

# GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 7.00p.m.

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

In attendance            Mr. D Sewell (Clerk to Commissioners)

## Action

MINUTES	15/096	The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 were APPROVED as an accurate record by the Board.
15/078 CASTLE STREET GARDENS	15/097	The Town Clerk reported the planting area had been completed and a quotation for the CCTV cameras would be sent to the Commissioners this week.
15/079 RECYCLING STATION	15/098	The Board noted planning application 15/0066/C had been submitted by the Commissioners and was within its statutory consultation period.
15/080 ATHOLL STREET COBBLED PAVEMENT	15/099	The Board noted the communications from the Department of Infrastructure and their intentions to review the design of the cobbles in this area to find a suitable alternative. The Board would like this work to be undertaken as soon as possible and welcomed this positive response.
15/085 PEEL BEACH MISSION	15/100	The Board noted the Town Clerk had sent a letter to the Beach Mission confirming the Boards decision approving the additional flags and banners subject to them being adequately secured.
15/088 MEMORIAL BENCH	15/101	This was to be dealt with later in the agenda.
15/090 ELIM CHURCH - PHILIP	15/102	The Town Clerk reported the advert for an entertainment licence at the Philip Christian

CHRISTIAN CENTRE		Centre was merely to change the name of the operator from the Children's Centre to the Elim Church.	
15/092 ROUNDABOUT AT CAMPSITE	15/103	The Town Clerk reported two improvements could be undertaken at this location to improve safety at the entrance to the campsite. The first a low cost option involved trimming the foliage in the centre of the roundabout to a suitable height for car drivers to see approaching vehicles from the campsite. The second option involved reducing the size of the central tear shaped island to allow large vehicles to travel around the roundabout rather than cutting across the front of it to access the campsite. The Board AGREED the Commissioners staff could undertake the foliage trimming works and Mr. Davison would approach the Western Swimming Pool Board to seek consent for reducing the size of the middle island on the roundabout.	DS ID
15/093 FENELLA BEACH CAR PARK	15/104	The Board noted the contents of the letter to the Department of Infrastructure and the subsequent conversation on this issue which took place with the Minister for Infrastructure on 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2015. The Chairman asked the Town Clerk to seek a response from the Department of Infrastructure.	DS
15/094 PROMENADE RAILINGS	15/105	The rusted condition of the promenade railings was reported to the Minister for Infrastructure and Anne Reynolds at their meeting with the Board on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> June 2015. Mrs. Reynolds had AGREED to forward this matter onto the Department's Highway Services Division for them to take the appropriate action.	
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENTS	15/106	The Board noted there were very few planning applications for them to comment on at this meeting.  Planning application 15/00666/C was a Peel Town Commissioners' application and as such no comment would be provided to the Planning Authority.	
PLANNING DECISION NOTIFICATIONS	15/107	The Board noted the decisions made by the Planning Authority. The Board had lodged an objection to planning application 14/01295/B which has subsequently been approved by the Planning Authority. The Board AGREED the Town Clerk was to look at the relevant paperwork and prepare a statement to be circulated around the Board.	DS

CIVIC SUNDAY	15/108	The Town Clerk reported forty six responses had been received confirming attendance at Civic Sunday. The Chairman needed to review the seating arrangements and confirm the Order of Service. Prior to this taking place the Town Clerk is required to the name of the Cathedral's representative and to find out what musical pieces would be carried out by the schools. Mr. Jones asked what was the proposed start time for Civic Sunday. The Chairman confirmed a 10.30a.m. start with the service at 11.00a.m.	DS
SOAPBOX DERBY	15/109	The Board noted the contents of the communication from the Commissioners insurer and the new requirement for risk assessment information to be provided for forthcoming events.	
MARINE PARADE SITE OPERATOR	15/110	The Board noted the content of the Marine Parade Site expression of interest press notice and that this document had been advertised in a local newspaper. No further communications on this issue were reported at this time.	
POLICE AMENDMENT BILL 2015	15/111	Mr. Jones reported he was generally satisfied with the contents of the Police Amendment Bill. He did however have some reservations about civilians taking over certain aspects which were traditional policing duties. These included the use of civilian staff to take statements. Mr. Jones believed should continue to be a police officer duty to ensure officers are not de-skilled and it is an essential part of investigation and community policing. Mr. Jones stated he was happy with the Chief Constable referring himself for investigation and for the arrangements for the Chief Constable to extend his tenure of this post subject to agreement with his employer. The use of civilians to manage cell blocks was considered to be acceptable because national approved standards exist for this function. Mr. Davison reported he would like to see less duplication and more use of information technology. This would reduce costs associated with officers taking statements and their involvement in other administrative tasks. The Board <i>AGREED</i> the Town Clerk will write a letter to the Chief Constable outlining the issues over de-skilling officers particularly in taking statements and the potential for the police to use information technology with support to reduce the amount of administration currently undertaken by officers.	

