

GARFF PARISH DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Mid Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 13th June 2018 6.00 pm

Present: Mr N. Dobson (ND) (Chairman), Mrs M. Fargher (MF) (Vice Chairman), Mr S Clague (SC), Mr T Kenyon (TK), Mr P. Kinnish (PK), Mr L. Miller (LM), Mrs J. Pinson (JPn), Mr. J. Quayle (JQ), Mr J Smith (JS).
Mr P. Burgess (PB), Clerk, Mr M. Royle (MR), Deputy Clerk/RFO, Mrs Julie Peel (JPI), Housing Manager

Apologies: None

Action

**6.00 pm
24/18**

Meeting of the Commissioners on Glen Road, Laxey to view current facilities and consider options for future leisure development in the vicinity.

Present: **ND, MF, SC, TK, PK, JQ, JS.**

*The above Members gathered and discussed the current facilities and various options for development of these and the site in general. The proposal for a sports hall facility was referred to and discussed as were options to replace and improve on the current provision of skate board facilities. Members noted that use of the 'multi use games area' was currently restricted by the presence of skate board equipment, and a discussion of the possibility of moving this equipment outside of this area took place. **ND** asked Members to consider the current provision and come forward with proposals to develop the area at the meeting on the 4th of July 2018.*

**7.00 pm
25/18**

Attendance of **Mr Ken Faragher**, of Eric Faragher Limited, to advise the Board on the responsibilities and practicalities of operating a Burial Authority from a Funeral Director's perspective.

ND welcomed **Mr Faragher**. He asked about the process involved with arranging burials. **Mr Faragher** began by stating that any comments he would make were his own personal opinion and were not representative of any organisation. He stated that in general it was the undertaker who liaised with the family of the bereaved and arranged for burials to take place. In short, he felt that, if the undertaker were doing their job correctly then there was no reason for the bereaved to contact the burial authority directly.

ND stated that **JPn** had asked if staff would need additional training. **Mr Faragher** stated that in his opinion staff would not require additional training. **Mr Faragher** spoke about the growing requirement for health and safety measures to be incorporated into the practise of a burial authority and of the necessity for public liability insurance to be in place. This was noted. **Mr Faragher** spoke of the difficulties caused when there were multiple claims on a plot, which was primarily a matter to be resolved by the family - but disputes could occur which may have impact on the burial authority.

There followed discussion of how efficiently burial records were maintained. These discussions were in general; there were no references to specific burial grounds such as Lonan or Maughold. **MF** referred to those who currently administered burial authorities. These persons were volunteers and it was noted that if the Commissioners took over the function then the staff involved would have to be remunerated. This would suggest an increase in the burial rate would have to be implemented.

ND asked about the internment of ashes in the burial ground. **Mr Faragher** advised that such internment involved a similar process to a burial.

JQ asked if all the Island's burial authorities shared the same rules in regard to the installation of grave markers and ornamentation. **Mr Faragher** advised that the Church of England regulated these matters, the only exception being the cemetery in Douglas which was operated by the Douglas Corporation, and at which the rules on markers were generally more relaxed. **JS** asked if there may be any conflict between the Church of England and the local authority over the rules for markers. **Mr Faragher** advised that this should not be an issue as the Church of

