

LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

Mid Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 17th September 2014 10.00 am

Meeting Minutes

Present: Mrs R.Bate (Vice Chairman), Mr J James, Mr P Kinnish, Mr AJ Moore (Chairman), Mrs J Pinson.

In Attendance: Mr P. Burgess, Clerk.

Apologies: Mr P Hill Deputy Clerk,

- 60/14** Derek Serwell Department Infrastructure, Steven Stanley Regeneration Committee Secretary, Richard Henthorn, Regeneration Committee member, to update Commissioners on various aspects of the ongoing regeneration projects.

a) **AM** welcomed the guests to the meeting. **RH** circulated a report and briefed the Commissioners on the contents. The report summarised investigations and research carried out and provided recommendations for seating, litter bins and lighting on Laxey Tram Station. **RH** advised he had also met representatives of the Manx Electric Railway Society and presented options to them and a possible solution for the seating had been agreed. **RH** had a picture to hand of a bench made by a local company and advised made in a similar style to the 1920's rustic seating could be made. **RH** advised that if this was acceptable the MERS society may be willing to fund these. A discussion took place and it was agreed to instruct Dave Richards of Woodworks to manufacture a seat for trial. **JP** suggested the seats could be sponsored by local businesses and include an engraved wooden plaque. **DS** suggested that there should be a fall back option and that the second choice bench be considered as a backup if the trial bench was not acceptable. **RH** moved on to litter bins and ran through a number of options. The option acceptable to the MER society was a round type with slatted timber cladding and a flat rubber lid. A discussion took place in respect of hygiene issues and problems experience in other regeneration areas. **RH** to speak to David Richards reference bin designs. **RH** then moved to lighting and advised that the MER Society has said they would not object to concealed led lighting, however they would like to see the replica Edwardian lights removed before the track relay refurbished and reused. **RH** advised the MER Society had indicated they may be willing to fund this. **JP** proposed that art work could be installed along the wall at the rear of White House Close facing the station. **DS** presented the departments plans for the paved areas on the MER station, the Rose Garden, Square and Ribbon paving schemes, advising they were still planning to commence works in November with completion April 2015.

AM thanks the guests for attending.

58/14 Planning Matters

Planning Applications

- a)** Planning Application No 14/01013/B of 29.08.14 in respect of erection and operation of a cattery at Highfield, Stoney Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3686].

Resolved – To approve planning application 14/01013/B.

- b)** Planning Application No 14/01019/B of 01.09.14 in respect of alteration to rear annexe roof to create additional headroom at The Vale, Minorca Vale, Laxey. [LVC Ref:3687].

Resolved – To approve planning application 14/01019/B.

Approval Notices (DoLGE Planning Committee)

- c)** Nil.

Refusal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

- d)** Nil.

Appeal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

- e)** Planning Appeal Notice No 14/00797/B of 4th & 5th September 2014 in respect of appeal against refusal to allow removal of chimney at Springfield Cottage, Quarry Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3682] Approved by LVC.

Resolved to note planning appeal notice 14/00797/B.

Planning Enforcement (DLGE Planning and Building Control)

f) Nil.

Planning - other Correspondence

g) Nil.

59/14 Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 3rd September 2014 were examined for accuracy, and it was unanimously resolved they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by **RB**, Seconded by **JJ**

60/14 Matters arising out of the minutes 3rd September 2014.

a) Meeting Reference 57/14, item b). Deferred.

Tricia Roper e-mails at 1444 hours on 02.09.14 - The WI (Women's Institute) as a whole (UK/Wales/IOM/Jersey/Guernsey) will be celebrating its centenary year in 2015. As you will imagine there will be lots of events happening next year and plans have started here on the Island also. We currently have 30 WIs throughout the Island with over 700 members. Although the first WI in the Island started in 1950 we will all be celebrating when the WI first started in the UK/Wales, so as you can imagine we are looking for something that all our members could benefit from. I would like to enquire if it is possible for us to have a dedicated celebratory garden somewhere in Laxey and who would we speak to about this? We will be asking other councils around the Island to assist us also. We would eventually love to have a 'WI garden route' so that members could visit all gardens that were planted to celebrate 100 years of the WI. You may or may not know that we are a charity. Kind regards Tricia For and on behalf of IOM Federation of WIs.

A discussion took place and two options were suggested, these being the raised area at the south end of the Valley Gardens and an area on the Promenade Green adjacent to the children play area. Resolved – If suitable, Commissioners to offer an area at the southern end of the Valley Gardens.

b) Minute reference 47/14, item e).

The Clerk advised that the Department of Infrastructure Legislation Unit was currently drafting legislation that would make it easier for Local Authorities to make Traffic Orders for Car Park. The draft order template should be available for comment in the next few months.

RB reported that the Henry Bloom Noble Car Park was extremely busy at school dropping off time, a problem that may be exaggerated by a Bus Vannin not allowing reception children to travel on the bus unless accompanied by an older child or Adult. Resolved Clerk to contact Laxey school / Bus Vannin to seek clarification.

