

# GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015 at 7.00p.m.

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

Apologies                Miss K M Felton

In attendance           Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	14/541	The Chairman welcomed Members to the second meeting of April.
MINUTES	14/542	The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 were taken as read and <i>CONFIRMED</i> .
HOUSING REVIEW	14/543	The Town Clerk referred to back to Minute 14/518 and indicated that a written response had been received from Mr. A R Bell, Chief Minister regarding the Commissioners frustrations within Central Government. Mr. Jones referred to the Government response including the earlier letter from Minister Gawne, MHK and was of the view that no positive comments had been made in his letter and was firmly of the view that many people were worse off with the austerity measures causing real hardship to the lower paid members of the public. Mr. Jones suggested that a measured response from Government was required and that it failed to engage in a meaningful way with local authorities. He was of the view that local authorities being frustrated with Government had not been reached lightly. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the Chief Minister's letter be copied to all Members with Mr. Jones's comments attached thereto.

Reference was also made to the business case prepared by the Western Authorities for a revised housing authority. This matter had stalled and not been pursued by Government.

REFORM OF 14/544  
DOMESTIC RATES

Members gave consideration to the PGL consultation document on the reform of domestic rates issued by the Treasury. The individual questions within the document were discussed and responses agreed thereon. The Chairman indicated that with regard to the nine bands of capital values that a percentage higher rate should apply on a pro-rata basis to properties over £5 million pounds in value. The issue of individual property owners being responsible for declaring the capital value of their own property was queried and some concern was raised over this issue. With regard to the question regarding an all-island rate system in which income would be raised equally from all properties across the island and allocated to local authorities was discussed. Mr. Jones suggested that this measure if implemented could lead to the possible end of local authorities on the Island and in his opinion was not a practical solution. With regard to the question regarding a rate rebate scheme Members felt that this would not be required as the administration costs would be too high and complex. With regard to question 12 relating to discounts and or exceptions from rates Members disagreed and felt that any such decision on this issue should be left to individual local authorities and not Central Government.

It was *AGREED* that an appropriate response be made to the consultation document accordingly.

PEEL HARBOUR 14/545

Members welcomed Mrs. Ann Reynolds, Director of Ports to the meeting to discuss the current position regarding the removal of silt from Peel Harbour. Reference was made to the removal of silt to a prepared area in the Parish of German which had been subject to a public meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015. Mrs. Reynolds indicated that the scheme to remove silt would be undertaken by the Department over a two year period

due to budget considerations. She confirmed that following analysis of the silt it had resulted in the Department stating that the storage of the materials in the Parish of German would only be on a temporary basis. She confirmed that the Department had made a mistake in not communicating earlier with German Parish Commissioners. Mrs. Reynolds confirmed that three quarters of the silt removal for the current year would be completed by the TT period. It was also noted that a monitoring committee would be established with regard to this project.

Mrs. Reynolds turned to the issue of derelict boats within the harbour/marina area and indicated that boat owners had been written to to remove these vessels from the harbour.

It was also noted that in the medium to long term the Department would look at methods to prevent silt accumulation in the marina. Reference was made to the sandbank that had established near to the lifeboat station slipway. It was likely that the sand had emanated from the sandpit in the Parish of German and it was noted that this issue may be investigated by the Environment Section of the Department Environment Food and Agriculture. It was stated that a big proportion of the silt was made up of sand. Mrs. Reynolds confirmed that the Department would undertake and commit to an ongoing annual maintenance programme for Peel Marina.

Mrs. Reynolds also referred to the Commissioners proposal to amend the street trading regulations for Peel and indicated that the Department would support the establishment of open spaces upon which licences would be required as sought by the Commissioners.

Reference was also made to use of the Fenella Beach car park by a number of motorhomes during the TT period. This issue was being looked at also with regard to the possible transfer of the car park to the Commissioners by the Department of Infrastructure.

Mrs. Reynolds left the meeting at 8.25p.m.

PEEL CARNIVAL

14/546

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Baker and Mrs. Jones of the Peel Carnival Committee to the meeting to discuss this year's carnival. Mrs. Jones tabled the balance sheet from the 2014 carnival. A small surplus of just over £1,000 had been achieved which would go towards future carnival costs.

