

# GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of a GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012 at 7.00p.m.

Present            Mr. E C Beale (Chairman)  
                      Mr. N Cushing  
                      Mr. I G Davison  
                      Mr. R K Harmer  
                      Mr. A Jones  
                      Mr. A Kaighin  
                      Mrs. C A Moughtin

Apologies        Mrs. J O'Halloran  
                      Mr. D J Lace

In attendance    Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

## Action

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|--------------------|--------|--|----|
| CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME | 12/109 | The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of July and indicated that he had been pleased to present the Peel Town Cup at Peel Golf Club on Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 to Mr. Michael Horne.   |    |
| MINUTES            | 12/110 | The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2012 were taken as read and <i>CONFIRMED</i> .  |    |
| MICHAEL STREET     | 12/111 | Mr. Davison referred back to Minute 12/089 and indicated that he was awaiting samples of the bunting which had been priced at £21.50 per 10 metre length and from a separate supplier at £15 per 10 metre length. Depending on the amount purchased the price could be reduced. <i>NOTED</i>   |    |
| PEEL BEACH         | 12/112 | The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 12/091 and reported that the Technical Officer had been advised that the second hand beach cleaning machine purchased by Port St Mary would be operational the following week and that he would be making arrangements to view the machine in operation. Consideration would be given to a possible hire arrangement with Port St Mary Commissioners if possible. | TQ |

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| RAMSEY ROAD DEVELOPMENT           | 12/113 | The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 12/092 and indicated that he was still awaiting written advice from Miss Chance, Planning Enforcement Officer, regarding the legal advice obtained by that Department with regarding to the Oak Road element of the McLeods Field housing estate development. <i>NOTED</i>   |             |
| SCOPE OF GOVERNMENT REPORT        | 12/114 | Consideration was given to the Scope of Government in the Isle of Man report, an independent report from the Council of Ministers dated March 2012.<br><br>Mr. Jones expressed some concern over references to possible privatisation of elements of Government operations. He also expressed concerns over the possibility of additional costs being placed on local authorities with regard to transferring of services from Central Government. However, he concluded that the document was of value as a discussion document for the Commissioners. Mr. Harmer indicated that rate reform was a pre-requisite for any future change in Government responsibilities. Mr. Cushing suggested that the Commissioners await Mr. Ronan, MHK's input prior to any possible response to the document. |             |
| PHILIP CHRISTIAN CENTRE           | 12/115 | The Town Clerk referred to an email received from Mr. Crookall, MHK regarding the maintenance issues in respect of the Philip Christian Centre. The Town Clerk confirmed that the outdoor workforce would arrange for the gutters of the Philip Christian Centre to be cleaned in due course. <i>NOTED</i>  |             |
| PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT | 12/116 | The following planning applications were considered for comment as follows:-<br><br>12/00825/B<br>Installation of dormers and erection of a single storey extension, 11 Ballaterson Crescent, Peel. <i>RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</i><br><br>12/00853/B<br>Replace existing garage door with a window and creation of a doorway to side elevation, 15 Maple Avenue, Ballawattleworth Estate,  | Letter sent |

Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*

12/00872/B

Erection of a front porch to dwelling, 3 Close Cronk, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*.

The Town Clerk referred to a letter received from a Jennifer Strathdee of 4 Atholl Buildings, Derby Road, Peel in which she had written with regard to her objections to the planning approval granted to the conversion of the shop and empty café into a restaurant at Atholl Buildings. It was noted that Ms. Strathdee had failed to submit her objection by the appropriate closing date of 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012 and that the application had subsequently been approved by the Planning Committee with a recommendation for approval from Peel Town Commissioners. The Town Clerk referred to the concerns raised by Ms. Strathdee and that she had requested the Commissioners to submit an appeal on her behalf. After discussion the Board was of the view that it should continue its support for this planning application which would increase commercial activity in Peel. The Town Clerk undertook to advise Ms. Strathdee accordingly.

PLANNING  
DECISIONS  
NOTIFIED

12/117

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

PA 12/00719/B Alterations, erection of an extension and installation of solar panels to dwelling, 8 Close Cubbon, Peel for Mr. Paul Moffatt & Miss Jayne Kelly. *APPROVED*

PA 12/00616/B Installation of replacement windows and rear door 1 Church Lane, Peel for Bernice Corcoran. *APPROVED*

PA 12/00713/B Alterations and extension to dwelling and erection of detached garage (comprising amendment to PA 10/01262/B) Greenbank, Tynwald Road, Peel for D & J Properties Limited. *APPROVED*

PA 12/00720/B Reserved matters planning application for the erection of a dwelling

and garage, land between Cliffe Cottage and Greystones, Battery Road, Peel for Abbey Properties Limited. *APPROVED*

HOUSING REVIEW 12/118

Members noted receipt of the response of Douglas Borough Council to the Department of Infrastructure with regard to its Housing Review Consultation document.