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PEEL TOWN WAR MEMORIAL	15/112	Mr. Jones reported he was very much in favour of the Bill including the flexibility that it offered. He stated the war memorial adjacent to the Cathedral required some work including improving the legibility of the wording and names. Mr. Jones proposed a three way contribution from the local authority, the church and the British Legion. The Board <i>AGREED</i> this was a good way to secure improvements and repair works to this monument and the Town Clerk will write to these parties to secure this important work.	DS
MEMORIAL BENCH POLICY	15/113	The Town Clerk circulated a draft policy document. The Chairman <i>AGREED</i> this document should be discussed at the next Commissioners meeting.	All
ISLE OF MAN GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION – SINGLE LEGAL ENTITY	15/114	The Chairman reported he had three issues with this proposal. He believed the proposal would result in a centralisation of power. It would reduce the opportunity for local involvement in policy making and could possibly result in a lack of accountability for government departments. Mr. Jones <i>AGREED</i> that there was still a need for government departments and was interested to know where final legal responsibility would rest. However he believed there was a need for better coordination between the government departments which this proposal should help facilitate. The Chairman referred to different modes of government in neighbouring jurisdictions and asked the Town Clerk for any advice in this area. The Town Clerk advised the United Kingdom Parliament had government departments which were responsible for specific areas of governance. These included health, education and transport. These departments and their Minister had ultimate legal responsibilities for these areas of work.	
REARYT AALIN DOOR REPLACEMENT WORK	15/115	The Board noted the contents of the letter of thanks from a resident. Mr. Jones expressed his delight with this revenue scheme.	
ANY OTHER BUSINESS	15/116	The Town Clerk reported the contents of the Isle of Man newspaper press notice for the Town and Country Planning Act 1999 Order and Regulations dated 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2015. This notice reported three planning applications for Peel. Planning application 15/00684/B, planning application 15/00697/B and planning application 15/00698/B. The Board <i>AGREED</i> they did not oppose any of	DS

these applications.

Mrs. O'Halloran reported she had been contact by Michael Rose from the Civic Amenity Site concerning recycling furniture at Peel Fish Yards. The Town Clerk reported the Commissioners did not intend to recycle these materials at the new facility for which planning permission was being sought and these materials would have to be taken to the Civic Amenity Site. Mr. Jones stated furniture is difficult to recycle and it can only go either to the Civic Amenity Site or the charity shops. The Chairman asked Mrs. O'Halloran to advise Mike Rose the Commissioners were not seeking to extend the scope of recycling which is undertaken in the town and the recycling facilities were to improve what we already do.

Mr. Davison reported he had received a complaint from a local resident regarding the condition of the skate park on Peel Promenade. The Chairman reported these repairs were a high priority in the forthcoming works for this location.

Mrs. Moughtin reported issues with the forthcoming by-election for Peel following the election of the current Peel MHK to the Legislative Council. Mrs. Moughtin believed that the forthcoming by-election and the process to appoint a new member for the House of Keys (MHK) would be a significant cost to tax payers which should be avoided and requested a letter should be sent to government to recommend that this by-election does not take place. In addition advice should be sought on whether a member of the Legislative Council (MLC) could also act in the short term as a Member of the House of Keys until the next general election which is in 2016. The Town Clerk reported that a Member of the House of Keys could not constitutionally be a Member of the Legislative Council. Mr. Jones believed not having a dedicated member in the House of Keys until the next general election would result in Peel having no voice in the House of Keys. Mrs. Moughtin reported that it was the Chief Ministers intention to keep the Minister for Education in post even though he was a MLC. The Chairman reported democracy is never cheap and asked the Town Clerk to write a letter to Tynwald to determine what the actual legal status was.

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Mr. Lace reported three items; he asked to be updated on the replacement repair works to the Market Place clock. The Chairman asked the Town Clerk to prepare a report on this issue. The second item was the overgrown grass on the Glen Maye Road obscuring the Peel Town boundary sign. The Chairman asked the Town Clerk to ensure works were undertaken at this location. The final issue was the continuing problem of vegetation obscuring the visibility of oncoming traffic when leaving Peel Cemetery on Douglas Road. The Town Clerk reported this was outside Peel Town Commissioners boundary and the matter had been reported to both the Department of Infrastructure and German Commissioners at a recent Traffic Management Liaison Group meeting. The Chairman asked the Town Clerk to seek a response on this matter.

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The meeting concluded at 8.02p.m.