

GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of a GENERAL MEETING held in the Board Room, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 6th April 2010 at 7.00p.m.

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

Apologies Mr. R Gimbert

In attendance Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

CHAIRMAN'S
WELCOME

09/614 The Acting Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the first meeting in April. Mrs. Moughtin gave a eulogy in respect of Mr. Eddie Leece who had recently died. Mrs. Moughtin indicated that Mr. Leece was a true gentleman, a former headmaster of Peel school and was a previous Member of Peel Town Commissioners, being Chairman in 1984/1985. Mrs. Moughtin stated that Mr. Leece had led the Commissioners through a particularly difficult time in the mid 1980's and that his only aim was to promote the Town of Peel. His brainchild was the creation, with Frank Quayle, of the Leece Museum. It was further noted that he had in more recent times been given the accolade of Freeman of the Town of Peel. On behalf of the Members and staff Mrs. Moughtin expressed her sincere sympathy to Mr. Leece's widow Jennifer and family. The passing of Mr. Leece was marked with one minutes' silence.

MINUTES

09/615 The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2010 were taken as read and *CONFIRMED*.

SKATEBOARD PARK

09/616 The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 09/583 and reported that the Technical Officer was in the process of arranging a meeting with the youths over the further development of the skateboard park. Mrs. O'Halloran indicated that she would be off island from 21st to 29th April and that a meeting should be held outside these dates. TQ

BALLAWATTLEWORTH ACTION GROUP	09/617	Reference was made back to Minute 09/586 and the subsequent meeting held with Members of the Ballawattleworth Action Group on the 25 th March 2010. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the support or otherwise for the designation of the estate as a home zone be deferred to the next meeting on 20 th April 2010. Members noted that a petition from residents had been handed into the Town Hall from the Action Group.	PGL
MICHAEL STREET – ROAD CLOSING	09/618	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 09/588 and indicated that he had met with an officer from the Department of Infrastructure that afternoon to discuss the Department’s decision to withdraw the funding of the services of Mr. Simpson to close off the bottom of Michael Street at the designated times. It was noted that no specific concerns had been received at the Town Hall over the removal of this service. However, Mrs. O’Halloran indicated that she had received some complaints over the parking of vehicles in Michael Street and that enforcement was required. It was however noted that the street did not currently have the double yellow line restriction. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Department would monitor the situation over the ensuing period.	
DRAFT PEDAL CYCLE REGULATIONS	09/619	Mr. Beale referred back to Minute 09/591 and wished to indicate his concern at the lack of provision for not carrying lights on cycles. Mr. Jones confirmed that existing legislation was in place to address this issue. A further issue over the possible requirement for high visibility jackets to be worn by cyclists was raised and Mrs. Birkett was of the opinion that these should be included.	
HERITAGE HOMES LIMITED	09/620	The Town Clerk referred to Minute 09/597 and indicated that after consultation with the Chairman, Mr. McLoughlin of Heritage Homes Limited had been advised that the new housing development adjacent to Reayrt ny Keylley would be named Reayrt ny Cronk. <i>NOTED</i>	
SEAGULLS	09/621	Mrs. O’Halloran referred back to Minute 09/603 and also referred to additional information she had received and which had been copied to Members regarding the control of seagulls. She indicated that to date she had been unable to contact the expert Mr. Paul Diamond and asked	

that the matter be held over until contact had been established. *AGREED*

WALPOLE AVENUE
LANDSLIP

09/622 The Acting Chairman referred back to Minute 09/609 and indicated that the Finance Officer had provided the likely costings of a loan to repair the landslip. Members accepted that this was not a cheap option in terms of providing additional car parking spaces at this location and whilst support in principle was given to the provision of additional car parking it was nevertheless confirmed that this location was not ideal. Mrs. Moughtin suggested that it could result in it being a dumping ground for derelict vehicles. Members were of the view that in the current economic climate the provision of parking at this location was not justifiable.

SHELTERS

09/623 The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 09/612 and updated Members on the work to refurbish the promenade shelters. Two shelters had been completed and the third one was partially completed requiring the glass fibre roof to be installed together with new windows and to be repainted. PGL

The Town Clerk indicated that due to the deteriorated condition of that shelter the shelter in front of Marine Parade had been utilised to refurbish the third shelter and suggested that in terms of savings a seat be replaced at Marine Parade as opposed to a full shelter. At this stage it was *AGREED* to ascertain the cost of a replacement shelter before a decision was made.

