

GARFF PARISH DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 20th March 2019 7.00 pm

Present: Mr N. Dobson (Chairman), Mrs M. Fargher MF) (Vice Chairman), Mr T. Kenyon (TK), Mr P. Kinnish (PK), Mr L. Miller (LM), Mr A. Moore (AM), Mr. J. Quayle (JQ), Mr J. Smith (JS).
Mr P. Burgess (PB), Clerk, Mr M. Royle (MR), Deputy Clerk/RFO, Mrs J. Mattin (JM), Housing Manager.

Apologies: Mrs J. Pinson (JP).

Chairman	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Request from the Chair in reference to observance of Standing Orders.2. Request from the Chair that Members consider this agenda and declare any interest that they may, or may be perceived to have, in its business.
-----------------	--

7.00 pm To 7.30 pm	Presentation by Mr. Tim Cowsill, Development Manager, Department for Enterprise to inform the Board regarding forthcoming Government initiatives to support commercial and community activity in the Island's Towns and Villages.
---------------------------	---

ND welcomed Mr Tim Cowsill, who outlined a forthcoming scheme to encourage towns & villages to set up 'Regeneration Partnerships, that would be able to seek funding, guidance, and other support from Government. Mr Cowsill indicated that the principal aim of the assistance was to 'identify and market the Unique Selling Point' of each area 're-invigorate' areas particularly by assisting the development of businesses. The intention was that the Partnerships would bid for funding for projects designed to increase 'footfall' into their area.

It was anticipated that this support would include:

- Assistance with branding the area
- Participation in the Government's 'Visit Isle of Man' marketing campaign
- Marketing advice & any necessary training that was identified
- Guidance through all aspects of the process including measuring the level of success of initiatives and the 'uplift' provided to the local economy

Reference was made to the 'Visit Laxey Valley' project and how it might be incorporated into the 'Partnership'.

JS noted that the focus of the discussion was very much focussed on Laxey, and asked if Maughold and Lonan would benefit from the scheme. Mr Cowsill indicated that there was nothing stopping a Partnership, including these areas, in a meaningful way. **JS** also referred to the Commissioners own 'Regeneration' sub-committee. It was noted that several of their current initiatives and investigations could be incorporated into the Partnership.

Mr Cowsill advised that it would be prudent to begin a dialogue with local businesses, the public, and other potential stakeholders if the Commissioners wished to initiate a Partnership in Laxey/Garff.

Mr Cowsill advised that monies were available currently for marketing purposes; subject to a successful bid.

ND advised that the Commissioners would discuss the matter at a future meeting. It was agreed that an initial approach should be made to local businesses and other potential stakeholders to gauge the level of support for a 'Regeneration Partnership' Scheme.

51/19	Planning Applications – Officer's Report Circulated (15.03.19)
--------------	---

a)	19/00196/B Conrhenny Plantation, Resurfacing existing car park and installation of surface water drainage. No Objections.
-----------	--

b)	19/00221/B Rosebank, Baldrine Hill, Baldrine, Alterations and erection of a rear extension. 19/00226/B Sunny Glen, Lower Rencell Hill, Installation of replacement fencing and boundary walls.
-----------	--

	No Objections.	
c)	19/00230/B Serenity, Ballajora, Maughold, Replacement of existing glazed conservatory with roof tiles. No Objections.	
d)	19/00226/B Sunny Glen, Lower Rencell Hill, Laxey, Installation of replacement fencing and boundary walls. No Objections.	
	Planning Approvals	
e)	19/00075/B St Martin's, Old Laxey Hill, Installation of replacement windows to front elevation – Approved 12.03.19. This Approval was noted. No further instruction.	
f)	18/01254/B 4 New Road, Laxey, Conversion of first floor of retail unit (class 1) to provide tourist living accommodation – Approved 11.03.19. This Approval was noted. No further instruction.	
g)	18/01343/B Close Coar, Ballagawne Road, Baldrine, erection of a detached storage building – Approved 05.03.19. This Approval was noted. No further instruction.	
	Planning Refusals – ntr	
	Other Planning Matters - ntr	
52/19	Approval of Minutes	
a)	Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the 6 th of March 2019. These were agreed to be a correct record of the decisions made. Proposed. Seconded, JQ . Resolved.	
53/19	Matters Arising & Other Business	
a)	To discuss and evaluate the range and remit of the Board's current sub-committees. <i>(document circulated 15.03.19).</i> The clerks had prepared and circulated a document that outlined a possible approach to setting the terms and remit of the various committees and sub-committees, including a 'pro-forma' which would be filled out for each of the committees set up by the Board. It was agreed to implement the approach set out in the document. There followed discussion of each of the external committees attended by the Commissioners and the 'internal sub-committees the Board had set up. It was noted that representation on the external committees would be determined at the AGM in May. The sub-committees that reported directly to the Board were considered in detail. AM stated that if a sub-committee 'could not stick to its remit it should be reprimanded'. There followed discussion of the efficiency of all the sub-committees. The current 'Regeneration sub-Committee was discussed. In the light of the information provided by Mr Cowsill in his presentation at the beginning of the meeting, it was agreed to arrange a meeting with all potential stakeholders to a wider regeneration scheme in Garff. In these circumstances, In these circumstances, AM proposed that the formation of a 'Regeneration Partnership' be investigated, and that the current Regeneration sub-committee cease to exist from the 1 st of May 2019. This was seconded by MF and unanimously Resolved. It was also agreed that the current initiatives of the sub-committee should be carried forward into a new integrated 'Regeneration Partnership'. It was agreed that the sub-committees should submit their proposals for new signage in Laxey Village to the Board for consideration at a meeting prior to the AGM. The Cooil-Roi sub-committee was discussed. MF outlined how the Northern Sheltered Housing Committee operated in a way that did not involve getting directly involved with the day to day	

