

GARFF PARISH DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 5th April 2017, 7.00 pm

Present: Mr R. Moughtin (RM) (Vice Chairman),
Mrs M. Fargher (MF), Mr P. Kinnish (PK), Mr. T. Kenyon (TK), Mrs J. Pinson (JPN),
Mr L. Miller (LM),
In Attendance: Mr P. Burgess (PB) Clerk. Mr M. Royle (MR) Deputy Clerk/RFO,
Mrs Julie Peel (JPL) Housing Manager,
Apologies: Mr N. Dobson (ND) (Chairman), Mr J. Quayle (JQ), Mr. S. Clague, (SC).

253/16 *Meeting commenced at 7.00 am. **RM** welcomed a member of the public and, Mr Andrew Cooper, the General Secretary of the Manx NFU who had asked to discuss the unauthorised helicopter pad development at Corony Bridge. Consequently this item was moved forward on the agenda.*

Corony Bridge unauthorised development – Clerk to update Commissioners.
*Mr Cooper outlined the resident’s concerns with the development and its intended use from an agricultural perspective. These concerns being animal welfare and public safety. The pad was within 6 metres of a main road and adjacent to fields with livestock. The immediate concern was that it would be used in the next few days. Mr Cooper outlined the potential impact of close aircraft movement on the livestock, particularly if cattle bolted, etc. There followed discussion of other health and safety concerns including the proximity of a bus stop, pedestrians passing traffic on a main Highway, overhead electricity cables, adjacent residential properties including a close packed housing estate. Other environmental impacts such as noise were also discussed. MR advised that several government agencies had been alerted, including DEFA Planning Enforcement, DEFA H&S, The Police, Highways, Bus Vannin, etc. It was noted that when an aircraft landed on the helipad at Nobles Hospital the road was closed; this indicated that there was potential danger when such aircraft landed adjacent to the highway, traffic and pedestrians. It was felt that as a minimum the residents of Corony and those passing by deserved at least the same protections as visitors to the hospital. Members asked if the Garff MHKs had been informed of the unauthorised development and passed comment to the Commissioners. The clerks reported that they had been made aware of the situation. **JP** raised concerns regarding the effect of the downdraught on those stood at the bus stop or passing by. **RM** proposed close consultation with the residents. It was agreed that the views and concerns of residents would be represented in the strongest terms to government. The clerks advised that the Commissioners had submitted a complaint to the Planning Authority and the matter was now the subject of an investigation by Planning Enforcement. As a consequence, the resident of Ain Chea had advised that a retrospective planning application was being prepared. It was agreed that a letter should be drafted and sent to relevant government departments such as DEFA, the Director of Civil Aviation and to MHKs including the two Garff Members expressing the Commissioners’ concerns with the landing of aircraft in this residential location. The clerks were instructed in this regard.*

Guest **Laxey Village Way marking** – Richard Henthorn to brief Commissioners on way marking, maps and interpretation to be provided as part of the regeneration scheme.
*Mr Henthorn outlined the proposals for signage and interpretation information in the Village. The intention was to elevate the ‘tourism experience’ for visitors. The initial signs and displays would be funded from the Regeneration Budget. ‘Finger Posts’ would be installed on Mines Road, at the Station and in the Square. These would include information on direction and walking times to various facilities. **Mr Henthorn, PB and LM**, would be co-ordinating the project in conjunction with the Regeneration Committee.*

