

GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the general meeting held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on 1 March 2016 at 7:00pm.

Present Mr I. Davison (Deputy Chairman)
Miss K. Felton
Mr A. Jones
Mr D. Lace (attendance from 7:45pm)

Apologises Mrs C. Moughtin (Chairman)
Mrs J. O'Halloran
Mr E. Beale

In attendance Mr D. Sewell (Clerk to Commissioners)

Action

CHAIRMANS WELCOME 15/267 The Deputy Chairman welcomed the Board to the first meeting of March. He apologised for the low attendance at the meeting which resulted in the Board not being quorate until the arrival of Mr Lace. In the meantime, the Board would receive updates on the matters arising.

ITEM 1 MINUTES 15/268 Mr Jones **agreed** the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2016. The other Board members stated they could not agree the minutes because they were not present. The Town Clerk was asked to contact the Board members present to obtain confirmation the minutes were accurate.

ITEM 2 MATTERS ARISING 15/269 Item 15/237 Election Act
The Town Clerk reported a second reminder letter was sent to the Chief Secretary asking for a response to the five specific legal questions asked by the Commissioners for their 15 March 2016 meeting. Unfortunately, a response had not been received to date. Mr Jones stated if the Board do not receive a response to this reasonable request they should contact the press, complain to the Civil Service or seek to raise the matter in Tynwald.

Item 15/256 Planning Application
The Board noted a communication stating the Commissioners did not oppose planning applications 16/00091/B, and 16/00123/B had

been sent to the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture.

Item 15/262 34 Market Street

The Board noted a communication stating the Commissioners continued to object to planning application 15/01236/B was sent to the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture and the applicant.

Item 15/263 Royal Manx Show Application to Use Barrier

The Board noted a communication approving the use of the Commissioners barriers for the Royal Manx Show was sent to the organisers. The Town Clerk reported the he had received a letter thanking the Commissioners from the organisers. The Deputy Chairman asked the Clerk to ensure any barriers damaged during the event are to be replaced by the organiser.

Item 15/263 Classic Scooter Application to Use Peel Hill

The Board noted a communication approving in principle the use of Peel Hill was sent to the organisers of this event. The Town Clerk reported he had received a letter thanking the Commissioners from the organiser and an undertaking to liaise with the Commissioners precise details of the event when they were developed.

Item 15/263 Civic Sundays Michael, Ballaugh, and Castletown Commissioners

The Board noted the Chairman had attended Michael Commissioners Civic Sunday, the Town Clerk had attended Ballaugh Civic Sunday and the Town Clerk had accepted the invitation from Castletown Commissioners on behalf of the Chairman.

Item 15/265 Private Members Neighbourhood Planning Bill

The Board noted a communication expressing the Commissioners support for the principle of local involvement in planning matters and their concerns relating to duplication of local authority functions, the lack of democratic accountability of the forums and the forums vulnerability to single issue focus groups was sent to Mr Cregeen MHK. Mr Jones reported Mr Cregeen MHK had attended the Municipal Association meeting to discuss his

Neighbourhood Planning Bill and Castletown Commissioners had reiterated the Boards concerns relating to the forums being influenced by a small number of persons with a single interest. Mr Cregeen MHK had highlighted problems to the Municipal Association with the current planning enforcement arrangements because no government officers or Department would take action on the Poachers Pocket site where the Silverburn River flow was being restricted. Mr Jones reported Ramsey Commissioners had proposed an informal review by the local authorities to assess the benefits and concerns relating to this proposed new legislation. The Deputy Chairman stated more consultation with local authorities was required on larger developments. Mr Jones supplied documentation from Maughold Commissioners which highlighted issues interested parties including local authorities should take into consideration when assessing planning applications. The Deputy Chairman stated he had attended planning appeals with little evidence or supporting evidence to justify the local authority's assessment of an application which had reduced their effectiveness in arguing the Commissioners' case. Miss Felton agreed. The Town Clerk stated the proposal to adopt this documentation was a notice of motion which if supported by a seconder would be deferred to the next Board meeting. Mr Jones proposed the documentation is considered at the next Board meeting and Miss Felton seconded this notice of motion.

RECREATION
ITEMS

15/270

5 Peel Regeneration

In the absence of Mr Lace the Deputy Chairman asked the Town Clerk to provide an update on the Peel Regeneration Scheme.

The Town Clerk reported approval was given by the Chief Minister's Regeneration Steering group last week for the construction of the regeneration works in Market Place and Douglas Street. The Town Clerk stated the works in Michael Street would not take part as part of these works. A drop in session for retailers with the Department of Infrastructure and their contractor was planned for tomorrow between 2pm and 7pm at the Town Hall. The Town Clerk had written to the retailers affected by these works and invited them to the drop in

session. Board member were welcome to attend the drop in session should this be of interest to them. The Deputy Chairman reported he had received complaints concerning access, dust and the duration of the works. The Deputy Chairman believed although the works would be disruptive the Market Place was the right place to start and Michael Street should be done. Mr Jones stated once the works were completed it would attract people into the town. It was disappointing the proposals had been watered down to omit Michael Street. Mr Jones believed all parties need to work together including businesses to create a long term change in the appearance of the retail area. Miss Felton stated the businesses were aware of the grants for painting their frontages and there had been little interest in this initiative or the local Chamber of Trade meetings. The Deputy Chairman stated regeneration had to start somewhere and we need to start the works to see if the benefits are delivered. While the works are in progress we need to seek to get regeneration funding for Michael Street and Atholl Place. He believed the Commissioners need to encourage the traders to decorate and renovate their properties. Mr Jones and Miss Felton agreed and hope the meeting tomorrow would assist in reducing the disruption while the works take place.