	<p>running of the complexes. ND referred to the situation in Onchan where the Board appointed a single 'Lead-Member' to liaise with the Housing Officers; this Member then reports back to the Board. ND proposed that at the May AGM a lead Member is appointed by the Board. There followed a discussion of decisions regarding entrance on to the Housing list and allocation. MR reminded Members that Government had issued policy and guidelines on these matters. It was the Boards responsibility to have oversight on the implementation of this policy by the Housing Manager.</p> <p>JQ proposed that 'That the current Cooil Roi sub-committee cease to exist from the 1st of May 2019, and that at the May AGM a 'Lead Member for Housing' is appointed to liaise with the Housing Manager' and report directly to the Board. This proposal was seconded by AM and Resolved. All Members present voted for the proposal with the exception of TK who voted against the motion.</p>	
54/19	General correspondence	
a)	<p>Resident of Cooil Roi – <i>Regarding withdrawal of 24 'on-site' warden cover (countersigned by 25 residents. circulated 04.03.19).</i></p> <p>Several items of correspondence had been received from residents of Cooil Roi expressing various concerns with the changes to arrangements for warden cover currently being trialled. JM advised that there had never been 24 hour/7 Day on-site warden cover, and that the arrangement being trialled maintained 24 hour/7 day cover through the existing 'on-call' system. The definition of 'Sheltered Housing', which sought to 'maintain & develop' independence was discussed. Documents were circulated that indicated that some assistance being given by the wardens such as shopping and transport was without the government's guidelines and policies. It was noted that under these guidelines the role of the warden was to be as a 'good neighbour' rather than a 'friend' (although it was noted that there were grey areas in these descriptions). Members noted that other complexes on the Island had either moved to a system without 'live-in' wardens or were phasing this system out. It was also noted that there would be '24-hour monitoring' through the implementation of an 'on-call' system. The residents' concerns with personal well-being and a perceived reduction in the 'care environment' that residents' currently perceived at the complex were debated.</p> <p>ND advised that the future operation of the Cooil Roi complex, including the current trial, were to be discussed later in the meeting at item 60/19. It was agreed to take the matters raised by the residents into account in this discussion.</p>	
b)	Craig's Heartstrong Foundation – thanking the Commissioners for their financial contribution to the organisation as part of the schemes to install defibrillator facilities in Laxey.	
55/19	Committee Reports – by exception. Nothing reported.	
56/19	Officer Reports -	
a)	Officers' Report (New Road Matters) - ntr	
b)	<p>Officers' Report (Cooil Roi Matters) –</p> <p>JM sought clarification of the Board's Policy in regard to the current policy on acceptance of tenants with dogs. Currently one flat (number 1) had been identified for these purposes. There followed discussion of this matter. JM stated that other Sheltered Housing Authorities on the Island were permitting dogs into their complexes if there were direct outside access, and with a licence that applied to that dog. The unanimous consensus was that dogs could come into the complex only when the new resident already owned the animal. ND proposed that "When a new resident was accepted at the complex they could bring their existing dog if the flat that had become available was on the ground floor and had direct access. A licence setting out the terms and conditions of acceptance of the dog would also have to be issued." This was seconded by AM and Resolved. JM was asked to identify the numbers of the ground floor flats flat that had direct outside access for the next meeting.</p>	

SO	It being 9.00 pm. and in accordance with SO 2.2, a motion was put by ND to extend the meeting for one hour until no later than 10.00 pm. This was seconded by JQ and Resolved.	
c)	Health and Safety Report Circulated (15.03.19) This report was noted. No discussion, No further action.	
d)	Works and Amenities Report Circulated (15.03.19) This report was noted. No discussion, No further action.	
e)	Financial Matters – Report circulated. This report was noted. No discussion, No further action.	
57/19	Staffing Matters – ND raised a matter in regard to staffing which was dealt with at item 60/19.b.	
58/19	Chairman’s Report –	
59/19	Any Other Business -	
a)	Reminder – Nominations for Chair / Vice-Chair to be in at the meeting on April 3 rd 2019.	
b)	To discuss the engagement of 3 rd Party HR consultant.	
c)	To select a date/time for a meeting with Mary Palmer from Laxey Post Office. (Possibilities: Monday 25 th March 11.30; Wednesday 27 th 11.00; Friday 29 th 11.00 am). It was agreed that Mrs Palmer should be asked to attend a meeting with the Commissioners at 11.00 am on Friday the 29 th of March 2019. AM, TK, ND and MF to attend with officers.	
d)	JQ asked if any progress had been made with identifying a building or location for new offices in Laxey. MR advised that there was no progress on this matter due to focus on other pressing matters in recent weeks.	
e)	PK advised of his personal disappointment that the Laxey Blacksmith had been asked by the DoI to vacate his current business premises. It was noted that alternative premises had been offered by the Department, but that the Blacksmith had deemed these to be inadequate or in some way unsuitable. PK also raised concerns that traffic was speeding past the Co-Op on New Road, Laxey. MR advised that sites for deployment of the SID signs would be investigated. These would provide analysis of the speed of passing traffic.	
f)	JS noted that Tynwald had agreed the sum of 23 million pounds for completion of the proposed sewerage works at Laxey, Garwick and Peel.	
60/19	Private Session	
a)	To discuss matters relating to Cooil Roi – A staffing matter at the Complex was discussed.	
b)	Staffing Matters – A staffing matter in regard to the offices at 35 New Road was discussed.	
	Meeting Closed at 10.00 pm Date of next meeting: Wednesday 3 rd April 2019	