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| 248/16 | Planning Matters | |
| | Planning Applications | |
| a) | PA 17/00306/B - Hillcrest Cottage Old Laxey Hill Laxey, IM4 7BZ. Alterations including raising of rear lean to roof and installation of window and roof lights. No Objection. | |
| b) | PA 16/01210/B – Methodist Sunday School, Glen Road, Laxey, IM4 7AH. Conversation of property to provide residential accommodation creation of first floor, new vehicular access and external alteration to provide parking. Further amended plans received. Note: The case officer has stated the amendments are for information only and do not require a response. Noted. | |
| c) | PA 16/01312/B – Berwyn, South Cape, Laxey, IM4 7JA. Replacement of existing dwelling with two detached dwellings including adjustment of existing access. Amended plans received. <i>The Clerks were instructed to re-iterate the previous concerns with this application and to register further concern with the additional proposal for a pedestrian entrance to one of the properties which would entail further sections of the assistance handrail to be removed.</i> | |
| | Approval Notices (DoI Planning Committee) <i>The following matters (248/16 e – o) were noted. No further instruction was given.</i> | |
| e) | PA 17/00095/B – Ballacowin Farm, Glen Roy, Lonan - Erection of an agricultural building. | |
| f) | PA 17/00140/B – Ballachrink Moar Farm, Ramsey Road, Lonan - Erection of an Agricultural building. | |
| g) | PA 17/00008/B - Westroyd, Ramsey Road, Laxey - Alterations and extension. | |
| h) | PA 17/00137/C – Thie-Ma-Chree, Fairy Cottage, Laxey - Change of use application for additional use of residential property as self-catering tourist accommodation. | |
| i) | PA 17/00159/C – Creative Juices, Juicy Shedquarters, Laxey Promenade - Change of use application for additional use of existing juice kitchen to Class 1 and takeaway. | |
| j) | PA 17/00194/B – Goods Yard, Manx Electric Railway, Laxey – Alterations and installation of exhibits. | |
| k) | PA 16/00805/B - Deepdale Complex, Glen Road, Laxey - Alterations and erection of extension to provide two apartments for tourist accommodation with assoc. parking. | |
| l) | PA 16/01210/B – Methodist Sunday School, Glen Road, Laxey, IM4 7AH. Conversation of property to provide residential accommodation creation of first floor, new vehicular access and external alteration to provide parking. | |
| | Refusal Notices (DoI Planning Committee) | |
| m) | Nil | |
| | Appeal Notices (DoI Planning Committee) | |
| n) | Nil | |
| | Planning Enforcement (DoI Planning and Building Control) | |
| o) | Nil | |
| 249/16 | Approval of Minutes | |
| a) | Minutes of the meeting held on 15 th March 2017 for approval. <i>These were agreed to be a correct record. Proposed LM, Seconded MF. Resolved.</i> | |
| 250/16 | Matters Arising & Other Business | |

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| a) | <p>PK asked if there had been any further progress with the Mines Road streetlight replacement Project. PB advised that Manx Utilities were progressing the project. He pointed out the difference between the various stylistic options. It was</p> <p>RM asked about the proposal from the MUA to have the old mercury bulbed lamp heads with second-hand units sourced from another local authority. These would be used to upgrade the streetlighting across the whole of Garff. MR suggested that it would also be useful to investigate the cost of a similar scheme utilising LED lights. It was agreed that the clerks should contact the MUA and provide information on the various options and their cost.</p> | clerks |
| b) | JPN asked when the Department was intending to paint the newly ordered double yellow lines outside Glen Roy Cottages at the bottom of Old Laxey Hill as cars parked in this location were causing difficulties to through traffic. The clerks were instructed to contact the Department in this regard. | Clerks |
| c) | MR reported on a question raised by a resident in regard to provision of tickets for the swimming pool in Ramsey. It had been ascertained that tickets were issued to those classes in the northern cluster schools, including Dhoon, who did not currently receive formal swimming lessons. This meant that the tickets were available to Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 students at the school. Noted. | |
| d) | PK asked whether contact had been made with DoI in regard to the condition of the DoI depot on Glen Road. PB reported that this had not been done as yet, but that correspondence would be sent in the coming days. | clerks |
| e) | Changes to the Divisional structure of the Department of Infrastructure from April 2017 – Letter dated 3 rd April 2017, advising that following the retirement of the Director of Estates Shared Services, the Housing Division and Estate Shared Service Division are merging to form the “ Public Estates and Housing Division ”. The Director is Diane Reeves. <i>This matter was noted.</i> | |
| 251/16 | General Correspondence | |
| a) | Area Plan for the East Consultation – Date for submissions extended from 21 st April to 26 th May 2017. <i>Noted. The sub-committee investigating this matter would report in due course.</i> | |
| b) | Glen Road Sports Facilities – Laxey Football Club secretary emails with update on proposals for a sports hall. PB outlined that the secretary had been in contact with the planning officer. Initial advice had included a suggestion due to the proximity of any leisure development that the owner of the property ‘Vannin House’ was contacted and briefed. | |
| c) | Rose Garden Lease – Amended lease between Department of Infrastructure and Garff Commissioners, commencing 1 st April 2015, for a period of 21 years, with a rent of £20 per annum. Noted. | |
| d) | Victorian Tea at Cooil Roi – Thursday 6 th April at 2.30pm - all welcome. Noted. | |
| 252/16 | Committee Reports | |
| a) | Municipal Association – RM reported that he was looking for a speaker for the AGM. | |
| b) | Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust – TK reported that the Trust was fully supportive of the Lonan Church Project. | |
| c) | Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities – ntr | |
| d) | Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee – ntr | |
| e) | Northern Neighbourhood Policing Team Community Partnership meeting - ntr | |
| f) | Regeneration Committee – item covered at 253/16 Guest. | |
| g) | Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – ntr | |
| h) | Northern Civic Amenity Site – RM reported that the northern boards were now operating the site. The agreement setting out how the committee would operate had been agreed and | |