PB

RB

61/14 General Correspondence

a) Rachel.Bevan@gov.im e-mails at 1455 hours on 08.09.14 - Please be advised that the Cabinet Office have gone out to public consultation on their draft Equality Bill, the papers of which can be accessed via the web-link below:- <http://www.gov.im/ConsultationDetail.gov?id=454> Reference is made to Local Authorities in Section 50 of the draft Bill. Should you wish to submit any comments, could you please do so by post to [Anne Shimmin](mailto:Anne.Shimmin@gov.im) (External Relations Manager at the Cabinet Office, Government Office, Bucks Road, Douglas, IM1 3PN) or via e-mail equality@gov.im by no later than **14th November 2014.**

Resolved to note.

b) Rachel.Bevan@gov.im e-mails at 1611 hours on 08.09.14 - Please find attached a letter and attachments from Mrs Craig concerning the Local Authority Borrowing Framework Agreement, and the appointment of HSBC Bank.

Resolved to note.

- c) Vicky Hewison emails on 11.09.14, with details of Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust AGM. Please be advised that the **AGM** for the Trust will take place on **Thursday 9th October in the Lower Rooms of the Laxey Working Mens Institute.** We sincerely hope that you will be able to join us especially as Andrew Scarffe is giving us a presentation on his latest book " The railways and tramways of Laxey" immediately after the AGM. **A separate email will follow attaching the accounts for the Trust, agenda for the AGM, Chairmans report and Quiz Night form.**
Resolved – PK and JP to attend L&LHT AGM.
- d) Chris Robertshaw Minister for Policy and Reform, writes inviting the Chairman and Commissioners to attend a meeting to discuss the great debate, Tuesday 23rd September 2014 at 7.00 – 9.00pm, at Memorial Hall, Braddan.
Resolved – RB, JP and AM to attend.

62/14 Reports

- a) Nil.

63/14 Any Other Business

- a) Yvette Mellor email at 1340hrs on 12.09.14. You will all have a received an invitation from Minister Robertshaw to a meeting to discuss the role of Local Authorities in the Big Debate, unfortunately the date of the meeting in the invitation was incorrect . The meeting with take place on the 24th September 2014, not the 23rd September 2014.
Resolved to note.
- b) Peter Kinnish emails at 2146hrs on 14.09.14, with various Works and Amenity matters.
HEDGE TRIMMING -- I was noted the hedge trimmer had been around the village, PK advised there were a number of places Glen road where overhanging vegetation are a hazard to pedestrians and traffic. Resolved – Clerk to contact the department a request these areas are cut.
VILLAGE BUS SHELTER -- I have received several complaints about the state of the Bus shelter. It was noted that the bus shelter was to be removed and relocated as part of the regeneration scheme planned during this winter.
PROM GREEN BOATS - on the prom are not attractive. Resolved - Clerk to arrange for the boats to be painted and JP to take over responsibility for planting and watering.
BOWLING GREEN -- The bowling green has been well used by the Village children. So much so that the area needs a rest while it recovers. Resolved - Goal posts to be moved back to footbnall pitch and bowling green to be corded off with notices advising reasons.
- c) Resident emails at 0843hrs on 15.09.14, commenting on an omission on the Laxey Commissioners Website. Mr Snelling thinks it would be helpful if full contact details, plus photographs, be listed of all the commissioners on the LVC website,
A discussion took place and it was noted that three Commissioners have contact details listed in the residential section of the Isle of Man telephone directory. JP and PK agreed to have their mobile telephone number included on the Commissioners website.
- d) Resident emails at 1221hrs on 15.09.14, requesting the Police parking bay outside the Commissioners Office is made into a Disabled Parking Bay.
A discussion took place a Commissioner advised that a number of local businesses had approached the Department requesting the parking is reserved for loading and deliveries.
- e) **AM** reported that last Saturday at approx. 1130hrs he had been verbally attacked by a Laxey resident the incident had ended with a threat of physical violence. A discussion took place with respect to the matter and issues the complainant has with car parking at his property, however it was noted that the Commissioners had no jurisdiction or responsibility in this particular case.. Resolved – **JP** to speak to the complainant and suggest they put their concerns in writing.
- f) **JP** reported that she had received three phone calls asking who had given permission for the Kirk Michael Chippy permission to park on the coach park yesterday evening. **AM** briefed the Commissioners advising that following the loss of his pitch next to the Laxey Service station, he had

been contacted by the proprietor of the Chippy. **AM** advised various location had been looked at however none were suitable and it was suggested the Chippy van could be parked on the Coach Park. **AM** advised the proprietor was applying for permission from the Department of Infrastructure Highways Division and that on application the Commissioners could issue a Street Trader Licence. A discussion took place with respect to the length of time the van could be left there and it was agreed it would need to be removed the same evening due to the school bus using the area to pick up and turn in the morning. **JP** proposed the Commissioners discuss street trader's licences at the next meeting. Resolved – that the Commissioners discuss street traders licences at meeting 1st October 2014.

g) **AM** had a letter to hand from the clerk to Cooil Roi Housing Authority requesting the Commissioners consider paying for repairs to the access road alongside the residents lounge at an estimated cost of £700. A discussion took place and it was noted that the road is also the main vehicular access Road to the Valley Gardens. Resolved Laxey Commissioners to pay for the works. It was noted that there was a possibility that Lonan Commissioner may contribute towards the cost of the repairs.

h) **JP** proposed that representatives from Christ Church attend a meeting of the regeneration committee. Resolved **JP** to propose this at the next regeneration meeting.

RB gave her apologies and left at 12.30pm.

Meeting Closed at 12.35pm

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 1st October 2014, 10.00am.