CAR PARKING

09/624 Members considered an email from Mr. Neil Birchenough a resident of Market Street who had expressed concern at the proposal to provide pay and display in a section of the Market Place car park. It was Mr. Birchenough's view that residential parking permits were a priority and should be provided.

Mrs. Moughtin indicated that over the holiday weekend the car park was full including sixteen commercial vehicles, three pickups and one abandoned vehicle. The rest of the spaces were utilised by residents which meant that no spaces were available for casual shoppers from out of Town. Mrs. Moughtin and other Members were of the view that fourteen spaces for pay and display were needed to enable visiting shoppers

to park.

Arising therefrom Mrs. O'Halloran referred to her concern over the parking issue in Michael Street and suggested that it needed further discussion. Arising therefrom reference was made to Manx Telecom vehicles parking within the Town and it was suggested that contact be made with Manx Telecom asking them to instruct staff to park at the telephone exchange in Albany Road where parking provision was available for Manx Telecom vehicles.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL	09/625	The outcome of the consultation procedure with respect to the draft Criminal Justice Bill had been copied to Members and was <i>NOTED</i> .	
BOILLEY SPITTAL WORKSHOP	09/626	Consideration was given to a letter from Mr. J L Sarson of JLS Motorcycles who currently used the workshop to the rear of Boilley Spittal for his business. Mr. Sarson indicated that he wished to place directional road signs in Boilley Spittal to direct customers to his workshop. After discussion Members felt that a proliferation of signage would be inappropriate and possibly lead to public confusion. It was <i>AGREED TO REFUSE</i> the request.	PGL
BRITISH LICHEN SOCIETY	09/627	Members noted a letter from Manx National Heritage regarding a visit of the British Lichen Society who would carry out a field study visit to the coastal area immediately to the north of Peel. <i>NOTED</i>	
ROLLS ROYCE ENTHUSIASTS CLUB	09/628	Consideration was given to a letter from the Secretary to the Isle of Man Section of the Rolls Royce Enthusiasts Club. The club would visit Peel on the 23 rd May 2010 when some twelve Rolls Royce and Bentley cars would be on display at the far end of Marine Parade. Members had no objection. It was <i>AGREED</i> to allow the request.	PGL
CHARITABLE COLLECTION	09/629	Consideration was given to a request from the Secretary of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution which wished to hold a street collection during TT week. <i>AGREED</i>	PGL

Consideration was given to a request from the Social Services who wished to hold a charitable collection on 6th June 2010 on behalf of the Childrens Resource Centre at Ramsey and

Braddan. The matter was discussed and it was noted that the 6th June coincided with Peel Day when permission was given to the RNLI to hold a collection. It was *AGREED* in principle that permission be given but not on the 6th June 2010. Members suggested that an alternative date in Peel such as the Viking Longboat Race Day on 17th July 2010 be suggested as an alternative.

ONLINE TAX REGIME 09/630 Members noted the proposed introduction by the Treasury of a compulsory online income tax regime for employers. The matter was discussed and it was suggested that an option where online tax forms were not required for employers having five or less employees be recommended. PGL

PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT 09/631 The following planning applications had been submitted for comment:- PGL

PA 10/00289/B Removal of chimney stack, 1 Close Cubbon, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA 10/00396/B Extension to existing porch/utility on rear of dwelling house, Wayside, Ballaquane Road, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA 10/00347/B Erection of an extension to dwelling house, 22 Close Corlett, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA 09/00300/B Proposed three metre high fence to rear boundary and new footpath, Queen Elizabeth Second High School, Douglas Road, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA 10/00383 Installation of replacement windows and door to front elevation, 3 Lake, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PLANNING DECISIONS NOTIFIED 09/632 The following decisions had been notified by the Planning Committee:-

PA 10/00211/B Refurbishment of existing industrial unit to provide coastguard accommodation and erection of flag pole, Unit One, Peel Brickwork Site, Peel for Harbours Division, Department of Transport. *APPROVED*

PA 09/10985/B Alterations and refurbishment to ground floor retail unit and conversion of first

and second floors from residential to office accommodation, 7/8 Market Place, Peel for Manx Wildlife Trust. *APPROVED*