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| | <i>was signed by RM at the meeting. RM reported that an inventory of plant and machinery left at the site by DoI had now been received.</i> | |
| i) | Northern Swimming Pool Board - ntr | |
| j) | Northern Area Housing steering group - ntr | |
| k) | Northern Sheltered Housing Committee – MF <i>briefed members on progress with new proposals for the Mayfield Site in Ramsey.</i> | |
| l) | Eastern Area Housing steering group - ntr | |
| m) | Waste Management Steering Group - ntr | |
| n) | Waste Management Working Group – ntr | |
| o) | Works and Amenities – <i>The clerks briefed members on progress with various projects in the Sheading, including Maughold Village toilets, the Camp Site shower-block, the promenade play area, and the proposals for play equipment. These matters were Noted.</i> | |
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| 253/16 | Officers Reports | |
| a) | Christ Church, Lonan. <i>PB circulated a briefing statement in regard to the proposal from Mr Pass for the Commissioners to become involved with the Lonan Burial Authority and use of the Church Building. This outlined the legislation and how monies raised on the rates by the burial authority could be used currently. It was noted that Mrs Caine was making enquiries with the Attorney General in regard to the proposals. There followed a brief discussion of the future of all six churches across Garff.</i> | |
| b) | Corony Bridge unauthorised development – Clerks to update Commissioners. <i>These matters were discussed at the beginning of the meeting (see above).</i> | |
| c) | Cool Roi Sheltered Housing – JPL to report. <i>JPL advised that Bus Vannin were to investigate moving a bus stop to the opposite side of the bridge from the Woolen Mill. This would allow easier access as there was less of an incline. Bus Vannin would also look to change the timings of the number 13 bus prior to the release of the next timetable later in the year. The Dementia Training Day will take place at the WMI in Laxey on the 26th of April. The session lasts an hour, but for flexibility, two sessions will be offered, one from 9.15 am and one from 10.30 am. A DVD will also be available for JPL to conduct further training in the future. A press release will be circulated following the training. Local businesses and retail outlets would be sending representatives to the sessions. The railings at Cool Roi on the landings and on internal staircases do not comply with current requirements. JPL has sought three quotations for works to make the railings compliant with current legislation. JPL will contact the Chairman for an emergency decision once the three quotes are received.</i> | JPL |
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| 254/16 | Health and Safety / Maintenance Matters MR reported that there had been no incidents in the last three weeks. Two members of staff had attended a full day 'Managing Safety' course along with one of the refuse contractor's crew members. | |
| a) | Health and Safety Feedback Report on Authority Operations – <i>no matters discussed.</i> | |
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| 255/16 | In Private – Correspondence -ntr | |
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| 257/16 | Chairman's Report -ntr | |
| 258/16 | Any Other Business | |
| a) | Kirk Michael Chippy – Letter dated 4 th April 2017, requesting permission to relocate to Coach Park on Mines Road, every Tuesday 1600 till 2030hrs. | |

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| | <i>This matter was discussed in detail. It was agreed to issue a licence for 12 months with conditions on dates, times and a clause indicating that the Commissioners have the right to terminate the licence should circumstances change.</i> | |
| b) | MF advised that a lecture talk was to take place about Sophia Goulden by Dr Helen Pankhurst on Friday April 21 st 5.30 pm tickets £10.00 to include wine and canape reception. Further details via the Commissioners' Office. All proceeds to the charity. | |
| c) | PK sought clarification on the Mines Road Lighting Scheme. He was advised that the MUA were taking this forward through the planning stage. | |
| d) | PK asked about the Laxey Visitor Guide. PB reported that it was being updated and would be reprinted in due course. | |
| 256/16 | In Private <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New External Doors at Coil Roi – A discussion took place and an order for 12 doors was approved. 2. The clerks briefed Members regarding ongoing investigations into the performance of a contractor. Further discussion would take place in due course. | |
| | Meeting Closed at 10.04 pm. | |
| | Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 19 th April 2017 | |

