

GARFF PARISH DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday 6th September 2017, 7.00 pm

Minutes

Present: Mr S. Clague, Mr N. Dobson, Mrs M. Fargher, Mr T Kenyon, Mr P. Kinnish, Mr L. Miller, Mr R. Moughtin, Mrs J. Pinson, Mr. J. Quayle.
Officers: Mr P. Burgess, Clerk, Mr M. Royle, Deputy Clerk/RFO.
Two Members of the Public were in attendance.

Apologies: Mrs Julie Peel (JPL), Housing Manager.

ND declared the meeting open at 7.03 pm.

69/17 Planning Applications.

a)	17/00894/B - Claghbane Plantation Field 624002 , A18 Mountain Rd, Creation of additional children's play provision and creation of/amendments to existing paths and access. <i>Support was expressed by several Members for these proposals. No objections raised.</i>	clerk
b)	17/00736/B - Ainchea, Corony Bridge , Creation of hardstanding to serve as a helipad, with associated footpath and landscaping (retrospective) – additional tree survey. <i>MF advised that the survey proposed that the trees are inspected before every landing and take-off. The practicalities and potential difficulties of this were discussed. JQ stated that the health and safety concerns of local residents and highway users were being dismissed by government. Members agreed that this was unacceptable and was because there was no adequate safety legislation in place on the Isle of Man in regard to aircrafts operating in residential areas. The clerk was instructed to respond to the detail in the tree survey.</i>	clerk
c)	17/00891/B - Field 621454 Ballajora Crossing , Erection of stables. <i>The location of the stable in the field was questioned. The clerk was instructed to request that the planning officer consider if this were the most appropriate site in terms of distance from the field entrance and visual impact on the immediate area.</i>	clerk
d)	17/00889/C - Agricultural Building, Ballacojeen Farm , Ballagawne Road, Baldrine, Additional use of agricultural building as a machine repair workshop. <i>It was noted that this change of use was for a commercial operation linked to the agricultural sector. Any rating alterations would be addressed once the plans were approved. There were no objections.</i>	clerk
e)	17/00864/C - Pinfold Cottage, Pinfold Hill , Various change of use applications on accommodations. <i>There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
f)	17/00866/B - Thie-my-Chree South Cape , Replacement of existing polycarbonate annex with tiled roof. <i>There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
g)	17/00865/B - Geay Vooar, Dreemskerry , Replacement of existing glazed conservatory roof with tiles. <i>There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
h)	17/00913/B - Riversdale, Glen Roy , creation of wall, pillar and pedestrian access (retro.) <i>It was noted that this wall replaced an earlier stone structure that had failed and would be finished with cement render. There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
i)	17/00919/B - Farm House, Ballamoar , alterations and extension to provide additional living accommodation. <i>The visual impact of the extension and the rise in roof height were considered. There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
j)	17/00715/B - 10 All Saints Park , 2 storey extension to side of property – amended plans.	

	<i>The additional 'Juliet balcony' at the rear was noted. The impact on neighbouring properties was considered, but this was felt to be minimal. There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
k)	17/00932/B Glenwood, Glen Road, Laxey , Alterations, driveway works, installation of replacement windows, roof lights, and erection of fencing. <i>PK asked for clarification of the types of window that were to be installed. The style was noted. There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
l)	17/00927/B – Briardale, Main Road, Baldrine , Erection of Decking to rear elevation, (retrosteptive). <i>There were no objections to this application.</i>	clerk
	Approval Notices (DoI Planning Committee)	
h)	17/00692/D - Filling Station, New Road, Laxey , installation of illuminated and non-illuminated signage – Approved 30.08.17 (including condition refusing permission for the signage on eastern facing gable). <i>Noted.</i>	
i)	17/00734/B - Marrinagh, Ballajora Hill , Alterations and extension to provide additional living accommodation – Approved 17.08.17. <i>Noted.</i>	
	Refusal Notices (DoI Planning Committee) - ntr	
70/17	Approval of Minutes	
a)	Approval of minutes of the meeting of 16 th August 2017. <i>These were agreed to be a correct record. Proposed JPN. Seconded MF.</i>	
71/17	Matters Arising & Other Business	
a)	All Saints Church, Lonan – feedback from meeting with Mr. McCusker, DOI Senior Project Manager. PB declared an intrest and withdrew for the duration of the discussion. <i>ND advised that Mr Aidan McCusker, Senior Project Manager from DoI had met with SC, ND, Tony Pass and MR at the church. Mr McCusker had toured the building and had been briefed on the proposals. He had advised he would speak to his colleagues in the Department and advise the Commissioners on the requirements of the local authority petition process. MR advised that he had contacted the Department earlier that day, but Mr McCusker would not be in a position to feedback until at least the 14th of September. These matters were noted.</i>	
b)	Proposal for a ' Market Event ' on the Laxey Village Square. <i>MR advised that investigations with the interested parties were ongoing. DOI had no objection as tenenats, but had requested that the Commissioners also speak to the landowner directly. MR to liaise and report back. PK asked if there was a Regeneration Committee meeting planned. There followed several expressions of concern that the Regeneration Project had not been finished and the reluctance of government officers to attend meetings was noted. Martyn Perkins MHK, Chair of the Regeneration Committee, who was attending as a member of the public advised that there was no meeting planned. SC asked if a meeting of local members could be convened. Mr Perkins said he would investigate the possibility.</i>	clerk
c)	Laxey traffic issues - update on SID speed sign deployment by the Commissioners, and DOI's intention to install Double Yellow Lines on Ramsey Road. <i>MR reported that the new SID signs had operated for almost three weeks at the Ard Reayrt location without a hitch. The data would be downloaded and analysed and any further action considered. They had been moved to locations on the A2 in Baldrine and close to the Church Road, Lonan Junction. It was hoped that the double yellow lines would be installed by DOI during the autumn.</i>	
d)	<i>PK brought in the memorial stone that he had had produced in memory of Mr Raymond Clague. The consensus was that this would form a very appropriate and fitting memorial once installed on</i>	

