

GARFF PARISH DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday 4th May 2022, 7.00 pm

35 New Road, Laxey

Annual General Meeting Minutes of the Meeting

Present: Mrs M. Fargher (MF), Mr J. Smith (JS), Ms M. Christian (MC) Ms A. Creer (AC),
Mr T. Kenyon (TK), Mr P. Kinnish (PK), Mr S. Ryzak (SR), Mr S. Clague (SC)
Officers: Mr P. Burgess (PB), Clerk, Mr M. Royle (MR), Deputy Clerk/RFO, Mrs J. Mattin (JM) Housing Manager
Apologies: Mrs. J. Pinson (JP)

7.00pm **Clerk to open meeting.**

62/22 **Election of Chairman**

The Clerk took the Chair. A nomination from MF for Mr Stan Ryzak to take the position of Chair for the coming year had been submitted. This was seconded by MC. A Vote was taken and Mr Ryzak was unanimously elected to the position.

63/22 **Election of Vice Chairman**

A nomination from JS for Mrs Fargher to take the position of Vice-Chair for the coming year had been submitted. This was seconded by AC. A Vote was taken and Mrs Fargher was unanimously elected to the position.

64/22 **Committees & Boards – Confirmation of Representation**

Committee representation was resolved as below. Proposed MF, Seconded JS. Unanimously Resolved.

a) Municipal Association

It was Resolved that AC & TK would represent the Commissioners on this Committee. It was noted that all Members are able to attend Municipal Association meetings..

b) Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities

It was Resolved that MC & SC would represent the Commissioners on this Committee.

c) Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee

It was noted that any Member could attend as required.

d) Northern Neighbourhood Policing Team Community Partnership meeting

It was noted that any Member could attend as required.

e) Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee

It was Resolved that TK would represent the Commissioners on this Committee.

f) Northern Civic Amenity Site

It was Resolved that SR would represent the Commissioners on this Committee.

g) Northern Swimming Pool Board

It was Resolved that JS would represent the Commissioners on this Committee.

h) Northern Sheltered Housing Committee

It was Resolved that MF would represent the Commissioners on this Committee.

i) Glen Road Recreation Area Sub-Committee

It was Resolved that PK, JP, MC, & TK would represent the Commissioners on this Committee.

j) Garff Sewerage Consultative Group

It was Resolved that PK & JS would represent the Commissioners on this Group.

Public Meeting

To open the meeting and request that Members consider this agenda and declare any interest that they may, or may be perceived to have, in its business. This was noted.

PK declared an interest in item 65/22.f. The Clerks recommended that PK withdraw from the room for discussion of this item.

JS asked if would be considered that he had a conflict of interest in items 65.22.a & 65.22.c. The Clerks recommended that these properties were too far from his own to warrant he withdraw from the room.

