

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 14th August 2013 at 7.00p.m.

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

Apologies Miss K Felton
 Mr. D J Lace

In attendance Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

BRIDGE STREET
SAFETY MEASURES

13/204 The Chairman welcomed Inspector Pearson of Peel Police and a number of residents from Bridge Street to the meeting to discuss their concerns over traffic safety in Bridge Street.

Mr. Bell and Mr. Tate stated that they had deep concerns as their children were playing in the area and they were fearful of a traffic accident involving a child. It was noted that the children tended to gather at the junction of Bridge Street with Stanley Mount. Traffic safety concerns also applied to other residents and visitors in Bridge Street due to its narrow pavements and it being a bust thoroughway to the promenade.

The speed of traffic was discussed and the Town Clerk tabled a recent speed count undertaken by the Department of Infrastructure. An earlier speed count had been taken in 2008 and it was noted that the average speed of traffic in 2013 was 12mph with the maximum recorded speed of 27mph. The residents suggested that additional signage would be of benefit together with other traffic calming measures.

Inspector Pearson indicated that he would support a 20mph speed limit on Bridge Street

but felt it would achieve little as the average speed was only 12mph in any event. In addition Inspector Pearson stated that the road was a highway for vehicles and should not be regarded as a play area for children.

The residents were advised to make their concerns known to the Department of Infrastructure and Mr. Crookall, MHK to instigate action on this matter. The Chairman advised that the Commissioners would refer the matter to the next meeting of the Western Traffic Management Group and bring pressure to at least increase signage at the entrance to Bridge Street. Mrs. Mellor also indicated that traffic was mounting the pavement immediately outside her property at the bottom of Bridge Street and enquired as to whether bollards could be installed to prevent this.

The Chairman thanked the residents for attending and they left the meeting.

Inspector Pearson updated Members on the concerns of other residents in Bridge Street that had met with him to complain about the anti-social behaviour of children using the area as a playground. This included children lying down in the road, leaving bikes in the middle of the road and there being evidence of minor damage to vehicles such as broken wing mirrors. Inspector Pearson advised that he would meet with two of the families concerned to mediate a common ground on this matter.

In conclusion the Board supported the imposition of a 20mph speed limit on Bridge Street and *AGREED* to make such a request to the Department of Infrastructure.

YOUTH SHELTER

13/205

Reference was made to the possible acquisition of a pod/shelter for the youth. Members approved an application to the seized asset fund to assist in the funding of such a shelter and the Town Clerk indicated that a current price was being sought from the manufacturer. Consideration would have to be given as to the proposed location of any such shelter.

ADDITIONAL
PARKING IN PEEL

13/206

Members considered the draft business case prepared to support the provision of a multi-storey car park in Peel and *AGREED* that the

document prepared by Miss Dorman be accepted.

It was further noted that the objectives of the Commissioners in trying to meet parking demand needed further clarification and an explanation as to what specifically the Commissioners wished to achieve – whether this was increased footfall and commercial activity in the town centre or to make it more attractive for locals and visitors coming to Peel. Consideration of the risk in providing and funding a multi-storey facility or not doing it needed further exploration. Mrs. Moughtin indicated that the previous weekend had been particularly busy in Peel and that all those seeking to park in the town appeared to find suitable places without too much difficulty. In her opinion the town was able to cope at busy times. It was *AGREED* that this element of the business case be discussed further at the meeting on 9th September 2013 in terms of developing the objectives of the Commissioners further.

The meeting ended at 8.30p.m.