	<i>Laxey Promenade. Members thanked PK for organising its production. The Commissioners maintenance team would install the memorial as soon as possible.</i>	
e)	<i>MF asked if any further communication had been entered into in regard to the operation of Kirk Michael Chippy on a Tuesday evening. SC declared an interest and left the meeting for the duration of the discussion. PB advised that the outlet had not been in Laxey during MGP as agreed. There followed discussion of the times of arrival at the site. It was agreed that the clerks should monitor this prior to the meeting on the 20th September to ensure that the outlet was being operated in accordance with the terms of his licence. When the discussion ended, SC was asked to rejoin the meeting.</i>	
72/17	General correspondence	
a)	Public Service Commission – notification of annual pay settlement – 2.3% - to discuss the implications for the authority. <i>The implications for the authority were discussed. These were noted.</i>	
b)	Mrs Patricia Newton – correspondence dated 16.08.17 regarding the new bridge in Laxey. <i>This concerned matters regarding access for boat traffic under the bridge, the old steps which have been removed, and the visual character of the bridge. The correspondence was read in full, its contents discussed, and noted.</i>	
c)	Resident – Correspondence in regard to tipped grass clippings at Laxey Football Club. <i>This matter was raised. PB advised that he had spoken to the football club and the matter would be addressed.</i>	
73/17	Committee Reports	
a)	Municipal Association – ntr	
b)	Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust – matters relating to liaison between the Trust and the Commissioners were discussed.	
c)	Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities – PB reported on an initial discussion with representatives of the body and the football club in regard to the proposal for a sports hall in Glen Road. Funding sources had been discussed. PB recommended a meeting of the sub-committee with the LGU. A business case would have to be made through the local authority petition process. RM felt that a meeting with the LGU was premature, a meeting of the sub-committee including representatives from the sports committees was more necessary in his opinion. JPN stated that the Commissioners must have a detailed examination of their finances to ensure the project was viable. JQ stated that as well as the grants that may be available a local authority loan would have to be taken out. RM questioned why a meeting of the sub-committee had not taken place yet. PB advised that the instruction from the Board was for the first meeting to be with the sports committees' representatives and the Commissioners' clerks with a view to gaining information for a subsequent meeting of the sub-committee. MF stated that the need for the facility must be fully investigated and proved. It was agreed that a full meeting of the sub-committee be arranged by the clerks. ND proposed that the clerks speak to Braddan Commissioners who had recently progressed through the petition process. This was also agreed. JPN asked if the cost of hiring similar facilities could be obtained. This was agreed.	clerk clerk clerk
d)	Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee – ntr	
e)	Northern Neighbourhood Policing Team Community Partnership meeting – ntr	
f)	Regeneration Committee – ntr	
g)	Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee - ntr	
h)	Northern Civic Amenity Site – RM reported that all was progressing well with only some small glitches with the telehandler which were being dealt with.	
i)	Northern Swimming Pool Board - ntr	
j)	Northern Area Housing steering group - ntr	

