

Lonan Parish Commissioners

Statutory Meeting

Wednesday 20th August 2014 at 0930 hours at Lonan Commissioners Office.

MINUTES

Present: Mr S. Clucas, Mr J. Faragher, Mr S. Clague, Mr M. Burgess, Mr P. Hill. **Apologies:** Mr N. Dobson.

Chair: Mr S. Clucas. **Clerk:** Mr P. Hill.

The Meeting commenced at 0930 hours.

41/14 Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 23rd July 2014.

Action

The Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 23rd July 2014 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: JF. Seconded by: MB.

42/14 Matters Arising out of the Minutes.

- a) **SC – 37/14(d)** – confirmed that the hedges in Pinfold Hill had been cut immediately prior to his visit to the respective residents.
- b) **SC – 37/14(m)** – commented that nobody had attended the meeting; **SEC** stated that he had sent his apologies and **PH** advised the Board that **ND** had attended a number of meetings that day and it was a pure oversight. (**SEC/ND** appointed representatives).
- c) **SC – 40/14(c)** – asked if the Notice Board had been removed and if any complaints had been made, to which the Clerk replied it had and there had not been any complaints.

43/14 Private Sessions.

44/14 Planning Applications.

- a) Planning Application No 14/00855/TEL of 22.07.14 in respect of installation of a replacement 8m high telecommunications monopole accommodating three antennas within a glass reinforced plastic shroud at Manx Telecom Transmitter, Methodist Church Hall, Baldrine Hill, Baldrine, IM4 6DQ.
SC explained that he had authorised approval in the absence of any objections from the other Board Members and none had been received.
- b) Planning Application No 14/00880/B of 22.07.14 in respect of alterations and erection of extensions to dwelling and erection of a detached summerhouse at Linden Lea, Old Groudle Road, (Old Lonan Road), Baldrine, IM4 6DF. **PH**
Approved.
- c) Planning Amendment Notice No 14/00804/B of 29.07.14 in respect of conversion and erection of extension to existing out buildings to provide ancillary living accommodation and creation of associated parking and vehicular access at Baldrine Manor, Ballagawne Road, Baldrine, IM4 6EP. **PH**
(Amendment is in respect of description change). *(Original approved on 23.07.14).*
The Board remained supportive of the application. SEC/JF declared an interest.
- d) Planning Application Amendment Notice No 14/00791/B of 30.07.14 in respect of construction of tennis court with walling and fencing at the Crofts, Chapel Lane, Baldrine, IM4 6DG to show area of application site only. *Approved on 23.07.14. SEC declared an interest.* **PH**
Noted.

- e) Planning Application No 14/00922/B of 04.08.14 in respect of erection of flood lighting to riding arena, (Ménage), at Field Number 614732, Baldrine Farm, Baldrine Road, Baldrine. PH
Approved with caveat that the lights must not be used after 2000 hours.
- f) Planning Amendment Notice No 13/91307/B of 11.08.14 in respect of erection of agricultural buildings and erection of extensions to existing agricultural buildings at Ballachrink Moar Farm, Ramsey Road, Lonan, IM4 7PP. (Shows provision of a temporary underground dirty water tank. Original approved by LPC). PH
Approved.
- g) Planning Application No 14/00954/B of 08.08.14 in respect of variation of condition 1 of PA 10/01822/B, (erection of replacement dwelling), to extend period of permission at Thornfield, Clay Head Road, Baldrine, IM4 6DL. (Original approved by LPC). PH
Approved.
- h) Planning Approval Notice No 13/91169/B of 14.08.14 in respect of the installation of a gas tank at Part Field 614729, Baldrine Road, Baldrine. Approved by LPC. Noted.

45/14 Correspondence.