	<p><i>England would have rescinded involvement if the responsibility for the burial ground had been passed to the local authority.</i></p> <p><i>JPN asked how much future capacity there was at Lonan. Mr Faragher estimated this to be around 15 - 20 years. There followed discussion of the various responsibilities for other practical arrangements. Mr Faragher advised that this varied from authority to authority, but that most matters, including the digging of the grave, could be arranged by either the burial authority or the undertaker.</i></p> <p><i>Mr Faragher closed by recommending that the Commissioners fully investigate the responsibilities and implications of running the Burial Authority before going forward. Members thanked him for taking the time to provide information on the running of a graveyard. Mr Faragher left the meeting at 7.33 pm.</i></p>	
26/18		
27/18	Planning Matters	
	Planning Applications	
a)	<p>18/00520/B - Harrison Farm, Barroose Road, create operating centre for parking a mini-bus (off road).</p> <p><i>There were no objections to this application.</i></p>	
b)	<p>18/00531/B - The Willow, Hibernia, Conversion of existing detached garage to provide ancillary living accommodation.</p> <p><i>There were no objections to this application. The Commissioners recommend that a condition is placed on any approval to ensure the new dwelling is only used in connection with the main dwelling.</i></p>	-
c)	<p>18/00483/B - Boundary Wall Adjacent to Goods Shed MER Buildings Laxey, Reduction in Height of existing boundary wall.</p> <p><i>It was noted that any plaques affected by the reduction of a section of this wall would be re-positioned. It was noted that the reduction would improve the safety of tram and motorised vehicles. There were no objections to this application.</i></p>	
d)	<p>18/00493/B - Suncrest, South Cape, Laxey, Alterations and creation of an additional floor to dwelling.</p> <p><i>Members noted the height of the adjacent dwelling. The impact of the proposals was discussed. There were no objections to the application.</i></p>	
e)	<p>18/00506/B - Camelia House, Minorca Hill, Erection of a single storey extension with balcony over, including the removal of two existing single storey extensions and balconies.</p> <p><i>There were no objections to the application.</i></p>	
f)	<p>18/00553/B - Ballashallom, Glen Road, Laxey. Alterations and additions to dwelling substantially completed (dwelling approved under 15/00878/B).</p> <p><i>The changes to the main dwelling were noted and considered to be of minor effect. The additional outbuildings were also noted and considered. There were no objections to the application.</i></p>	
g)	<p>PA- 18/00571/B – The Orchard, Ballacollister Road, Laxey. Installation of obscured glass window, in side elevation of existing garage in connection with part conversion into on-suite.</p> <p><i>There were no objections to the application.</i></p>	
h)	<p>PA – 18/00567/B – Highcrest, Highfield Drive, Baldrine. Replacement of existing conservatory glazed roof.</p> <p><i>There were no objections to the application.</i></p>	
i)	<p>PA – 18/00563/B – Rosebank, Baladrine Hill, Baladrine. Alterations to pedestrian access (retrospective) to create a vehicular access including alterations to boundary wall and porch to provide visibility.</p> <p><i>Members considered the road safety implications caused by this new access. It was noted that Highways would comment on these matters in their submission. Images of the site were studied</i></p>	

	<i>and considered. SC proposed deferring further consideration until the EGM on the 20th of June to permit Members time to visit and consider the site.</i>	
j)	PA - 18/00182/B – White Cottage, Pinfold Hill, Laxey. Erection of a dwelling (amendments to PA 12/01690/B). Amended description received. Previous description “Construction of pitched roof to accommodate bedroom/bathroom (amendment to PA 12/01690/B).” <i>There were no objections to the application.</i>	
	Approval Notices (DoI Planning Committee) <i>The following eight approvals were noted. No further instructions given.</i>	
k)	18/00098/B - 1 Lower Cronk Orry, Minorca Hill, Laxey, Erection of two storey extension to the side of property.	
l)	18/00174/B - Thie-Cronk, Croit E Quill Road, Laxey, Creation of off road parking and vehicular access (retrospective).	
m)	18/00372/B – 29 Ard Reayrt, Laxey – Erection of a rear extension.	
n)	18/00174/B - Thie-Cronk, Croit E Quill Road, Laxey, Creation of off road parking and vehicular access (retrospective).	
o)	18/00304/B - 2 Cardle Cottages , Corony, Maughild, Replacement of existing conservatory roof with roof tiles.	
p)	18/00289/B - Cottimans, Port e Vullen, Alterations and erection of an extension. <i>There were no objections to these proposals.</i>	
q)	18/00294/B - Close Mooar Farm, Glen Roy, Erection of a detached garage block for use by tourist accommodation.	
r)	18/00352/B – 15 All Saints Park, Lonan – Replacement of existing conservatory roof with roof tiles.	
	Refusal Notices (DoI Planning Committee)	
	Appeal Notices (DoI Planning Committee)	
s)	17/00815/B Rhianfa, Ballafayle, Appeal against refusal of erection of partial replacement fencing and landscaping (retrospective). Original decision reversed by the Inspector and minister – Application approved. <i>This decision was noted.</i>	
t)	17/00969/B Public Open Space, Church Close, Lonan, Appeal against Approval for the installation of Children’s Playground Equipment. Original decision upheld by the Inspector and Minister. <i>This decision was noted.</i>	
u)	Planning Appeal - PA – 17/01137/B – Ballagorry Heights, Ballagorry Drive, Glen Mona, Maughild. Appeal Hearing, 14:00hrs on 27 th June 2018. <i>This matter was noted. No further instruction given.</i>	
	Planning Enforcement (DoI Planning and Building Control)	
28/18	Approval of Minutes	
a)	Approval of minutes of the meeting of the 16 th May 2018 & the EGM of the 25 th May 2018. <i>The Minutes of 16.05.18 were agreed to be a correct record of the meeting. Proposed JPn, Seconded JQ. Resolved.</i> <i>The Minutes of 25.05.18 were agreed to be a correct record of the meeting. Proposed JS, Seconded JPn. Resolved.</i>	
29/18	Matters Arising & Other Business	
	16.05.18 – no matters raised.	
	25.05.18 – no matters raised.	
30/18	General correspondence	

