

GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 7th June 2011 at 7.00p.m.

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

Apologies Mr. R Harmer

In attendance Mr P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	11/085	The Chairman welcomed the press and public to the meeting and wished to extend his thanks to the Chamber of Trade and to Mrs Atcheson of A3 Marquees for their efforts in organising Peel in Motion Day.
MINUTES	11/086	The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 th May 2011 were taken as read and <i>CONFIRMED</i> .
BRIDGE STREET	11/087	Members <i>NOTED</i> receipt of a letter of response from Mr P Gawne MHK Minister for the Department of Infrastructure regarding the Board's concerns over the closure of Bridge Street during the busy summer season.
DISC PARKING	11/088	Reference was made back to the Minute 11/046 and Members <i>NOTED</i> receipt of a letter from Mr Barnes, of the Department of Infrastructure regarding disc parking on Market Place, Peel. Mr Barnes indicated that many responses and a petition had been received which favoured the return of the Market Place to a two hour waiting time. It was the Department's intention to change the current thirty minute disc parking waiting time to a two hour period. <i>NOTED</i>

WIFI ACCESS – TOWN HALL	11/089	Mr Gimbert referred back to Minute 11/047 and indicated that the matter was currently with the Regeneration Committee from which an update was awaited. It was <i>AGREED</i> that this matter be deferred to the next meeting.
PLAYGROUND FACILITIES	11/090	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/049 and indicated that a meeting had been arranged for 14 th June 2011 with Eye-Spy Ltd to consider the possible provision of additional CCTV facilities at West View Play Park. <i>NOTED</i> .
PATRICK STREET	11/091	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/052 and indicated that advice had been received from the Department of Infrastructure that the Heras fencing around the property in Patrick Street would be removed prior to the TT fortnight. This had not occurred. However the Town Clerk advised that the fencing had been pulled back nearer to the pavement.
FLAG POLES	11/092	Members <i>NOTED</i> receipt of an email from Mr Corlett of the Department of Infrastructure regarding the Department's consent to flag poles being attached to the new railings on the Promenade. It was <i>NOTED</i> that brackets used to attach the poles to the railings would have to be material other than metal. It was suggested that a leather/plastic bracket be utilised. It was <i>NOTED</i> that consideration could be given at the next budget meeting for the possible provision of new flag poles for ensuing years.
HERITAGE HOMES PLANNING APPEAL – PA10/00544/B	11/093	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/069 and reported that a written response from Mr Crookall with regard to the clarification over the maximum number of properties to be built in the west of the Island was awaited.
QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION 2012	11/094	The Chairman referred back to Minute 11/073 and enquired if members had given consideration to any special arrangements for the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the matter be deferred to a future strategy

meeting of the Board.

STREET LICENCE	TRADERS	11/095	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/076 and advised that a response had been received from Captain Best of the Harbours Division in which he indicated that Mr Knighton's request to place his mobile fish unit on Harbour Division's property would be considered at a senior management meeting the following week. It was <i>NOTED</i> that Captain Best had suggested a plot on Fenella Beach Car Park as possibly being suitable. <i>NOTED</i> .
PEEL IN MOTION DAY 2011		11/096	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/081 and confirmed that the Department of Tourism had confirmed that financial assistance to the sum of £3000.00 would be paid as opposed to being under written as previously suggested. <i>NOTED</i> .
CHURCH PARKING	STREET	11/097	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 11/051 and reported that the Highways Division had stated that it understood the additional parking spaces by the Commissioners in the Derby Road Car Park would be solely for the use of Church Street residents and not Permit Holders as well. <i>NOTED</i> .
SHIP ANCHOR – MILL ROAD		11/098	Reference was made back to Minute 11/055 and the Town Clerk indicated that a response was awaited from the Harbours Division regarding the suggested repainting of the ship anchor in Mill Road.
ISLE OF MAN CHILDREN'S CENTRE		11/099	Reference was made back to Minute 11/071 and it was <i>AGREED</i> that a date would need to be allocated to meet with Isle of Man Children's Centre to discuss Childrens Week 2011.
GAS SUPPLY – DRAFT EASEMENT		11/100	Members considered a Draft Easement Deed with regard to the supply of gas beneath the Douglas Street Car Park to the old School of Navigation property owned by Mr Wilson-Spratt. Members had no objection to the Draft and it was <i>AGREED</i> to <i>APPROVE</i> the execution of the document once engrossed by the advocates for Mr Wilson-Spratt.

