

GARFF PARISH DISTRICT COMMISSIONERSWednesday 5th April 2023, 7.00 pm**Commissioners' Offices, 35 New Road, Laxey****Minutes**

Present: Mr S. Ryzak (SR) Chair, Mrs M. Fargher (MF) Vice Chair, Ms M. Christian (MC) Mr S. Clague (SC), Ms. A. Creer (AC), Mr T. Kenyon (TK). Mr P. Kinnish (PK), Mrs Julie Pinson (JP).

Officers: Mr P. Burgess (PB), Clerk, Mr M. Royle (MR), Deputy Clerk/RFO.

Apologies: Mr. J. Smith (JS).

7.00pm**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.

33/23**Planning Matters****Planning Applications**

- a) 22/01506/B Proposed 2 storey extension to side of elevation to form new family room with en-suite bathroom over and rear decking. 7 Lower Cronk Orry Minorca Hill Laxey – Amended plans to include decking element.

AC declared and interest and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

The inclusion of the decking elements were noted. It was agreed to make a submission reiterating the concerns of the Board regarding potential over intensive use of the site and overlooking issues, but deferring the decision to the Planning Authority in these respects.

- b) 23/00330/B Installation of replacement window to existing garage and creation of garage to existing car porch. Extension to rear garden terrace, installation of windows and door to the rear, removal of timber cladding and replaced with cladding and render finish Pine Lodge Baldhoon Road Laxey

AC declared and interest and withdrew from the meeting for this item.

There were no objections to these proposals.

- c) 23/00323/B Remove 3 unused chimney stacks. Pinecroft Clay Head Road Baldrine

The application documents were studied in detail. The general consensus was that the removal of the stacks would improve the visual impact of the building. There were no objections to the proposals.

Approval Notices (DEFA Planning Committee – the following approvals were noted. No further instruction.

- d) 22/01501/C Temporary use of garden as a camp site for the duration of the TT and IOM Festival of Motorcycling (retrospective), Balla De Yoxall Heights Laxey Road Baldrine.

- e) 23/00130/B Proposed garage with storage over, Primrose Lodge Slieau Lewaigue Lewaigue

- f) 23/00133/B Alterations and erection of ground and first floor extension with terrace Above, Villa Ramos Clay Head Road Baldrine

- g) 22/01470/B Refurbishment, partial demolition of existing extension and erection of a new single-storey extension, Thie Dhorlish Rhenab Road Cornaa

- h) 22/01526/B Erection of a poly tunnel for domestic use, Sea Dawn Ballaragh Road Laxey

- i) 22/01558/REM Reserved matters application for erection of a new dwelling, approval of the details of siting, design, external appearance and internal layout of the dwelling, the means of access and the landscaping of the site, Fields 624255 & 624256 Glen Mona Loop Road Glen Mona

- j) 22/01565/B Rendering work to dwelling, Cranstal House Port E Vullen

Refusal Notices (DEFA Planning Committee) - the following approval was noted. No further instruction.

- k) 22/01060/B Erection of a two storey dwelling, Keayn Reayrt, Croit e Quill Road, Lonan.