a)	Mary Gaffney, General Manager, Isle of Man Post Office – Request to discuss Post Office Retail Network Strategy. <i>The clerks were instructed to respond indicating appropriate dates for IOM Post to attend.</i>	
b)	Treasury – Regarding the abolition of contracting-out following the introduction of the new Manx state pension from 6 th April 2018 (copy letter to Douglas Borough Council Dated 14.05.18). <i>This matter was noted. No further action.</i>	
c)	Douglas Borough Council – Copy of response to Treasury regarding the above (Dated 25.05.18). <i>This matter was noted. No further action.</i>	
d)	Invitation to The Armed Forces Day Celebration & Tea , Sunday 24 th June 2018, Villa Marina, 3.00 pm – 9.30 pm. <i>ND advised that he was off-island that day. Members who wish to attend were requested to contact the clerks.</i>	
e)	Cabinet office – Notification that the Draft Area Plan for the East has been published online on the gov.im 'consultation hub'. The consultation is open until 31 st August 2018. <i>ND advised that he had met Chris Thomas MHK and discussed the document and it's implications for Garff. The availability of this document on line was noted. The web link details had been circulated to all members and published on the Commissioners' social media.</i>	
f)	Douglas Borough Council – Invitation to Civic Sunday, 10 th June 2018, St George's Church, Douglas, 9.50 am Ridgeway St. <i>It was noted that this event had taken place.</i>	
g)	Eastern Region Update on Housing – Eric Whitelegg writes to request the Commissioners indicate their interest in attending a meeting, probably in the last week of June or first week in July.	
h)	Regional Sewerage Scheme – Manx Utilities write to request a meeting Wednesday 20 th June at 7.00pm. Please note that this will be an Extra Ordinary meeting of the Commission with members of public welcome to attend. <i>This meeting was noted. MF and JPN offered apologies in advance.</i>	
i)	Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust – Invoice for £3,100.00, In respect of the provision of tourist information services by the Trust for the 2018 season. <i>It was noted that this payment was to assist with information disseminated from the shop relating to all three wards, Laxey Lonan and Maughold. The payment was in line with payments made in previous years and was approved.</i>	
j)	Laxey Fair Saturday 30th June – Invitation to Chairman and Commissioners to attend and join the procession. VIP tram departs Fairy Cottage at 1.10pm. Also volunteers required man gates and marshal the procession. <i>ND encouraged members to volunteer to assist. Contact the clerks in the first instance.</i>	
k)	Owners of Laxey Diner – query regarding the operation of the Kirk Michael Chippy Van. <i>SC declared an interest and took no part in the discussion. ND summarised the actions taken to investigate alternative sites. A discussion took place. The clerks were given instruction in regard to the response to the correspondent.</i>	
l)	Tenant of the Promenade Kiosk – Request for new opening window or door at the premises to meet fire regulations. <i>JPN signed a declaration of interest and left the meeting for the duration of this discussion. A discussion took place. The clerks were instructed to refer to the Chief Fire Officer and report back to the Board in due course.</i>	
m)	Eastern Region Update on Housing – Eric Whitelegg writes to request the Commissioners indicate interest in attending a meeting, probably in the last week of June or 1 st week in July. <i>Clerks to report when a date and location has been announced by Mr Whitelegg. MF advised that matters such as the introduction of fixed term tenancies would be discussed.</i>	
31/18	Committee Reports	