- a) Press Release regarding the re-appointment of Grant Thornton for a further three years as the Official Auditor for Local Authorities. It confirms that a new style of reduced audit will be implemented that will have substantial cost savings. Noted and approval of the changes was applauded.
- b) Please be advised that the Assurance Advisory Division of the Treasury has asked me to provide you with a copy of the following attached documents:- (1). Specification from the new Local Government Auditor Agreement between the Treasury & Grant Thornton Ltd (formerly BDO). (2). Table 1 setting out individual audit or assurance review fee for each Local Government body; and (3). Table 3 setting out generic fees for future information. Should you have any queries about any of the attached, please contact the Treasury's Assurance Advisory Division. This means that Lonan will have an Assurance Review at a cost of £1400.00. (Current charge is £3444.00). *Noted and approval of the changes was applauded.*
- c) The OFT has today issued a [Consultation](#) on proposed changes to the scope of the Financial Services Ombudsman Scheme and would welcome your views on this matter. The consultation is being held for a period of six weeks and responses should be received by this Office before 5pm on Wednesday 10th September 2014. Noted.
- d) Peel Town Commissioners Invitation of 04.08.14 to their Civic Sunday Service on Sunday 21st September 2014 at 1100 hours at Peel Methodist Chapel, Atholl Street, Peel, followed by refreshments. RSVP. PH/JF
JF to attend and SC stated that he would also attend if available.
- e) Government document in relation to the future funding of the Swimming Pools - At last Thursday's meeting this issued was discussed and one of our members has supplied the attachment shown above, for circulation to our membership, as it appears this information had not been made available to all interested parties. *SC read the document and options contained therein and a discussion took place. It was resolved that their preferred option, which was not included, was to retain the costs through income tax as a central cost and failing that if an option outlined in the document had to be identified then option 1 to increase rate from 2.5 pence to 6 pence. They were strongly against option 5 to create an all-island rate. (Post Meeting Note: This is not a Consultation and there is no scope to submit any views on these proposals).*

- f) Consultation on the Equality Bill - I would like to draw the attention of the Island's local authorities to the consultation on the draft Equality Bill. Please find attached the public consultation version of the Equality Bill together with a covering consultation document. (They will also be available on the Government consultation website later today.) We would be grateful to receive any comments that your members may have by Friday 14th November 2014. (This is a cut and paste of the United Kingdom Equality Bill 2010). *Noted.*
- g) Inspector Darrill Pearson writes on 4th August introducing himself as the new Commander for the Northern, Southern & Western Neighbourhood Policing Teams. *SC read the introduction and it was noted.*
- h) Landlord and Tenant (Private Housing) Bill Committee and letter from Secretary of the House of Keys, (*Further to our previous correspondence in relation to the inquiry into the above Bill, the Committee would be grateful if you could send it a memorandum on local authorities' policy in relation to maintaining standards of accommodation in both public and private sectors and, where appropriate, standards of behaviour by private landlords*). - To All Municipal Members and Member Authority Clerks: I am attaching a letter received by e-mail late this afternoon (Friday) on the above subject, asking for evidence to be submitted by Monday 1st September. I have replied advising that, firstly, the Municipal Association cannot speak on behalf of its membership as a whole since situations and opinions may vary; and this issue may not be relevant to every member authority. Secondly, that our next meeting is not until 28 August and members attending would need to report back to their Boards before any action could be taken, making the deadline of 1st September impossible to meet. Additionally, I have advised that they need to approach Ballaugh, Andreas, Jurby, Bride and Santon, the 5 non-member authorities, separately. It is in the experience of at least one member of the Committee on this Bill, who has supported individuals and families in private and public sector rented accommodation that no action appears to have been taken by the relevant Departments or Local Authorities in recent years in relation to enforcement of current standards. The Committee would be grateful if you could submit the evidence by Monday 1st September. It is therefore necessary for me to request that Member Authorities reply individually before 1st September and I have advised Mr Phillips accordingly. *A discussion took place and it was noted.*
- i) How Can You Help Manx Bird Life to Conquer the Almighty End to End Walk? **Manx BirdLife is a charity** based in the Isle of Man working for the conservation of wild birds. Having already contributed significantly to bird conservation on the Isle of Man by publishing the **Manx Bird Atlas in 2007** and releasing a **Manx wildlife documentary** in 2014, Manx BirdLife is keen to grow in both achievements and ambition. To help fund this ambition, Dora Querido and Sophie Costain from Manx BirdLife are taking part in the Isle of Man '**End to End walk**' on **Sunday the 21st of September** where they will have to walk **39 gruelling miles (63km) in less than 10 hours**. The race has several cut off points along the way, meaning that if they don't walk fast enough they are taken out of the race and do not get the chance to finish it. In order to entice you to support them, they have created a series of exciting sponsorship offers! **Sponsorship Deals: £5 – Facebook Thank You** - We will give you a 'thank you' shout on Facebook and Twitter! **£10 - Sponsor Display** - Your name will be printed on the back of one of the ladies T-shirts made especially for the event. **£20 – Name Display Special** (up to 20) – Your name will be printed on the front of one of the ladies T-shirts made especially for the event. **£50 – Name Display and DVD** (up to 10) – For personal donations, we will print your name on the front of a T-shirt and give a copy of Chris Sharpe's superb 'The Isle of Man – A Natural World' DVD! **£100 -Corporate Logo Display** (up to 10) – Fancy having your business name and logo on show for spectators on the walk to see? Contact us in advance for this exciting corporate sponsorship deal. **How to contribute:** Visit our **crowd funding initiative** at: <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/manx-end-2-end-walk>