65/22	Planning Matters	
	Planning Applications – the following decisions were made:	
a)	22/00442/B - Extensions and alterations to existing dwelling to include replacement windows and doors and associated works. Ballacreg Dreemskerry Hill Dreemskerry. There were no objections to these proposals.	
b)	22/00468/B - Installation of replacement windows and entrance doors to existing building. Shore Hotel Old Laxey Hill Laxey. The consensus was that this application should be supported and approval recommended.	
c)	22/00462/B - Erection of extension to replace existing conservatory. Dreemskerry, Dreemskerry Hill Dreemskerry. There were no objections to this application.	
d)	22/00466/B - Installation of replacement windows to front and rear elevations. Many Tides 2 Minorca Cottages Minorca Hill Laxey. The configuration of the windows was discussed in detail. The clerks were asked to investigate if details in the drawings were correct and report back to the next meeting where this application will be re-considered.	
e)	22/00467/D - Installation of replacement illuminated signage. Shore Hotel Old Laxey Hill Laxey. It was agreed that the Board would defer a decision on this application to the Conservation and Planning Officers.	
f)	22/00518/B - Erection of a detached dwelling with integral garage. Land Adjacent To Peacehaven Minorca Hill Laxey. PK declared an interest and left the meeting for the duration of this discussion. The clerks were asked to circulate the Highways Report once it had been received. It was agreed to defer consideration of the application until the next meeting.	
	Approval Notices (DEFA Planning Committee)	
g)	22/00343/B - Replace existing french doors with single door and side panel window. My Den Ballashalom Glen Road Laxey. This approval was noted. No further instruction.	
	Refusal Notices (DEFA Planning Committee)	
	Appeal Notices (DEFA Planning Committee)	
h)	21/00737/B - Appeal against the approval for erection of a detached dwelling Vacant Plot (Plot 3), Plot adjacent to Hazelwood House, Ballaragh Road, Laxey. Submission by 5 p.m. on 17th May 2022. This was noted. The Clerks were instructed to submit a written response re-iterating the Board's objections.	
	Planning Enforcement (DEFA Planning and Building Control) -	
i)	It was noted that PA 21/00064/B was scheduled to be discussed at Planning Committee on Monday 9 th May 2022. It was noted that the Commissioners had objected to this application as the on-site parking provision was considered inadequate. Deputy Clerk to attend and present a submission for the Commissioners.	
j)	A copy of the Planning Officer's Report recommending approval for the Glen House Apartments Planning Application had been circulated and noted. Members expressed great concern about the consequences of the development on the parking situation in Laxey. The clerks were instructed to attend Planning Committee to represent the concerns expressed by the Board. In particular, a site visit by the Planning Committee Members would be requested.	
66/22	Approval of Minutes	
a)	Approval of minutes of meetings of 20 th April 2022. These were agreed to be a correct record of the decisions made at the meeting. Proposed, MC. Seconded, AC. Resolved.	
67/22	Matters Arising & Other Business	
a)	Meeting with Best 4 Laxey – Monday 9 th May, at 7pm. It was noted that the time of this meeting had been amended to 6.00pm and that it would take place at Laxey Football Club. The majority of Members indicated that they were able to attend.	

	<p>Meeting with Rob Callister and MUA Officers, Wednesday 11th May at 7pm.</p> <p>The content of this meeting was discussed. It was felt that technical questions had been asked on several occasions previously, and the consensus arrived at was that the discussion should be of 'policy' matters, particularly in regard to the 'Regional Treatment Sewage Policy'. In this circumstance it was only necessary for Mr Callister to attend. MC and AC had submitted questions in advance of the meeting; both Members advised that they were content to receive written answers to their questions. There followed discussion of how Tynwald Policy on regional treatment could be changed. SC agreed to compose a question for Mr Callister on policy that the clerks would forward in advance. Members asked JS to compose a question on the sense of dissatisfaction amongst Board Members with the sewage Consultative Forum. JS to forward a statement to this effect which will be forwarded to Mr Callister. There followed discussion of how the role of the Commissioners and the B4L group were being represented in press releases. These matters would also be taken up at the meeting with Mr Callister on the 11th of May.</p>	
b)	<p>The Fees Proposal for an options study on 35 New Road was discussed. Some Members expressed concern with the cost of the study. It was agreed to reserve further discussion until the meeting taking place on the 18th May 2022.</p>	
c)	<p>Queens Platinum Jubilee – Correspondence received from JP and AC.</p> <p>A discussion of events that could be held in Garff to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee took place. JM advised that a 'street party' would be taking place at Cooil Roi. A display of 'Royal' themed objects, etc would also be available for viewing at Cooil Roi for the duration of the whole 'Jubilee Weekend'. This was being entirely funded by the residents.</p> <p>The general consensus was that the Commissioners were committing a good level of financial and human resource to providing events/entertainments in Laxey and Garff. The Commissioners directly ran several events and also provided very significant support to events such as Laxey Fair & Maughold Parish Day, etc.</p> <p>PB advised that JP was looking to organise a 'street party' during the August Bank Holiday. SR asked if further discussion could be reserved until the next meeting when JP would be present.</p> <p>JS proposed that the Commissioners purchase commemorative coins to be given to each Garff primary school student. It was agreed that this should be investigated. A budget of up to £2,000 was approved in order that the clerks could go ahead and order the celebratory coins. Clerks to revert to the Board if the costs were beyond that resolved,</p>	
68/22	General correspondence - ntr	
a)	<p>Douglas Borough Council – ECAS Resolution for the formation of this Joint Committee and approval of the two letters. Circulated to members 27th April.</p> <p>This was noted.</p>	
69/22	<p>Committees & Boards – By Exception</p> <p>Municipal Association - AC reported that David Ashford MHK had been the guest speaker at the most recent meeting. Mr Ashford had spoken about funding available for those struggling with energy bills and that Capital projects over £2m will be managed through treasury and not the Department. Rates reform was raised and Mr Ashford stated he believe that rates should be levied on derelict buildings. AC asked if the Authority pays treasury to chase rates debtors, the Clerk they do and this cost was included as part of the rates collection fee. A brief discussion took place. AC confirmed the Municipal Association AGM would take place on Thursday 19th May 2022.</p>	
70/22	Operational Reports	
a)	<p>35 New Road –</p> <p>MR reported that staff appraisals had been completed at 35 New Road, and that believed Cooil Roi staff had also been done. (JM had stepped out the room at this point).</p> <p>MR reported on the progress of finding a consultant to independently review the option(s) for sewerage treatment. MR advised that 2 off island firms had been approached as well as on island firms. MR stated that they had been asked to provide fee proposals however they were unable to do this until all the documentation had been provided by Manx Utilities. MR also advised that one firm had advised against using companies that we already tied in with Government Projects as they may be biased towards Government. A discussion took place with regard to funding and the</p>	