PA 09/521 ON APPEAL – 09/633 Members noted receipt of a letter of response PGL
HERITAGE HOMES
LIMITED

from the Chief Executive of the Department of Local Government and the Environment dated 16th March 2010 regarding the recent planning appeal hearing in respect of the development for additional housing by Heritage Homes Limited adjacent to Reayrt ny Keylley. The contents of the letter were discussed at length and Mr. Jones indicated in general terms the Commissioners needed to obtain the correct facts prior to submitting their views to the Planning Committee and Government in general. A more responsible and selective approach was required. Where opposition to proposals were made then the ground for opposing must be valid. Mrs. Birkett referred to her attendance at the appeal hearing and suggested that the outcome of the appeal and the subsequent response from the Chief Executive was unsatisfactory. In her opinion the requirement for a limit on the number of properties had not been adhered to although it had subsequently been confirmed by the Chief Minister in a sitting of Tynwald that 1000 properties for the West up to 2016 was a maximum. In Mrs. Birkett's opinion the goalposts had been moved by the Minister in deciding the appeal.

Reference was made to the present local plan for Peel which dated from 1988 and the view was expressed that this was in urgent need of review. It was *AGREED* that a letter be sent to the Planning Department enquiring as to when consultation would take place on the review of the Peel area local plan. The Acting Chairman indicated that in his view the Town needed to retain some green areas left undeveloped.

VIKING LONGBOAT RACE 09/634 Consideration was given to a request from the PGL

organisers of the Peel Viking Longboat Race which was due to be held on 17th July 2010 with regard to the proposed road closure. Members noted that the road closure would involve part of East Quay and Shore Road. Members had no objection and it was *AGREED* to advise the Department of Infrastructure accordingly.

MANX ELECTRICITY 09/635 Consideration was given to a letter from the PGL

AUTHORITY SUB
STATION

Manx Electricity Authority regarding the refurbishment of the Christian Street sub station. The Town Clerk advised that the Authority would look to undertake the necessary refurbishment works during a two month period after the TT fortnight. It would involve the closure of a section of the Christian Street car park to enable the cable to be trenched together with storage of materials. The matter was discussed and it was *AGREED* to advise the Authority that the Commissioners had no objection to the necessary work but it should take place from September onwards.

DOG FOULING

09/636

The Town Clerk referred to a letter addressed to the Chairman from a Mr. Mansell of The Manse, Orry Lane, Peel concerning an incident involving dog fouling outside his front door. The matter had been reported by Mr. Mansell to the Chairman on Sunday 28th March 2010. The Chairman had requested the Town Warden to attend the incident. It subsequently transpired that the culprit could not be traced and attempts to have the lane cleaned could not be achieved on the 28th March as the street cleaning operative had finished his round for that day. Mr. Mansell was concerned that the dog mess had not been cleared by the following morning. It was noted that the area had been cleaned that afternoon..

PGL

An issue had arisen as to the elected representatives calling out staff at weekends when there would be a cost implication. It was particularly suggested that this was not an emergency situation and the Members were of the view that it was inappropriate for the Chairman to require the Town Warden to attend this particular incident on a weekend. Mrs. O'Halloran indicated that if Mr. Mansell was concerned about the dog fouling outside his property over a weekend why he had not taken upon himself to clean the mess up.

Reference was made to the meeting held in 2009 with a significant number of the Towns dog owners all of whom were responsible and would not countenance dog fouling around the Town. It was Mr. Jones's view that stronger regulations to control where dogs can go would need to be considered if this type of incident continued. It was *AGREED* that the Town Warden patrol this particular area on a more regular basis.

CORLETTS SANDPIT GERMAN	09/637	Reference was made to the creation of a sand mound opposite Corletts Sandpit between Peel and St. Johns. Mrs. Moughtin indicated that in period of adverse weather the Rive Neb was silting up because of this mound and it was <i>AGREED</i> that the matter be investigated further.	PGL
PROMENADE KIOSK	09/638	It was <i>AGREED</i> that a sign be erected at the kiosk and at other locations on the Promenade requesting Members of the public not to feed the seagulls.	TQ
ABANDONED VEHICLES	09/639	Mrs. Moughtin referred to an abandoned blue van parked at the rear of the Creg Malin car park and it was <i>AGREED</i> that the Town Warden look to deal with it accordingly.	
DOG CONTROL BYELAWS	09/640	Mr. Lace enquired as to the change in the byelaws to ban dogs from Peel Beach during the summer period. The Town Clerk indicated that signs had been ordered for display prior to 1 st May 2010.	
TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGN	09/641	Mr. Lace referred to the lack of a directional sign to Douglas at the corner of Heathfield Drive for the benefit of coach drivers. It was <i>AGREED</i> that a reminder be sent to the Department of Transport in this respect.	PGL

This part of the meeting ended at 8.15p.m.