Come to the **Tynwald mills shopping** in St Johns on the **Saturday, the 30th of August**. Send a **cheque with your contribution** to 35 New road, Laxey, Isle of Man, IM4 7BG **How your contribution will help** **Upgrading a decayed IT system and computers**: 2 new PCs, new Windows and Microsoft Office, new memory for a struggling old server. **Raising awareness of conservation issues** affecting bird populations on the Isle of Man **Upgrading MBL database to a user friendly entry** front-end **Advocating for better bird conservation** with local authorities For more information or to keep up to date with the campaign progress, please visit: **Twitter**: www.twitter.com/ManxBirdLife **Facebook**: www.facebook.com/ManxBirdLife **Website**: www.manxbirdlife.im *A discussion took place and it was agreed that the Authority could not contribute as it was a charity but it was up to each individual.*

- j) Minutes of Garff Meeting – 13th August 2014. *SC read through the Minutes and a discussion took place.*
- k) Minutes of the Municipal Meeting – 31st July 2014. *These were noted by the Board.*
- l) Resident writes to express gratitude to the Commissioners for provision of a litter bin near her property but that owing to some litter being discarded in her garden she is going to take remedial action to deal with this. It will involve repositioning the bin, the cost of which she will meet.
- m) A discussion took place regarding the forthcoming Civic Service. PH

46/14 Enforcement Matters.

No new matters.

47/14 Special Agenda Items.

- a) **Parish Examination Meeting – Arrange Itinerary – Publicity.** PH
A discussion took place regarding the itinerary of this meeting. Firstly it was agreed to bring the meeting forward to 1400 hours from 1800 hours and then venues for visiting were decided upon. (1). Land opposite Baldrine Park, {Origin: SM – 22.04.14 – 07/14(a)}. (2). Baldrine Park / Clock and Centennial Gardens, Baldrine. (3). Land at All Saints Park, (4). Reayrt Ny Glionney Estate, (5). Proposed Play Area at Reayrt Ny Glionney Estate, (6). Agneash, (7). Ballaragh. It was further agreed that this visit would be publicised on the website and by local posters.

48/14 Any Other Business.

- a) **SEC** – asked the Clerk what progress was being made at Green Gables to which the Clerk replied that works had begun to clear the land.
- b) **SEC** – Expressed his concern about the amount of expenses that were being claimed by some of the Commissioners and a discussion took place. It was generally considered that the Board was responsible in claiming for expenses and it reflected considerably below Government benefits. **SC** asked if the Board would like to make a policy decision on claiming and this was not requested.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1100 hours.

The next Meeting of the Authority will be the Parish Inspection on Wednesday 10th September 2014 at 1400 hours; this will be followed immediately by the next Statutory Meeting of the Authority.