	<p>consensus of members was that £20k would not be enough and significantly more funds would be required if this proposal goes ahead.</p> <p>Events – Brass Band Festival debrief.</p> <p>JS Proposed a vote of thanks to the Commissioners staff and Jane Burgess who had provided refreshments for the band members. MF reported that she had heard a lot of positive feedback regarding the event and how well it was organised and how much the bands looked forward to coming to Laxey. SC suggested the event could be spread out more. A discussion took place regarding the logistics, time and additional funding involved in moving band members further around the village. It was agreed this would be considered for next years event. It was noted that there had been an issue with the public address system at the village square and some people were not able to hear. It was resolved to investigate hiring in a PA for next years event. JS stated he had been asked by a member of public why there was not a collection for the bands. It was Resolved to raise this suggestion with the bands. A discussion took place with regard to staff being paid for their time.</p> <p>Laxey Fair - Saturday 25th June 2022. Date Noted. A discussion took place with regard to the organisation of the fair and MC volunteered to be o the Fair Committee if required. LCerks to approach the committee chairman.</p> <p>Promenade shower – MR advised that planning permission would need to be submitted allocation adjacent to a sewer pipe had been identified and Penketh Miller had been approached to draw up plans.</p> <p>SR raised the matter of a power supply for Maughold Village Green. MR said this was being progressed.</p> <p>MR advised that action would be taken to remove part of a lintel from a building that was hanging over the footpath.</p> <p>MR advised the Authority Accountant would be concerning preparation of the financial statements for the year end 31st March 2022 on the following Monday and the external Auditor was scheduled to visit early August.</p>	
b)	<p>Cooil Roi – To receive a report from the Housing Manager.</p> <p>JM briefed member on recent issues with fire alarm activations and a letter of warning from the Fire Service that callouts costs could be charged to Cooil Roi. These alarms had been caused by smoke alarm activations and were not actually fires. JM continued stating that the fire brigade would not be attending smoke only alarms and that they would only attend once it was confirmed as a fire. JM briefed members on the fire alarm system at Cooil Roi and the location of smoke and heat detectors in the flats. The proposal was that the smoke alarms would be taken off line but would still sound in the flat, if the was a serious issue the heat alarm would activate and the fire brigade would be called as normal. If a smoke alarm activates and a resident is concerned they can either call the fire brigade themselves or activate a fire alarm call unit close to their flat. JM advised she would be inviting residents for a chat to reassure them about the change. A detailed discussion took place regarding the proposed changes. MR asked if the senior fire officers had recommended the changes and whether this in writing. JM advised she had a letter from a senior fire officer regarding the smoke alarm activations. MR requested a copy of the letter for the Health and Safety file.</p>	
71/22	Any Other Urgent Business <i>(to be submitted in writing by mid-day the previous Tuesday to the date of the meeting).</i>	
72/22	Matters in Private	
a)	Staffing 35 New Road – Clerks to Report. A matter in regard to workload was discussed.	
b)	A matter in regard to new sheltered housing provision was discussed.	
c)	Lease 35 New Rd. Clerks to Report. <i>The Clerks reported on a newly implemented system to manage leases and rental income.</i>	
	Date of next meeting: 18 th May 2022, 7.00pm Venue: Commissioners Office 35 New Road, Laxey.	