

## Minutes of the Meeting

**Present:** Mr S.Clague Attended from 7.42pm , Mr N. Dobson, Mr T Kenyon, Mr P. Kinnish, Mr R. Moughtin, Mrs J. Pinson, Mr. J. Quayle.

**In Attendance:** Mr P. Burgess, Clerk, Mr M.Royle, Deputy Clerk/RFO,

**Apologies:** Mrs M. Fargher, Mr L. Miller, Mrs Julie Peel Housing Manager.

Meeting commenced at 7.03 pm.

**60/17 Planning Matters**

**Planning Applications** – *details of the following had been circulated to Members and had been made available for viewing prior to the meeting:*

- a) **17/00802/B – Bridge House, Mill Road, Laxey, IM4 7AU** – Additional use of two existing residential units as tourist accommodation.  
*Noted. No Objections raised.*
- b) **PA 1700812/B – Ballacregga Corn Mill, Salmon Lake Centre, Mines Road, Wheel Hill, Laxey, IM4 7NL.** Additional use of balcony as seating area in association with multi-function centre.  
*It was noted that the original planning permission did not permit use of the balcony due to concerns about noise nuisance. The effect on neighbours in the immediate vicinity needed to be assessed by the Committee. It was also expected that the extended use of the balcony needed referral to the Licensing Authorities.*
- c) **PA 1700815/B – Rhianfa, Ballafayle Road, Maughold, IM7 1ED.** Erection of partial replacement fencing and landscaping (retrospective).  
*It was noted that a fence of similar height had been in that position for several decades. This had been 'softened' by a hedge, but this had been removed when the replacement fence was erected. It was noted that this latest application indicated the section of fence that had been removed and reduced to ensure adequate visibility splays, and it was also noted that planting of Montbretia and creepers had been indicated; the intention being to provide a vegetation screen to soften the new fence. No objections were raised to this application.*
- d) **PA 1700816/B – Field no. 624380, Jacks Lane, Lewaigue, Maughold.** Widening of an existing field access.  
*JQ advised that part of the field was currently being used to store vehicles and materials by a contractor working on the adjacent MER line. There were no objections raised.*
- e) **PA 17/00006/B - Cliffside and End Café, The Promenade, Laxey,** Demolition of existing dwellings, garage and outbuildings and erection of four dwellings – Further Amended Information.  
*A letter on this application from an Independent Planning Consultant was read to the meeting and the comments noted. The letter took issue with the fact that the Commissioners' had not objected to this application previously. The consultant was concerned that the proposal did not adequately indicate how the cliff bank to the rear of the property would be secured. Highway and parking concerns were also raised in the correspondence. The Commissioners noted the amendments.*
- f) **PA 17/00828/B – Mines Road, Laxey from its junction with New Road to its junction with Agneash Road.** Installation of replacement street lighting.  
*PB advised that the application included an additional 'scrolled support arm'; a photograph of this item was circulated. There were no objections. A letter was read that had been submitted questioning the number of lights and the choice of LED illumination. The total number of streetlights had increased because they penetrated further along Mines Road, and were positioned to provide adequate public lighting in the area. LED lighting was less*