Mr. Baker outlined the plans for this year's event and indicated that a decision had been made to do away with the evening firework display on cost grounds when considered against the relatively small number of spectators that turned up. The money would be spent on providing more and varied entertainment during the carnival itself. It was noted that the steel band would return and that a significant number of local bands had been approached to perform on the day. It was particularly noted that the Celtic Festival taking place in France subsequent to the carnival would perform in front of the Empire Garage Showroom as a final rehearsal prior to travelling to France. Mr. Baker indicated that the Peel Carnival now had a reputation for being a good family day out and submitted his blanket application for a street traders licence for the day. It was *AGREED* that the licence be approved and that the Commissioners sponsor the event with the same funding as the previous year.

PLANNING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
COMMENT

14/547

The following planning applications were considered as follows:- Letter sent

15/00398/B

New conservatory in rear yard, Granary Cottage, Charles Street, Peel.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*

15/00373/B

Replacement of three front elevation windows with uPVC sash on the ground first and second floors, 1 Church Street, Peel.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*

PLANNING  
DECISIONS NOTIFIED

14/548

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

PA 15/00265/B Installation of a flue to dwelling, 1 Elm Drive, Ballawattleworth, Peel. *APPROVED*

PA 15/00218/B Additional use of residential dwelling as tourist accommodation, 29 McLeods Field, Peel. *APPROVED*

PA 15/00239/B Erection of a dwelling (comprising amendments to dwelling approved under PA 13/91289/B, Plot 61 Slieau Whallian View, field 311826, between Poortown Road and QE11 High School, east of Reayrt ny Cronk, Peel. *APPROVED*.

FIREWORK DISPLAY	14/549	Consideration was given to two proposals for the firework display to be held on 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2015. The quotes were from Pains Fireworks and Galaxy Fireworks. Mr. Davison indicated whether it would be possible for either company to put on a firework display with music. It was <i>AGREED</i> to make suitable enquiries prior to deciding which quote to accept.	PGL
NON-RESIDENT TRADERS CONSULTATION	14/550	Members gave consideration to a consultation document on the proposed Non-resident Traders (Licence Fees) Regulations 2015. Members had no comment to make.	
SUPPLEMENTAL VALUATION LIST	14/551	A supplemental valuation list dated 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015 was <i>NOTED</i> .	
COMMISSIONERS SURGERIES	14/552	This issue had been raised by Miss Felton and as she was absent it was <i>AGREED</i> to hold it over to the next meeting.	
TOWN CLERK'S POSITION	14/553	Members considered the press release prepared by the Town Clerk regarding the appointment of his successor Mr. Derek Sewell. It was <i>AGREED</i> that this be issued to the local press.	PGL
PAPER RECYCLING PRESENTATION	14/554	The Town Clerk referred to a sustainable paper recycling presentation by UPM Kymmene. The presentation would take place at Douglas Borough Council Service Centre, Isle of Man Business Park, Braddan on Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2015. It was	

*AGREED* that the Technical Officer attend the presentation and that the invitation also be copied to Members for their information and possible attendance.

SHOPRITE MICHAEL STREET	– 14/555	The Town Clerk referred to a request from Shoprite Limited to close Michael Street for up to one hour to allow access of a hi-ab machine to remove fridges from the Michael Street store. The Commissioners had no objection to a closure and suggested that it could take place when Michael Street was closed to traffic in any event. Shoprite wished to carry out this work the 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2015.	PGL
PEEL MISSION	BEACH 14/556	The Town Clerk referred to an email from Mr. Michael Clarkson of the Peel Beach Mission. The mission would once more be in Peel for the period 25 <sup>th</sup> July to 8 <sup>th</sup> August 2015. Members had no objection to the beach mission coming to Peel and having its events on Peel beach during the fortnight.	PGL
MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION	14/557	Mr. Jones referred to the Municipal Association AGM and dinner at Port St. Mary Golf Pavilion Restaurant on 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 7.30p.m. Mr. Jones indicated that he would be attending the AGM and dinner.	
ATHOLL STREET	14/558	Mr. Lace referred to contact he had had from the owner of the site on Atholl Street opposite the Spar Store. It was <i>AGREED</i> to obtain more information as to the intention of the owners of the land with regard to this site.	

This part of the meeting ended at 8.25p.m.