CAR PARKING - 11/101
NOTICE OF MOTION

Members gave consideration to a Notice of Motion submitted by Mr Gimbert as follows “that Peel Town Commissioners in conjunction with the Department of Infrastructure progress with phase two of Top Deck parking option for Douglas Street and Market Place Car Park”.

The Motion was seconded by Mr Beale and Mr Gimbert as the Chairman of the Chamber of Trade and Commerce indicated that a proposal to provide a possible kit form multi-storey car park on the Douglas Street/Market Place car park could provide a net gain of sixty parking spaces. In Mr Gimbert’s opinion this provided good value for money.

Mrs Moughtin referred to previous discussions with the Department of Infrastructure regarding their proposal for additional parking provision in Peel and indicated that the Douglas Street Car Park was deemed to be not suitable for the kit form multi-storey car park due to the ground not being level. The only level sites owned by the Commissioners were the Creg Malin car park and Fenella Beach car park. Mrs Moughtin enquired as to who would pay for this car park as the Commissioners would not be able to afford it on the Rates. Mrs O’Halloran was unsure of the provision of a kit form multi-story car park and if it would be architecturally appropriate for Peel. Mrs Birkett queried the cost of moving onto Phase Two of this proposal but was not opposed to a kit form car park in principle. Mr Jones suggested that the Commissioners needed to work closely with the Department of Infrastructure over the most suitable location.

The Chairman requested Members to vote on the motion and it was found that four Members were in favour with four opposed. The Chairman therefore made a casting vote in favour of the motion to progress with Phase Two in conjunction with the Department of Infrastructure.

ALBANY ROAD REAR LANE	11/102	Members <i>NOTED</i> receipt of a copy letter from Samson Designs Ltd Architects with regard to a Notice of Lane Closure to the rear of Peel Police Station whilst work was undertaken on the Vicarage on Albany Road. The work was due to commence on the 12 th June 2011 and would take approximately twenty six weeks. On the basis that the access to the Commissioners adjacent car park in Derby Road was not compromised members had no objection to the proposed lane closure.
OAK ROAD BUS STOP	11/103	The Town Clerk referred to the Commissioners request to relocate the bus stop at the entrance to Oak Road and indicated that the Department of Infrastructure, Highways Division were in consultation with the bus company and the matter was under ongoing consideration.
VANDALISM REPORT	11/104	The Members <i>NOTED</i> with concern the extended list of vandalism that had occurred in recent months in Peel. The vandalism appeared to concentrate on the Skateboard Park, the West View Play Area and the shower unit on the beach. It was <i>NOTED</i> that the possible provision of an infrared CCTV cameras for the West View Play Area was under consideration and that the safety railings were awaiting delivery for installation on the new anti-vandal ramps built at the Skateboard Park. Mr Jones suggested that a letter be sent to the Head Teachers of both schools indicating that the provision of the Town facilities for youths was being hampered by cost of repairing vandalised facilities and help be sought from the school to eradicate this problem. The Town Clerk reported that the matter had also been listed on the Commissioners website with a request to members of the public to report any incidents of vandalism witnessed. Mrs Birkett indicated that she would inspect the play areas with the Town Clerk and Technical Officer to consider possible improvements.
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1985	11/105	Members <i>NOTED</i> receipt of a Draft Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1985 creating as reserved parking space at 6 Tynwald Road, Peel, Members had no

objection to the Draft Order.