	<i>intrusive and more environmentally efficient and such illumination was preferred by the astronomical community and the 'Dark Skies Isle of Man' project. Noted.</i>	
<b>g)</b>	<b>PA – 17/00836/B – 5 Baldrine Park, Lonan</b> , Conversion of Garage to study including roof lights. <i>Noted. No objections.</i>	
	<b>Approval Notices (DoI Planning Committee)</b>	
<b>h)</b>	<b>PA 17/00683/B – Thie My Chree, Ballajora, IM7 1BL.</b> Alterations and Erection of extension. <i>Noted.</i>	
	<b>Refusal Notices (DoI Planning Committee) – ntr</b>	
	<b>Appeal Notices (DoI Planning Committee) - ntr</b>	
	<b>Planning Enforcement (DoI Planning and Building Control) - ntr</b>	
<b>61/17</b>	<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	
<b>a)</b>	Approval of minutes of the meeting of 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2017. <i>These were agreed to be a correct record. Proposed, JQ. Seconded TK.</i>	
<b>62/17</b>	<b>Matters Arising &amp; Other Business</b>	
<b>a)</b>	<b>PK</b> advised that he had ordered the plaque in memory of Mr Raymond Clague. <i>Noted.</i>	
<b>b)</b>	<b>JPN</b> asked if any progress had been made with arranging the lease of the community gas storage facility on Glen Road, Laxey. <b>PB</b> advised that the Commissioners' advocates had been asked to advise on updating the lease and access arrangements.	
<b>c)</b>	<b>All Saints Church, Lonan.</b> Report of Committee meeting 4 <sup>th</sup> August. <b>PB</b> reiterated his declaration of interest and withdrew. <b>ND</b> updated Members on this matter: he advised that further written advice had been forwarded by the Local Government Unit in regard to the Petitions Process and how the Commissioners should manage the project. The Department had indicated that an initial meeting should be arranged with the Department's project management team. The officer was on leave until the 21 <sup>st</sup> of August and a meeting would be arranged by <b>MR</b> in due course.	
<b>63/17</b>	<b>General correspondence</b> <b>SC</b> joined the meeting at 7.42 pm. He declared an interest in the next item being discussed and immediately withdrew from the room for the duration of the discussion.	
<b>a)</b>	<b>Kirk Michael Chippy</b> – Correspondence received from Mr Hayden Brand. <i>This had been circulated and was noted. There followed a discussion of operating times and practices. It was agreed that the arrival and opening times of the mobile unit be monitored by the clerks and a report made to the September meeting of the Commissioners.</i>  <i>SC re-joined the meeting following the completion of this discussion.</i>	
<b>b)</b>	<b>Footbridge in Ballaglass Glen</b> – Update from Department of Infrastructure. <b>MR</b> read a letter from Mr Hardinge summarising the current situation. The Department were seeking agreement from the landowner as to the design of the bridge. This had not been received to date. There followed a discussion of the status of Public Rights of Way and it was noted that public rights to use the path were absolute and not subject to the permission of the landowner who had erected 'permissive access' signage; this signage was erroneous.	
<b>c)</b>	<b>MUA</b> – Quotation for replacement street light LA111, Baldhoon Rd. Option 1) The estimated cost of a replacement arm and standard Evolo fitting will be £350 + VAT Option 2) The estimated cost of a replacement arm and LED Ampere fitting will be £520 + VAT <i>It was agreed that LED street lighting should be the preference when replacements or new schemes were required.</i> <b>PK</b> referred to the section of the A2 in Lonan from Church Road down to Ballabeg Crossing, stating that street lighting was necessary in that location. <b>MR</b> reported that a request for continuation of the unbroken white line along this section to provide a demarcated 'lane' for pedestrians/cyclists	

