

GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the general meeting held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on 5 April 2016 at 7:00pm.

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

In attendance Mr D. Sewell (Clerk to Commissioners)

Action

CHAIRMANS WELCOME	15/281	The Chairman welcomed the Board to the penultimate meeting of the current Board and the first meeting in April. The Chairman thanked the Board members not standing in the forthcoming local election for their services and stated it had been a pleasure working with this Board. She wished the members who were standing well and vowed to continue to take forward agreed initiatives if she was successful in her bid for re-election. The Chairman congratulated Peel Football Club on their success at the weekend winning the Association Cup.
ITEM 1 MINUTES	15/282	The Board agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2016. Mr Jones proposed and the Mr Lace seconded this item.
ITEM 2 MATTERS ARISING	15/283	Item 15/237 Election Act The Board noted the content of the Chief Secretaries letter dated 30 March 2016. Mr Jones stated the cabinet office is refusing to tell us what vires they have to remove person's names from the electoral role which causes by-elections in other local authorities. They need to say what lawful basis they have removed a person's right to vote. Miss Felton stated all they have said in the letter is they will not answer our questions. Mr Jones proposed writing to the Chief Secretary and Chief Minister to seek an answer to their questions. The Board unanimously agreed with this course of action.

Item 15/269 Planning Application

The Board noted a communication stating the Commissioners did not oppose planning applications 16/00225/B, 16/00253/B and 16/00269/B had been sent to the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture.

15/272 Royal Artillery Baton

Mr Jones reported he had received no further information on the arrangements for the Royal Artillery baton on 9 May 2016. The Town Clerk reported the organisers were visiting the Island on 6 April to plan the event and were scheduled to visit Peel. A further update would be provided to the Board when information was available.

15/273 Consultation in Principle on the Introduction of Greater Identification Verification Measures at Harbours

The Town Clerk reported he had submitted the Commissioners response to the Department of Home Affairs.

15/280 Well Being Workshop

The Town Clerk reported he had replied to the request for input into the Peel regeneration scheme and had advised EcoVannin to contact the Department of Infrastructure who were responsible for this project.

15/280 Fuel Poverty

The Town Clerk reported he had found the letters from 2015 relating to the new payment system for domestic gas. He was unable to find any further communications in the filing system relating to fuel poverty or costs. Mr Jones believed the communications were linked to above inflation cost of living increases associated with the provision of government services and rents. Mr Lace stated social housing means testing would go a long way to resolve this problem and Government need to get on with this. Mr Jones stated means testing will not provide a complete solution however, the rent system was not equitable. Mr Lace stated lots of charges have been passed on to the low paid and our tenants are suffering. The Office of Fair Trading are failing to ensure monopoly fuel providers are kept in line with United Kingdom prices. He stated competition between oil providers had kept these prices lower on the

Island. The Deputy Chairman referred to a recent media release in which the Treasury Minister had stated he could not define those in poverty.

HOUSING ITEMS 15/284

Item 3 Planning Applications

The Board did not oppose planning applications 16/00311/B, 16/00325/B, 16/00333/B, 16/00336/B, 16/00338/B, 16/00355/B, and 15/01301/B.

Item 4 Planning Decision Notified.

The Board agreed to take no further action on planning application 16/00144/B.

RECREATION ITEMS 15/285

Item 5 Peel Regeneration

The Town Clerk reported minor difficulties had been experienced with the traffic management in the first two days of the closure and this had settled down as the public became accustomed to the work. The Chairman advised this was an opportunity to discuss the progress of the scheme and any major difficulties which had been encountered. The Board did not raise any matters associated with the progress of the work.

Item 6 Tynwald Garden Party

The Board noted the content of the invitation to the garden party and asked the Town Clerk to respond on behalf of the Commissioners.

Item 7 Peel RNLI

The Board noted the contents of the communication received from Peel RNLI to hold a street collection on 9 June 2016 when the sand racing is in progress. The Board **approved** this application.

FINANCE AND GENERAL ITEMS 15/286

Item 8 Condition of East Quay

The Deputy Chairman highlighted the poor condition of East Quay and stated he had reported this to the Department of Infrastructure. Mrs Reynolds had stated a concrete repair was planned from the Swing Bridge to the House of Manannan later this year. This work had a life expectancy of 2 to 3 years and when the Manx Utility Authority completed their sewerage works in the town a permanent repair would be completed to the road on East Quay. The Deputy Chairman advised he had received assurance from the Chairman of Manx Utilities these works would be completed as soon as possible.

Item 9 Grass Cutting Ballawattleworth and

Reayrt Ny Keylley Estate

The Town Clerk reported the Commissioners advocates had received the adoption paperwork from the developer earlier today. This would be reviewed by the Commissioners staff.

ITEM 8 ANY OTHER 15/287
BUSINESS

Mr Jones reported Dr Crouch had attended the Municipal Association meeting as Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health and Social Care. He was very honest concerning the issues facing his Department which was refreshing. Dr Crouch would be happy to meet to the commissioners if invited. Mr Jones reported many of the long standing members of the Municipal Association would be standing down at this election and he wished to record Peel Town Commissioners thanks for their service on this body.

Miss Felton requested the Commissioners contact the Department of Education and Children to seek support for French and German volunteers to come to assist in language teaching in Peel Schools.

Miss Felton suggested the Commissioners should consider a real life table football event in Peel in the future which was low cost and was good fun.

Mr Lace raised concerns about the electoral role changing part way through the nomination period which had caused him difficulties when one of his nominees was not on the 1 April 2016 register.

Mr Lace asked if the volley ball net could be installed on the beach and requested an update on the progress of a new longer term lease for beach kiosk.

The Chairman reported she was standing at the forthcoming local election and proposed the Town Clerk should fulfil the role of returning officer. The Board **agreed** to this proposal.

The meeting ended at 7:30pm