a)	Municipal Association – <i>Members had recently attended the Association’s AGM. JS advised that the talk on the history of the Groudle Glen Railway had been excellent.</i>	
b)	Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust – <i>It was agreed that TK and PK should remain as directors. SC to attend with no voting rights. It was agreed to ask if other Members could attend without voting rights. JS asked for details of the next date. Clerks to advise.</i>	
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)	Garff Regeneration Committee – <i>JPN had chaired a meeting on the 25th of May 2018 and advised that the committee had resolved to agree aims and objectives at the next meeting (date to be announced).</i>	
g)	Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee - ntr	
h)	Northern Civic Amenity Site – ntr	
i)	Northern Swimming Pool Board - ntr	
j)	Northern Area Housing steering group – <i>MF advised that a general housing meeting had taken place at which Eric Whitelegg had updated those present on progress with the Island’s public housing administration.</i>	
k)	Northern Sheltered Housing Committee – <i>MF advised that the Committee had been uneasy about the new eligibility criteria. A meeting with the relevant MHKs had been arranged to brief them on these concerns. MF advised that the population was forecast to age significantly, which had consequences regarding sheltered housing provision. There followed a general discussion of aspects of social housing provision.</i>	
l)	Eastern Area Housing steering group - ntr	
m)	Waste Management Steering Group - ntr	
n)	Waste Management Working Group - ntr	
o)	Cooil Roi Sheltered Housing Committee - ntr	
32/18	Officers Report	
a)	Finance – <i>Documents for April Circulated. PB advised that the draft accounts for YE 18 had been finalised and were being produced for circulation and submission to the auditors.</i>	
b)	Health and Safety – <i>no matters to report.</i>	
c)	Works and Amenities - <i>no urgent matters to report.</i>	
d)	Cooil Roi Sheltered Housing Complex – <i>Deferred until 04.07.18.</i>	
e)	English Fell Running Championships 14th July 2018 – <i>The clerks reported that they had liaised with the organisers and arrangements appeared to be making good progress.</i>	
33/18	Staffing Matters – ntr	
34/18	Chairman’s Report - ntr	
35/18	Any Other Business	
a)	<i>MF proposed that a letter be sent to Maughold Social Club thanking them for providing the picnic benches in Maughold Village. This was agreed.</i>	
b)	<i>MF proposed that a letter be sent to Dhoon School thanking them for painting the wall tiles recently installed in Maughold Village conveniences. This was agreed.</i>	
c)	<i>JPN asked if the dog bins that the Laxey Dog Club had stated they would provide had been erected. MR reported that one had been installed on Ballagawne Road, and that three more would be installed in due course. TK suggested a location at Ballacannel.</i>	
d)	<i>It was noted that the volunteer who keeps the noticeboards in Garff up to date was indisposed for several weeks. TK volunteered to keep the noticeboards up to date in Baldrine. JS volunteered to maintain the two noticeboards in Maughold. Clerks to arrange.</i>	

e)	<p>SC asked what actions were being undertaken to recover rate arrears. PB advised that Treasury collected the rates and undertook action to recover outstanding amounts. SC proposed that the MHKs be approached and asked to assist with improving the process. JPn suggested inviting the MHKs to a future meeting. This was agreed.</p> <p>There followed discussion of the legislation available to deal with those in rate arrears and also to deal with properties that were in a poor state of repair. It was agreed that further investigation of these matters needed to be undertaken.</p>
f)	<p>JS advised that he had been approached by a resident concerned that the temporary 50 mph limit on the A2 highlighted the de-restricted status of the minor roads. The resident felt that this could lead to an increase in speeds in these areas. This was noted and would be considered in the feedback given to the RPU.</p>
g)	<p>JS advised of his concern with the covenant that had been placed on the sale of the Liverpool Arms. ND declared an interest. It was noted that ND had no current interest in the property, however, he elected to take no part in the discussion.</p> <p>TK stated that Lonan had lost its post office and it was disappointing that it had now lost its public house. The general consensus was that in the interests of the community the future use of the building should not be restricted by covenant in this way. JQ proposed that it should be noted in the minutes that the Commissioners opposed the addition of such a restriction by the vendor. This was agreed.</p>
36/18	Private Session
a)	Quotations for repairs to the Beach kiosk and Garage building were discussed and approved.
a)	Laxey Village clock – The renewal of the maintenance contract was confirmed for 3 years.
b)	The contractual details of a request to hire a room at 35 New Road was discussed.
c)	All Saints Park Play Equipment – A contractual matter was discussed.
	<p>Meeting Closed at 9.42 pm. Date of next meeting: 4th July 2018</p>