

# GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes of the general meeting held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on 8 September 2015 at 7:00pm.

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

Apologise                Mrs C. Moughtin (Vice Chairman) (late attendance)

In attendance            Mr D. Sewell (Clerk to Commissioners)

Action

MINUTES                15/173    Mr Davison request two changes. Minute 15/161 Mr. Davison arrived at the meeting at 7.53pm and not 8.53pm and minute 15/165 "on course" was to be added between additional and events in the first sentence. The Board **AGREED** the minutes of the meeting held on 18 August 2015 subject to these minor changes. Miss Felton proposed and Mr Lace seconded this item respectively.

MATTERS ARISING    15/174    15/112 Peel Town War Memorial: Mr Jones reported the Legion had agreed to pay their contribution upfront. Discussions with the Cathedral were ongoing to get approval for their contribution. Mr Jones reported the Legion had approved a request for an additional name to be placed on Peel War Memorial. The Board **AGREED** to this request which was proposed by Mr Lace and seconded by Miss Felton. Mr Beale and Mrs O'Halloran did not vote on this matter.

15/130 Isle of Man Strategic Plan: The Board noted the content of the communication with the Cabinet Office. The Town Clerk reported he would present this information at the forthcoming Inquiry on behalf of the Commissioners and he had reserved a place for a Commissioner to accompany him at the Inquiry

DS

if required.

15/145 Derby Road Car Park; The Commissioners noted the foliage was cut back

15/161 Local Authority Transition: The Commissioners noted the communications with the Department of Infrastructure

15/166 De-Registration of Marine Parade Flat: The Commissioners noted the content of the press release. The Town Clerk reported this article had not been reported in the media. The Board **AGREED** to place the media releases on Peel online in the future.

15/157 Derby Road Pothole: The Chairman asked the Town Clerk to contact the Department of Infrastructure again to get this work undertaken.

DS

15/172 Atholl Street bins: The Town Clerk reported a suitable alternative location for these bins was being sought.

15/172 Western Swimming Pool: The Commissioners noted the content of the letter received from the swimming pool manager.

15/172 Food Park: The Commissioners noted the contents of the letter from the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture. Mr Davison reported the poor quality of the drainage system, standing water and smell. The Town Clerk reported there was confusion over who was managing this facility and he would raise this matter with the Director of Property Services at the Department of Infrastructure at his meeting on 9 September.

DS

PLANNING

15/175

Item 3:

The Board agreed not to oppose planning applications PA 15/00964/LAW, PA 15/00994/B, PA 15/00998/GB and PA 15/00999/CON

DS

The Board agreed to oppose planning applications PA 15/00971/B and PA 15/00972/B both of which increased the number of properties without the necessary supporting infrastructure. Mr Beale and Mrs O'Halloran did not vote on this item.

DS

PLANNING  
DECISIONS

15/176

Item 4

The Board noted the decisions for planning applications PA 14/00421/B, PA 15/00852/B, the demolition of the former Gas works and Gas Works Showroom on Mill Road, and the demolition of 20 Stanley Mount,. The Board agreed not further action was required in relation to these applications.

RENT INCREASES  
2016/17

15/177

Item 5:

Mr Jones stated the Board had recommended no increase should have been made last year and they were ignored. Any increase should be linked to inflation which should result in no rate rises this year. In addition, Mr Jones highlighted the lack of progress and consultation with local authorities in relation to the introduction of means testing. Mr Lace stated the rates had increased substantially in previous years and those on benefits had to fund 25% of these costs. Residents were struggling to find all the additional costs they were expected to pay and we should seek the assistance of other local authorities on this important issue. The Chairman recommended a meeting should take place with the Department of Infrastructure to discuss this matter. The Town Clerk reported agenda Item 9 included a proposal to invite Mr Thomas MHK from the Department of Infrastructure to a forthcoming meeting. The Board agreed to write to the Municipal Association to request a constructive debate on rents and means testing. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter.

DS

ELLAN VANNIN  
ADVENTURE  
CHALLENGE

15/178

Item 6

The Board considered the application from Ellan Vannin Adventure Challenge to hold a barbeque and events on the Town Beach. Mr Jones stated the Board have not allowed barbeques on the Town Beach and this part of the event could be held on Fenella Beach. Miss Felton supported Mr Jones' proposal. Mr Lace stated the beach would be busy at this time and the event must not be granted exclusive use. The Board **AGREED** to allow Fenella Beach to be used for the barbeque and the Town Beach for the event subject to the public retaining access to both Beaches during the event.