A general discussion ensued over local authority housing and it was stated that as a significant housing authority it was the Board's view that it was able to administer and maintain its housing stock more efficiently than if taken over by a single Central Government Authority.

It was *AGREED* that this issue be discussed in greater detail at the September Policy Review meeting.

PLANNING PROCESS 12/119

Consideration was given to a letter from Miss Sarah Corlett, Senior Planning Officer regarding a User Group meeting that may be held to discuss the role of local authorities in the planning process and how the planning process as a whole was viewed by local authorities. Letter sent

After discussion it was *AGREED* to enquire of Miss Corlett what the specific motive was behind the proposal together with the possible aims and aspirations and benefits to Peel. It was *AGREED* that the suggestion of a meeting be supported at some mutually convenient date.

CAVITY WALL INSULATION 12/120

Mr. Jones referred to his draft letter to Mrs. Malarkey, Chairperson of the Douglas Borough Council Housing Committee regarding issues over the framework cavity wall insulation scheme. The Board *AGREED* that the draft letter prepared by Mr. Jones, Lead Member for Housing be forwarded to Mrs. Malarkey and a similar letter issued to Ramsey Town Commissioners as well. Mr. Jones suggested that a united approach from the major housing authorities that had experienced problems with the cavity wall insulation scheme may be the preferred option in achieving a satisfactory resolution. Letter sent

to the problems experienced.

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| ST GERMAN'S<br>CATHEDRAL    | 12/121 | Consideration was given to a letter from the Very Reverend Nigel Godfrey of St. Germans Cathedral in which he sought approval for a small procession on Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2012 from the Cathedral on St. Patricks Isle via the footbridge, Promenade and Bridge Street to St. German's Cathedral in celebration of the Feast of St. German. It was noted that the procession would take place on the same day and at the same time as the Civic Sunday procession but after discussion it was felt that there would be no problem and that approval was therefore given. | Letter sent |
| POPPY APPEAL                | 12/122 | Consideration was given to the proposed dates for the street collection in respect of the Poppy Appeal in 2013. It was noted that the collection would take place between the 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2013 with Poppy Day falling on 9 <sup>th</sup> November. <i>AGREED</i>   | Letter sent |
| ONCHAN CIVIC<br>SERVICE     | 12/123 | Members noted receipt of an invitation to the Onchan Civic Service to be held on Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> July 2012 at 3.00p.m. The Chairman indicated that he would attend the Service.   | Letter sent |
| RAMSEY TOWN<br>BAND CONCERT | 12/124 | Consideration was given to an email from Jenny Nutter regarding a proposed concert to be undertaken by Ramsey Town Band in Peel on Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2012. It was envisaged that the concert starting at 3.00p.m. would take place in the vicinity of the Weatherglass Corner provided forty chairs could be supplied for the band members. Mr. Beale indicated that an additional number of chairs for spectators would be of benefit and the Town Clerk undertook to ensure this was arranged.   | Email sent  |
| VIKING BOAT<br>RACE         | 12/125 | Consideration was given to a request from the Viking Amateur Boxing Club for permission to set up a stall in Peel Promenade selling helium balloons and children's hair spraying on the occasion of the Viking Boat Race Day. Subject to liaison with Mr. Lee of the Viking Boat Race Organisers it was <i>AGREED</i> that the request be permitted and a street trading  | PGL         |

licence be issued.

The Viking Amateur Boxing Club also indicated its thanks to the Commissioners for their approval in setting up a stall during the 5<sup>th</sup> November firework display in Peel.

RATING  
OBJECTIONS

12/126

Consideration was given to a covering letter from the Valuation Assistant Mr. Johnson at the Treasury concerning seven rating objections submitted by residents of Reayrtny Keylley.

Letter  
sent

It was noted that the previous decision of the Rating Section to permit a 15% temporary reduction was as a result of Clover Avenue being used as the main access route into the site currently under development. However as the main access route had been relocated away from Clover Avenue the former 15% temporary allowance should no longer apply.

Mr. Cushing indicated that although an alternative site access route had been established Heritage Homes Limited were now seeking two points of access to the current development. He also indicated that the home owners had envisaged Clover Avenue being a cul-de-sac and this was now not likely to occur and as a result Mr. Cushing expressed his concern over this matter. Mr. Jones indicated that with the development company looking to change the original plans the residents would have had the opportunity to object at the planning stage. Members stated that the Commissioners should not be penalised in the loss of rate income over such matters and that responsibility should fall on Heritage Homes Limited. Mr. Harmer indicated his support for a continuance of the 15% reduction and this was supported by the Chairman. After discussion it was *AGREED* to advise the Rating Office accordingly.

CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE BILL

12/127

Consideration was given to a Criminal Justice, Police Powers and Other Amendments Bill 2012 under a consultation documents issued in May 2012 by the Department of Home Affairs. Mr. Jones

Email  
sent

indicated that in the main the draft Bill could be viewed as a tidying up exercise for Police procedures. Reference was made to the rewriting of the Police Regulations to enable the Police to have the power to amend their regulations. Of some concern to Mr. Jones was the reference in clause 35 to missing children in which it was proposed that a Police Constable would have the power to arrest a child in order to return that child to the person responsible for that child's welfare. Mr. Jones was of the view that the reference to the word "arrest" was inappropriate and the word "detain" would be more suitable. The Bill also extended the life of search warrants from one month to three months.

After discussion Members were supportive of the Bill.

BRIBERY BILL 2012 12/128

Consideration was given to a consultation document on a Bribery Bill 2012. Mr. Cushing expressed his disappointment that the draft Bribery Bill repealed the Corruption Act 2008. Whilst the draft Bribery Bill mirrored United Kingdom legislation, certain activities currently an offence under the Corruption Act would no longer be a criminal offence. For example, where an employee failed to perform a legal obligation in order to obtain a betterment for their employer, this would no longer be classed as a corrupt act. It was *AGREED* to forward these comments to the Department of Home Affairs

Email sent

WHITLEY COUNCIL

12/129

Consideration was given to a consultation document issued by the Whitley Council regarding redeployment and redundancy procedures.

PGL

Mr. Cushing indicated his support for the procedures although there was concern that the redeployment of an employee under a work permit could not take place and could not be redeployed as a new work permit would be required. Mr. Kaighin was of the view that Government employees should not enjoy any additional advantages over workers from the private sector and that if redundancy occurred then redeployment

should not necessarily follow. Mr. Jones indicated that the issue of redeployment had a cost saving benefit to Government as it was expensive to cover redundancy payments to members of staff no longer employed.

Mr. Cushing queried the point over a period of continued employment and questioned that if an employee redeployed to an organisation would that result in that organisation being liable to possibly pay redundancy based on the earlier employment period. It was *AGREED* that this issue required clarification. In general the Board was of the view that the Commissioners would need to protect itself should redundancies arise in the future.

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| BUILDING (FEES) REGULATIONS 2012 | 12/130 | Members noted a proposed amendment to the Building Control (Fees) Regulations and had no comment to make.   |             |
| WEST QUAY                        | 12/131 | Mrs. Moughtin referred to the work undertaken by fishermen on West Quay and expressed concern at the resultant untidy nature of the area with redundant wire and netting being left which caused an eyesore. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the Harbours Division be requested to tidy up the area.  | Letter sent |
| PUBLIC CONVENIENCES              | 12/132 | Mrs. Moughtin referred to the closure of the public conveniences at around 6.30p.m. each evening and enquired whether it was possible for them to be left open longer during the summer period. The matter was discussed at some length and it was <i>AGREED</i> that the Town Clerk discuss the matter with the employee concerned with a view to the toilets being left open until 8.30pm in the evening. | Done        |
| HEATHFIELD DRIVE                 | 12/133 | Mr. Davison referred to the sign at the end of Heathfield Drive indicating the direction to Douglas and it was suggested that a larger more noticeable sign would be of benefit. The Town Clerk undertook to raise this matter with the Department of Infrastructure accordingly.   | PGL         |

Arising therefrom Mr. Cushing referred to deteriorated condition of the Albany Road

street sign and it was *AGREED* that this be replaced in due course.

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| WEED SPRAYING    | 12/134 | Upon enquiry from Mr. Cushing the Town Clerk confirmed that the outdoor staff had commenced weed spraying the pavement gullies around the Town. It was also confirmed that the headlands field had recently been cut.  |
| ADVENTURE SPORTS | 12/135 | Mr. Harmer referred to a request from PGL Adventure Sports to hold a kayaking event on 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2012. <i>AGREED</i>   |
| JUBILEE EVENT    | 12/136 | Mr. Harmer referred to the Jubilee mural boards painted by pupils of the Clothworkers School and indicated that these were now ready and available for display. It was <i>AGREED</i> that they be put on public display at the Weatherglass Corner and that the Chairman be requested to unveil the mural boards on Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July at 2.00p.m. |

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