Consideration was given to a letter from Mrs M E Kelly of 35 Bluebell Close, Peel in which she sought a reserved parking space in front of her property at Bluebell Close due to the restricted mobility of her partner. Members considered the matter and *NOTED* that a number of parking areas had been provided at Bluebell Close and after discussion *AGREED* to refuse the request as there was adequate parking provided.

The Town Clerk indicated that a Draft Order had been received from the Department of Infrastructure regarding the imposition of a weight restriction order for various roads within the town. Comments had been sought by the 20th June 2011 and as the next Board Meeting was scheduled for 21st June 2011 it was *AGREED* to request that the deadline date for comments be deferred to enable consideration of the Draft Order at the next meeting.

PLANNING
APPLICATIONS
COMMENT

11/106
FOR

The following Planning Applications were considered as follows:-

PA11/00633/B Installation of replacement windows, 4 Derby Road, Peel *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA11/00664/B Erection of an extension of a dwelling, Rose Cottage, 44 Derby Road, Peel – *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA11/00672/B Installation of replacement dormer windows, Former Post Office, 4 Douglas Street, Peel – *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA/1100676/B - Alterations, erection of extension to dwelling and driveway amendments, The Haven, Tynwald Road, Peel – *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA11/00681/REM - Reserved matters application for the erection of two apartments and associated garaging, 5 Station Road, Peel – *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

PA11/00698/C - Use of premises for sale of hot and cold food, 12 Douglas Street, Peel – *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*.

PA11/00634/B Conversion of existing garage into additional bedroom and construction of new attached garage, 34 Ballellis, Ballawattleworth Estate, Peel - *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*.

PA10/00945/B – (receipt of amended plans) Installation of replacement windows and doors, 5 Peveril Road, Peel - *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*.

PLANNING DECISIONS 11/107
NOTIFIED

The following Planning Decisions had been notified by the Planning Committee:-

PA11/00324/B Installation of replacement front door, 14 Orry Lane, Peel for Mrs Sarah Alexandra - *APPROVED*.

PA11/00497/B – Installation of replacement entrance door and window, 36-38 Douglas Street, Peel for Mr John Anthony Gilbert - *APPROVED*.

PA11/00529/D – Approval for the installation of signage by the Manx Wildlife Trust at 7 – 8 Market Place, Peel – *APPROVED*.

PA08/00241/A 11/108

Members *NOTED* receipt of a letter from the Secretary to the Planning Committee in which delegated authority had been given by the Senior Planning Officer to approve a request for an extension of the Planning Consent granted on 12th May 2009 for one further year in respect of the Approval in Principle to erect two apartments with associated parking at 5 Station Road, Peel. *NOTED*.

HOUSING LEAD 11/109
MEMBER'S REPORT

Mr Jones, Lead Member for Housing, reported on matters to the Board and indicated that the proposal to place the housing applications online was *RECOMMENDED* and asked that Members give consideration this proposal at a cost of £80.00. After consideration this was *APPROVED*.

With regard to the Commissioners properties Mr Jones referred to reports of tenants expressing concern over possible damp problems following the provision of cavity wall insulation. The Commissioners preferred the external cladding to address this issue of insulation. It was *NOTED* that the Lead Member with the Technical Officer would liaise with the Department of Social Care over this issue and report back to the Board in due course.

CCTV CAMERAS

11/110

Consideration was given to a Notice of Motion from Mr Gimbert as follows “ Peel Skateboard Park and West View Play Area have CCTV investigated that will work during dusk and darkness, as priority, the cost to keep repairing the damage being caused will be higher than the cost to install CCTV, such cost to be taken from reserves”.

Mr Jones seconded the Motion and it was considered by the Board. Mr Gimbert referred to the vandalism issues at the West View Play Area and the fact that the Police had commented that provision of infrared CCTV cameras would be of benefit. Mr Gimbert indicated that Eye-Spy Ltd were prepared to loan an infra-red camera unit for a trial run at the West View Play Area. Mr Jones indicated that the equipment needed to be of sufficient quality to enable matters to be referred to court if required. Mr Lace stated that this was a costly exercise and queried the value to the rate payer. Mr Beale suggested an alternative would be to withdraw youth facilities if they were continually abused and vandalised. Mrs Birkett favoured the loan of a camera to assess the position. In response Mr Gimbert indicated that the majority of incidents occurred during darkness and that the infrared camera was priced at £350.00. The Chairman requested Members to vote on the Motion and it was carried by five votes in favour with three against.