Mr Lace attended the meeting at 7:45 pm and apologised for his late attendance. The Deputy Chairman provided a quick update on the regeneration work to Mr Lace. Mr Lace stated he believed the funding could be better spent on a new sewerage treatment works for Peel. The Town Clerk explained the difference in funding arrangements for capital infrastructure works such as the sewerage treatment works and the regeneration initiative. The Board requested the local member for the House of Keys should seek funding for the regeneration of Michael Street and Atholl Place.

The Deputy Chairman returned to agenda item 3

HOUSING ITEMS

15/271

Item 3 Planning Applications

The Board did not oppose planning applications 16/000190/B, 16/00144/B and 16/00091/B (amended drawings). The Board did not oppose planning application

16/00165/D subject to the relocated sign not obscuring visibility from the road junction.
Item 4 Planning Decision Notified.

The Board agreed to take no further action on planning applications 16/00036/B, 15/00972/B and 16/00023/B.

RECREATION
ITEMS

15/272

Item 5 Peel Regeneration

The Deputy Chairman reported this item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Item 6 2016 Easter Festival of Running

The Board noted the contents of the communication received from the Manx Harriers and **agreed** to support the application from the organiser to use Peel Hill, provide keys for the Peel Hill gateway and to allow the location of the starter/finish trailer on Commissioners land between 25 and 27 March 2016.

Item 7 Scout Association

The Town Clerk reported he had received a request from the Scout Association concerning events in Peel for the Isle of Man and North West Scout Association Board including the possible use of the campsite. The Board **agreed** in principle to support the Scout Associations events and to offer a discount should they wish to camp on the Commissioners site.

Item 8 Isle of Man Cycling Association Youth Tour

The Town Clerk declared a family interest in this matter. The Board noted the contents of the letter and **agreed** to support this application for road closures and one way orders on 30 April 2016.

Item 9 Manx National Rally

The Deputy Chairman declared an interest in this matter through his involvement in this event. The Town Clerk reported the event did not enter Peel and the Board noted the contents of the letter.

Item 10 Malew Civic Sunday

The Board noted the contents of the communication received from Malew Commissioners and **agreed** Mr Lace would represent the Commissioners at this event on 6 March 2016 at 3:00pm.

Item 11 Cathedral Procession Application

The Board noted the contents of the communication received from the Dean of the Cathedral and **agreed** to support the application for a procession from the organiser on Peel Harbour footbridge, Castle Street, Market Place, Michael Street and Atholl Street on Sunday 20 March 2016.

Item 12 Royal Artillery Baton

Mr Jones stated it was very important Peel was selected for this ceremony and it would take approximately 20 minutes. The Baton would be travelling around the Island and then would be taken to Northern Ireland. Mr Jones made a requested for the Baton to be met by a member of the Commissioners on 9 May 2016. The Board **agreed** to support this event and to officially meet the baton. He Deputy Chairman asked Mr Jones to pass on his offer of ice cream to those involved.

FINANCE AND
GENERAL ITEMS

15/273

Item 13 Consultation on Road Transport Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2016

The Board **agreed** the Town Clerk should circulate his response to Board members.

Item 14 Consultation, In Principle, on the Introduction of Greater Identification Verification Measures at Harbours.

The Board noted the content of Department of Home Affairs' consultation documents. Mr Jones stated there was a gaping hole in the Island's security. Historically the Police had observed entry at the Ports because it is useful to see who is entering and leaving. This function was handed to Port staff who are not adequately resourced or trained. Miss Felton stated vehicles entering the Port were seldom checked and this area of security was weak. The Deputy Chairman stated he was pleased the Department had listened to the Chief Constable's views on this matter. They check foot passengers and do not check car passengers or their vehicles. Mr Jones stated government was losing sight of its obligations to monitor import and exports on boats and catching drugs entering the Island. The Deputy Chairman stated the security of United Kingdom ports was an area for concern. The Board **agreed** the Town Clerk should provide this information to the Department of Home

Affairs.

Item 15 Petition Acceptance 1 to 12 Close
Chairn External Refurbishment

The Board members not present at the last Board meeting noted the contents of the letter from the Department of Infrastructure confirm acceptance of the Commissioners petition for the costs of these refurbishment works.

Item 16 Commercial Waste Gate Fee 1 April
2016

The Board members not present at the last Board meeting noted the contents of the letter from the Department of Infrastructure confirm the costs would not been increased from 1 April 2016.

ITEM 17 ANY
OTHER BUSINESS

15/274

Mr Jones reported he had attended the last Municipal Association meeting and had raised his concerns about the lack of a response on the Election Act issue with other local authorities. Miss Felton highlighted the number of vehicles parked on East Quay from the car retail outlet. The Town Clerk reported the Commissioners would be able to undertake on street enforcement in the near future.

Miss Felton requested future agendas are place on Peel online in addition to the Commissioners notice boards.

Mr Lace reported tenants were facing additional financial difficulties through the increased costs of living, Government service costs and rent. The Deputy Chairman stated the Isle of Man is not as affluent as the Government believe. The community often covers these matters up through organised charity work and informal initiatives such as recycling school uniforms and other items of clothing.

The Town Clerk reminded members a meet the Commissioners event was scheduled for 7:30pm on 16 March 2016 at the Centenary Centre.

The Town Clerk asked for volunteers for the Commissioners' surgery on 12 March 2016. Mr Jones volunteered to attend.

The meeting ended at 8:20pm