k)	Northern Sheltered Housing Committee - ntr	
l)	Eastern Area Housing steering group - <i>the recent press release announcing the shared public housing list was noted.</i>	
m)	Waste Management Steering Group – ntr	
n)	Cooil Roi Sub-Committee - PB <i>reported that the nuisance behaviour that had been reported last time had not repeated. The policy on pet ownership was discussed. No changes were agreed. JPN advised that the new Deputy Warden was fitting in well and making good progress.</i>	
74/17	Officer Reports	
a)	Health and Safety - PB <i>reported that a Health and Safety Training Session had taken place involving the majority of available staff. This was on encouraging a strong health and safety Culture at the heart of the organisation. Further discussions on H&S issues with the raft and at the campsite had also taken place with Ian Alder.</i>	
b)	Works and Amenities - RM <i>questioned the height to which the contractor had been cutting this year. MR to speak to the contractor and discuss any re-cuts that are necessary. JPN referred to the condition of the wet pour on the Promenade Play Area. MR advised that this would be dealt with week commencing 11th September 2017. Advice had been taken and on balance it was felt not necessary to close the play area at this stage. Situation to be closely monitored.</i>	clerk clerk
75/17	Staffing Matters – <i>to discuss staff appraisal process. JPN had raised this matter and introduced the discussion referring to the need for such a process particularly as the organisation was now more than a year old. There followed discussion of ways to proceed in the matter. SC proposed that an external independent appraiser be engaged. It was agreed that this could have advantages mutual to all parties, and that prices would be obtained from several companies and a report made to the Board.</i>	
76/17	Chairman's Report - ND <i>referred to the coverage in the press of his release regarding the maintenance of footpaths. It was agreed that a follow up letter requesting further dialogue be sent to the DoI Minister.</i>	
77/17	Any Other Business	
a)	To discuss purchase of a second 'Riverlynx Eliminator' Weed Spraying Lance. Cost, including a second battery, accessories and delivery: £574.20. <i>This matter was discussed in detail. This type of machine was preferable in terms of health and safety. The staff had undertaken the necessary training courses. It was resolved that the lance should be purchased. Proposed JPN. Seconded JQ.</i>	
b)	Proposal for ' Prash Laxaa ' The Great Laxey Brass Band Festival. MR <i>briefly outlined a proposal for an event in 2018 which was circulated. Members were asked to take this away for consideration at the next meeting.</i>	
c)	Pinfold Bus stop Fairy Cottage – Les Cannan of Bus Vannin advises that a new bus shelter has been ordered and following a recommendation by the IoM constabulary the Department would like to relocate the bus stop set back into the Pinfold. This would involve removing a section of wall and building a new wall around the bus shelter. <i>This was noted.</i> PK <i>asked if any progress had been made with the purchase of the land at Minorca Cross Roads to assist with moving the bus stop. MR reported that the landowner had not returned comment to the Commissioners to date and was perhaps still in hospital. MR to make follow-up enquiries during week commencing 11.09.17.</i>	

d)	<i>JPN advised about the potential dangers of the surface water drainage culverts at the 'Little Beach' area on Glen Road. She was concerned that someone could fall into the river via these channels. The Officers were instructed to investigate the possibility that iron grids be placed on them. It was noted that the area was of 'indeterminate' ownership.</i>	clerk
e)	<i>TK asked if road safety could be assessed on Pinfold Hill following the series of road accidents in recent weeks. He also asked if the sign could be re-installed at Croit e Quill. MR advised that Colas had been asked several times to do this. Another contractor would be considered.</i>	clerk
f)	<i>TK read a recent article from the UK Independent in regard to DNA testing for dogs. This was noted.</i>	
g)	PK raised the following issues for the clerks' attention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hedges at the football car park.</i> • <i>Safety of the Laxey Beach steps particularly at the harbour end.</i> • <i>Railings blocking the walkway at the far end of the prom. It was explained that these were there for H&S reasons.</i> • <i>Blocks left at Port Mooar.</i> • <i>The condition of the 35 New Road Office building. This would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. JPN suggested Members arrive at 6.30 prior to the meeting on the 20th of September for a tour of the building.</i> • <i>DoI tipping river stones on the beach.</i> <i>All these matters were noted.</i>	
h)	<i>RM asked why traffic cones had been placed across the road at the Promenade Shelter. PB reported that this matter had been dealt with and should not recur. RM asked if we had been advised of the Trials event over the previous weekend. PB advised that the Commissioners had received correspondence from the organisers had been made in the minutes of the meeting of the 3rd of May 2017.</i>	
i)	<i>ND requested an update on the planning applications for the play areas in Lonan. MR reported that the architect was submitting these to the Department within the next 48 hours.</i>	
78/17	Private Session	
	<i>PB made a statement in regard to the preparation of YE 2017 accounts.</i>	
	Staffing matter – <i>a matter in regard to PSC terms and conditions relating to an employee was discussed.</i>	
	Meeting Closed 9.38 pm	
	Date of next meeting:- Wednesday 20 th September 2017 7.00pm	