Appeal Notices (DEFA Planning Committee) - ntr

Planning Enforcement (DEFA Planning and Building Control) - ntr

Withdrawal Notices (DEFA Planning And Building Control) - ntr

	Demolition Notice (DEFA Planning And Building Control) - ntr
34/23	Approval of Minutes
a)	<p>Approval of minutes of meeting of 1st March 2023 & 22nd March 2023.</p> <p>1st March 2023: It was agreed that these were a correct record of the decisions made at the meeting. Proposed TK, Seconded MC. Resolved.</p> <p>22nd March 2023: It was agreed that these were a correct record of the decisions made at the meeting. Proposed MC, Seconded TK. Resolved.</p>
35/23	Matters Arising & Other Business
a)	<p>To discuss the Landslip on Laxey Promenade.</p> <p><i>Ian Alder, the Commissioners' retained H&S advisor, had forwarded his apologies in regard to this matter. It was noted that Mr Alder had been working closely with the clerks in regard to the situation with the landslip. The matter had been covered at an emergency meeting of the Commissioners on 22nd March. The clerks reported that all relevant Government Departments had been notified asking them to appraise the situation, take necessary actions, and offer advice. A letter to affected residents issued by the Attorney General's Chambers had been circulated and was noted. The letter indicated that there was little that any Government department could do or had responsibility for: rather it placed emphasis for a solution for the resident on civil action through the legal process. The clerks advised that the current situation was that one of the properties remained clearly vulnerable to further slips. MR advised that further information had been received from Environmental Health in regard to actions by the Commissioners. It was noted that some of this advice contradicted advice issued previously when similar slips had occurred. No further actions were instructed at this stage. The Commissioners had engaged a structural engineer to advise on where the barriers could be moved to. Written advice had been received. This advice had been acted upon. It was agreed to continue monitoring the situation.</i></p>
b)	<p>To discuss options for recycling in Garff (<i>generated at item 22/23.a at the March 1st Meeting at request of the Chair.</i>)</p> <p><i>It was noted that with the pressure of business due to the landslide and other matters that this important issue would be deferred until a meeting in the near future.</i></p>
c)	<p>To discuss the footpath closure at Dhoon Glen</p> <p><i>The clerks were instructed to press the DEFA Minister for an urgent meeting to discuss the concerns of the Commissioners in regard to the long-term closure of areas that had been expressed at previous meetings. It was noted that the Minister had advised the Commissioners that further surveys were taking place and a commitment had been given to come back to the Commissioners to discuss the matter further. The clerks were asked to chase the Minister for an update on progress with the surveys and to push for a further meeting as promised once the surveys were completed.</i></p>
d)	<p>To discuss recently imposed audit charge increases.</p> <p><i>The clerks advised that the auditors had imposed a rise of 58% for their audit for YE 2023. This was discussed in detail. It was agreed that the Clerks should contact Treasury and express the Commissioners frustration that this price rise had not been flagged up and that the notification of the rise had been given two months after the deadline for the submission of estimates from local authorities for YE 2024. The Board agreed unanimously that this was an unacceptable situation and were instructed to write a letter of complaint to Treasury to convey the Commissioners disappointment with the situation that had been imposed. The consensus was that this was completely unfair to the ratepayer.</i></p>
e)	<p>Coronation of King Charles III.</p> <p><i>Matters in regard to a function at Government House to which Members of the community were invited were discussed. PB to contact members of the community that the Commissioners identified to ask if they wished to attend. A resident had also written in-to the Commissioners regarding their willingness to organise an event on Laxey Promenade. MR advised with regret that there was currently no spare office capacity to assist or contribute to an event due to other matters which were currently straining the Commissioners' limited human resources. MR was instructed to contact the resident and discuss.</i></p>

36/23	General correspondence - ntr
37/23	Committees & Boards – By exception – No matters were raised by Members.
38/23	Operational Reports
a)	35 New Road - Updates on: <i>Installation of skatepark equipment on Glen Road, Laxey. MR advised on progress. The decisions made in regard to funding the installation made at the meeting on the ... were noted. The previous decision made then to in-principle fund the project through the Government arranged loan scheme was confirmed and would be confirmed once the full figures had been received. A petition to borrow would then be submitted if the Board approved. A Member expressed concern that the costs of the project may increase and asked that, if so, the installation be re-considered by the Commissioners. MR advised that fixed prices had been obtained for both the modular equipment and the groundworks at the site. These should not rise, but he advised that if that situation occurred the Board would be consulted for permission to incur any additional costs.</i>
b)	Cool Roï – <i>JM had circulated a report. This was noted by Members. MR advised that the proposal for new sheltered housing at the former Princes Motors site was ongoing. MR, PB, and JM had attended a meeting at Bell Burton with Senior officers from the Department who had indicated that they would be analysing the business plan documents submitted by JM and would advise on their view of the viability of the project in due course. They advised that Treasury if they were to give approval the project could be included in the YE 2025 finances. Updates on further progress would be issued in due course.</i>
39/23	Any Other Urgent Business
a)	To discuss correspondence from the Archdeacon in regard to the transfer of ownership of the field beside the Dhoon Church for use as community amenity. <i>This was noted. It was agreed that the Commissioners would re-enter into negotiations. MR was asked to arrange a meeting with the Church Authorities in due course.</i>
b)	To discuss a proposal from a resident for an event they wish to coordinate on the day of the coronation of King Charles III. <i>This was dealt with at item 35.2.e above.</i>
c)	To discuss proposals from DEFA Environmental Health in regard to the landslip and adjacent properties. <i>This matter was dealt with at item 35/23.a above.</i>
d)	To note proposals from DEFA for a new car park to service the MWT project and to provide public parking at Cloughbane Quarry in Maughold. <i>This matter was noted. The Commissioners viewed the proposals drawings and expressed support for the additional public amenity that this would provide in the area. MR to instruct DEFA of the Commissioners' views.</i>
e)	<i>TK referred to the meeting in regard to forming a community group to take over and manage All Saints Church in Lonan. The meeting had been well attended. MC had also attended in a personal capacity. The Commissioners wished every success to any committee that would emerge from the meeting.</i>
40/23	Matters in Private
	Note: Local Government Act 1985, section 65; Disclosure of Information <i>'Any member or former member of a local authority who, without the consent of the authority, divulges any information communicated to him in confidence as such member shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1000.'</i>
a)	To discuss progress with the Public Shelter refurbishments. <i>Members were briefed by MR on the progress with the new installations. The chairs had been placed in and outside the Shelter and were being used. The shelter and its externals had been undertaken. CCTV would be installed in the next 14 days and improvements to the electricity facilities in the building that had been planned would take place in due course.</i>
	Date of Next Meeting: 3 rd May 2023