ADULT EXERCISE 11/111
EQUIPMENT

The Town Clerk referred to the previous decision of the Board to purchase eight items of exercise equipment for £13,500.00. It transpired that there was an additional cost of £15,000.00 to provide the necessary

astro-turf on which to site the equipment. After discussion Members *AGREED* that the items of equipment be purchased for £15,000.00 plus VAT.

PUBLIC CATALOGUE 11/112
FOUNDATION

Members gave further consideration to the request from the Public Catalogue Foundation to include the Commissioners oil paintings. Concerns had been expressed previously over the copyright issue and Members *NOTED* an email from Mrs Margaret Harrison of the Public Catalogue Foundation which answered all the concerns raised. On the basis that copyright remained with the Commissioners it was *AGREED* that the Commissioners paintings be included in the catalogue.

PROVISION OF PLAY 11/113
EQUIPMENT

Members gave consideration to an email from Mr Sean Dickinson of Belle Vue, Ramsey Road, Peel in which he made suggestions regarding the siting of fitness equipment on the Headlands but also suggested that the items of equipment be spread out to other areas. With regard to Marine Parade Mr Dickinson suggested that a small play area be included and that additional equipment for children be provided on the Headlands. In conclusion Mr Dickinson enquired as to whether the Headlands football pitch be marked out with lining. It was *NOTED* that this was in hand. Members wished to thank Mr Dickinson for his comments which would be considered at the next budget estimate meeting.

TELESCOPES 11/114

Members wished to extend their thanks to Mr Lace who's original suggestion it was to obtain two telescopes and to Mr Birkett who had renovated the telescopes prior to them being installed on the Promenade and Headlands.

DOUGLAS CIVIC 11/115
SUNDAY

Consideration was given to an invitation to the Chairman and Members to attend the Douglas Civic Sunday Service on 19th June 2011. The Chairman indicated that he would attend this service.

PEEL GARDEN 11/116
COMPETITION

Mrs Birkett reported that Mr Watson of Watson's Nurseries had volunteered to judge the Commissioners Garden

competition which would take place later in the year. *NOTED.*

WALK AND TALK 11/117
SESSIONS

Consideration was given to a request from the Public Health Directorate of the Department of Health in which they sought permission to place a permanent banner on the Promenade advertising the times of the Walk and Talk Sessions. Members had some concerns as to the placement of a permanent banner on the Promenade and after discussion it was *AGREED* to refuse the request. It was suggested that the poster could be placed within one of the Notice Boards.

MUNICIPAL 11/118
ASSOCIATION

Consideration was given to a letter from the Treasurer of the Municipal Association in which the annual fees were to be increased to £275.00 per authority. After discussion it was *AGREED* to maintain membership of the Association at the revised subscription.

DRUG ADVICE 11/119
SERVICE HELPLINE

Consideration was given to a letter from the Drug Advice Service Helpline which was a local charity aimed at reducing the harm caused by drug use in the Isle of Man. The charity wished to advertise its service on the Commissioners peelonline.net website. After discussion and on the basis that any costs were covered by the charity the Board had no objection to the service being advertised on peelonline.net.