DS

The Town Clerk reported that he had been made aware of a crack in the sewerage pipe adjacent to the groin on the main Town beach today which

was leaking small quantities of sewerage. He had reported this leakage to environmental health at the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture. Their water quality officer had reported the Town Beach had recorded a poor quality test last week which was the first occurrence of poor water quality since June. The Town Clerk reported a meeting was scheduled to take place with the Manx Utilities Authority and the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture tomorrow. The Chairman stated if there was a public health issue the beach should be closed. Mr Davison stated the sewerage system was aging and in poor condition. He wanted to see funding allocated to the construction of an adequate system as soon as possible. The Town Clerk reported the meeting was required to secure additional testing to determine if the leak represented a risk to beach users or was a repeat of the isolated poor results occasional found at Peel and other Island's beaches. Mr Jones stated we must ensure our decisions are based on evidence subject to getting the tests done quickly. The Chairman reiterated the requirement to get this information quickly and for the Board to be kept informed of progress. DS

Mrs Moughtin arrived at the meeting at 7:55pm

LEECE MUSEUM  
UPDATE

15/179

Item 7

The Town Clerk reported the exhibition had included twenty bikes and a large number of visitors had attended the Museum over the two weeks of the Festival of Motorsport donating £635 to the Museum. Some staff resourcing difficulties had been experience during this time. This had resulted in senior staff operating the exhibit when the permanent staff was on leave and the volunteers were unable to provide cover. The Chairman asked for the costs of setting up the exhibition to be reported to the next meeting. DS  
Mrs Moughtin reiterated concerns in relation to staffing resource during the busy festival period, the requirement for the donations to be placed in the Leece Museum bank account and the request from the bike owners to present their vision for the exhibit at a November Board meeting. In addition, she stated highlighted the proposal for a classic bike parade at next year's TT official opening of the new bike exhibit. The Chairman proposed the use of a commemorative plaque on the old TT course as part of the official opening.

Mr Davison proposed the installation of a mural on the side of the Leece Museum. The Board agreed to investigate the feasibility of both these proposals. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter. DS

STANDING ORDERS 15/180

Item 8  
Mr Davison stated the lead member for recreation should retain responsibility for the playgrounds and the campsite. The Chairman stated a number of options should be considered and there was inadequate time to discuss them at this meeting. The Board **AGREED** to defer this item to special general meeting to be scheduled in October 2015. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not note on this matter.

LOCAL AUTHORITY TRANSITION 15/181

Item 9  
The Board noted the content of the communications from the Minister for the Department of Infrastructure and were grateful for his assurance the transfer of the operation of the 20 properties in Carmaine Close to the Commissioners would be reviewed. The Town Clerk reported he was meeting the Director of Property Services on 9 September to set out the terms of the transfer of Fenella Beach car park to the Commissioners and would report the outcome of this meeting to the Board.

LOCAL ELECTION ACT 1986 15/182

Item 10  
The Board noted the contents of the communications with the Cabinet Office. Mrs O'Halloran and Mr Beale stated they had submitted their registration forms and had not received any confirmation of their receipt. The Board **AGREED** the Town Clerk would write to the Cabinet Office to ensure these documents had been received. Mr Jones stated the letters indicated a decision had been made to use the existing legislation in a different way and the required consultation had not taken place. The Board agreed to continue with a formal complaint to ensure this issue was properly investigated to ensure the lessons were learnt. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not note on this matter. DS

CONSULTATION ON THE TERROISM AND CRIME (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL 15/183

Item 11  
The Board **AGREED** not to oppose these proposals. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter. DS

2015

CONSULTATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT 15/184 Item 12  
The Board **AGREED** not to oppose these proposals. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter. DS

CONSULTATION ON PROPOSAL TO END AGE EXEMPTION FROM NATIONAL INSURANCE PAYMENTS 15/185 Item 13  
The Chairman stated this proposal was unfair and would not assist in the recruitment of experienced staff to businesses operating on the Island. Mrs Moughtin highlighted the difficulties and additional costs this would cause to self-employed persons. Mr Jones stated this was completely wrong and would place the Isle of Man residents in a worse position than neighbouring jurisdictions. The Board **AGREED** to object to this proposal. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter. DS

CONSULTATION ON NEW REGULATIONS FOR TABACCO BILL 15/186 Item 14  
The Board **AGREED** not to oppose these proposals. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS 15/187 Item 15  
The Board assessed a letter from a local resident to the Manx Utilities Authority to place the overhead electricity cables in Patrick Street underground. Mrs Moughtin stated the section of cables in Glenfaba Road were placed underground a number of years ago. Mr Lace stated the Electricity Authority had sought to place their equipment underground for many years in an uncoordinated way. The Board **AGREED** to send a letter of support to the Manx Utilities Authority. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter. DS

The Town Clerk stated an application was received from the Co-op to increase the loading hours on the bay in Derby Street car park while shop refurbishment works are taking place. The Board **AGREED** to a temporary extension to the hours of loading at this location. Mr. Beale and Mrs. O'Halloran did not vote on this matter. DS

Mrs O'Halloran reported the need to reinstate the street sign for Peveril Terrace.

Mr Lace requested the two bedroom and single bedroom lists are amalgamated. The Board agreed to assess this proposal for a forthcoming board meeting. DS

Mr Lace requested a white edge line at North View. DS

Mr Lace requested a ramp outside 2 Kerroo Coar by the Garages. DS

Mr Lace requested a new tap at 9 Close Chairn. DS

Mr Davison requested the bin area to the rear of the Wildlife shop is cleared to reduce the smell. DS

The Chairman requested the garage next to the Town Hall is painted. DS

The meeting ended at 8:31pm