marine Parade to Mount Morrison.

Ms Hannan asked when St Peter's clock would be fixed. The Town Clerk reported a budget had been made available for this work to be completed by 31 March 2017.

Ms Hannan asked the Town Clerk to ensure Agendas and minutes were placed online as soon as they were available.

Ms Hannan stated she would provide documents to the Town Clerk concerning the public right of way on Keown's Lane.

The meeting ended at 8:45pm