INTERNET ACCESS 11/120
NOTICE OF MOTION

Consideration was given to a Notice of Motion from Mr Gimbert as follows “that Peel Town Commissioners provide internet hot spot areas around the town linked to the Commissioners properties, such as the Town Hall, Sailing Club, Ward Library and Leece Museum”. The Notice of Motion was seconded by Mr Jones and discussed by the members. Mr Gimbert proposed the provision of a software package at a one off cost of £377. The matter had been discussed with the Finance Officer which she had subsequently raised with Skanco Limited, the computer service provider to the Commissioners. Concerns had been voiced over any possible breach of the firewall and Skanco had recommended a separate

computer to run the service proposed. Mr. Lace enquired as to the cost falling on the ratepayer to provide internet access at these various locations and whilst Mrs. O'Halloran supported the matter in principle Mrs. Birkett enquired as to why this should be linked to Commissioners properties. The Town Clerk expressed concern that any such new service provided should not compromise the Commissioners own computer network. After discussion with five Members in favour it was *AGREED* that a trial be run at the Sailing Club providing internet access on the basis that a guarantee could be given whereby the Town Hall computer system was not compromised.

COMMISSIONERS
SURGERIES

11/121

Mr. Gimbert tabled a Notice of Motion as follows "That Commissioners surgeries are re-instigated on a monthly basis". Mr. Beale seconded the Motion and the matter was discussed. Mrs. Birkett enquired as to whether any Members of the Town would attend as it appeared to be a waste of time previously when surgeries were provided from the Town Hall. The matter was considered and Mrs. Moughtin, Mr. Lace and Mrs. O'Halloran were opposed to the Notice. The Chairman called for a vote and with five Members in favour and three against the Notice of Motion was carried.

ARMED FORCES DAY 11/122
COMMITTEE

Consideration was given to an invitation received from the Isle of Man Armed Forces Day Committee with regard to a celebration event at the Villa Marina to be held on Sunday 26th June 2011 at 3.00p.m. After discussion it was noted that Mr. Beale and Mr. Jones would attend the event.

PEEL LIFEBOAT 11/123
ANNUAL SERVICE OF
THANKSGIVING

Consideration was given to an invitation to the Chairman and Members to attend the Annual Service of Thanksgiving at the Peel Lifeboat Station on Sunday 14th August 2011 at 3.00p.m. The Chairman indicated that he would check whether he would be able to attend and it was noted that Mrs. O'Halloran and Mr. Beale would also attend.

TRADITIONAL BOAT 11/124
FESTIVAL
The Town Clerk referred to a letter of thanks from the Treasurer to the Peel Traditional Boat Weekend which thanked the Commissioners continued support of their event. *NOTED*

HOUSE OF KEYS 11/125
ELECTION
Mrs. Moughtin wished to refer to the election campaign for the House of Keys scheduled for September 2011 and wished to remind Members that she did not want to see the Board used as a vote catching exercise during election year. She was concerned at the number of Notices of Motions submitted by Mr. Gimbert at the meeting. Mrs. Moughtin referred to the recent press article showing the poor quality of water on Peel beach and stated that due to the stance taken by the Board the Town was now at the back of the queue for any works taken to provide a sewage system to eradicate the problem. It was Mrs. Moughtin's wish that the next Member of the House of Keys for Peel would work with the Commissioners to progress matters to the benefit of the Town including its sewage.

Mrs. Moughtin also referred to the Commissioners facebook entry and suggested that comments made on this internet site needed to be carefully considered as there were proper channels to deal with matters that came before the Commissioners. In particular she referred to a comment made by Mr. Gimbert over a housing issue. Mrs. Moughtin's concerns related to the perception that the whole Board may or may not support comments made by an individual Member. In response the Chairman indicated that if he perceived that any Member was electioneering at Commissioners meetings then it would be stopped. Any legitimate matter relating to the powers and responsibilities of the Commissioners would be considered.

HERITAGE HOMES 11/126
LIMITED
Mr. Gimbert referred to the ongoing delays over the transfer of the public open spaces from Heritage Homes Limited. It was *AGREED* at the Chairman's suggestion that Mr. McLoughlin of Heritage Homes Limited be invited to a future meeting to discuss the issue.

MULTI-STOREY
FACILITY – FENELLA
BEACH

11/127

The Chairman indicated that an open letter had been handed to him by Mr. Crookall, MHK concerning the recent press article over the multi-storey car park facility for Fenella Beach. It was *AGREED* that the matter be discussed at the next meeting.

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