	<i>would be discussed at September's NTMLG meeting. MR stated that he would ask the views of Highways on additional street-lighting in this area and revert back to the Board in due course.</i>	
<b>d)</b>	<p><b>Market in Laxey Village Square</b> – TK request the Commissioners consider a “market” on the village square April to October.</p> <p><i>TK felt that a market on the village square could attract more people into the village. PK felt that this could help to raise the profile of the village. JPN asked if a community group could take the lead on such a proposal. Concerns were raised that it could become a ‘car boot sale’ type event. PB advised that permission from Estates Shared Services would be required. PK suggested an initiative through a trader’s association type body. The matter would be discussed further once information on the terms of the lease had been clarified.</i></p>	
<b>e)</b>	<p><b>Cathedral Isle of Man</b> – Invitation to chairman and guest to attend the enthronement of Right Rev’d Peter Eagles, Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017, service commences at 4pm, doors open at 3.15pm.</p> <p><i>ND to attend.</i></p> <p><i>ND brought forward the following related matter from AOB:</i></p> <p><b>Onchan District Commissioners</b> – Civic Service Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm, St Anthony’s.</p> <p><i>ND to attend.</i></p> <p><i>MR advised that he would contact Corletts to ask what progress had been made in preparing the quotations for a Garff Chain of Office.</i></p>	MR
<b>64/17</b>	<b>Officer Reports</b>	
<b>a)</b>	<b>Health and Safety</b> – <i>PB advised that much work had been undertaken on the raft following some damage that it had suffered. Tail chains and shackles had also been replaced.</i>	
<b>b)</b>	<b>Works and Amenities</b> – <i>Temporary parking signage for Laxey Village during MGP had been sourced and would be installed 21.08.17.</i> <i>The SID signs would be installed in position during week commencing 21.08.17.</i> <i>The Planning Applications for play equipment in Lonan were being finalised.</i>	
<b>c)</b>	<b>Cooil Roi Housing Complex</b> - ntr	
<b>65/17</b>	<b>Staffing Matters</b> - ntr	
<b>66/17</b>	<p><b>Chairman’s Report</b> – <i>ND referred to the procedure when the interest of a Member had to be declared. The definition of pecuniary and other interests were in the Corporate Governance document circulated to all Members and must be adhered to. It was agreed that once an interest was declared that Member should leave the room for the duration of the discussion whatever the perceived level of interest and however immaterial the link appeared.</i></p> <p><i>Proposed, ND. Seconded JPN. Unanimously Resolved. Standing Orders to be amended.</i></p> <p><i>Public rights of way – ND referred to a recent comment by the DED Minister in which he stated that government was keen to devolve services such as public right of way maintenance to local authorities. This did not reflect the outcome of a meeting with the DOI Minister and senior DOI officials in November 2016 at which it was made clear that the Department was not minded to devolve the service to Garff. SC questioned if the Commissioners would be responsible for bridges, walls and the deeper structures of the footpath. ND stated that the Commissioners would only be responsible for strimming and cutting back vegetation to maintain public passage; structural defects would remain the responsibility of DOI. ND had prepared a draft press release intended to indicate this situation to Mr Skelly, MHKs and the public. ND’s proposal was that the budget be transferred from DOI to the Commissioners. It was agreed that this press release should be submitted to the various media organisations.</i></p>	
<b>67/17</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
<b>a)</b>	Consultation - “Encouraging Active Travel on the Isle of Man”.	

	<i>This consultation was discussed in brief. PB advised that the commissioners could respond as a body. TK felt that Garff Commissioners should respond as a body following on from the successful 'Share the Space' Campaign that the Commissioners ran earlier this year. MR referred to the provision of a designated 'commuter way', that could be routed from Laxey and Lonan to encourage commuting to Douglas and home. JPN felt that this could be extended to cover Maughold. ND suggested that such a route could be considered between areas in Maughold and Ramsey. JQ referred to the old rail line route from the West into Douglas as a possible example. JPN stated that facilities for parking bikes needed to be provided in Douglas if such a scheme were to be progressed. MR was asked to draft a submission to the consultation.</i>	
<b>b)</b>	<b>Municipal Association</b> – Invitation to training on Human Reassures, Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2017, Onchan Community Hub, 6.30pm. <i>TK and JPN to attend.</i>	
<b>c)</b>	<b>SC</b> asked for clarification of how parking enforcement was undertaken on the DOI's car parks. <b>PK</b> felt that clarification of the rules and controls would be useful in communicating parking policies to the public. The clerks were instructed to write to the Department requesting information on how parking regulations were enforced.	
<b>d)</b>	<b>RM</b> asked for an update on the Glen Road sports hall proposal. <b>PB</b> reported that the lead Member from the Trust had been on holiday. Clerks to arrange to meet Mr Renard and Mr Butt in due course.	
<b>68/17</b>	<b>Private Session</b> – <i>No private matters discussed.</i>	
	Date of next meeting:- Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2017 7.00pm	