

## LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

### Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 6.45 pm

## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Mr J James (Vice Chairman), Mr P Kinnish, Mrs R. Bate, Mr AJ Moore (Chairman), Mr J Rosa.

**In Attendance:** Mr P. Burgess, Clerk, Sean Crossley, Department of Economic Development.

**Apologies:** Mr P Hill Deputy Clerk.

### 150/13 Planning Matters

#### a) Planning Applications

- b) Planning Application No 14/00299/B of 12.03.14 in respect of construction of raised decking to rear elevation of dwelling at Nirvana, Ramsey Road, Laxey, IM4 7PY. [LVC Ref:3669]. *Submissions by 11.04.14.*

*Resolved - To Approve Planning Application no. 14/00299/B.*

- c) Planning Application no. 14/00335/B, in respect of Erection of a detached dwelling with associated parking, Land Adjacent to Cliff Cottage, Back Shore Rd, Laxey. [LVC Ref 3670]. *Submissions by 18.04.14.*

*Resolved - To Defer Planning Application no. 14/00335/B to meeting 16.04.14.*

#### d) Approval Notices (DoLGE Planning Committee)

- e) Planning Approval Notice No 14/00205/B of 28.03.14 in respect of replacement windows at 15A New Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3667]{Delegated powers}. Approved by LVC.

*Resolved to note planning approval notice no.14/00205/B.*

#### f) Refusal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

- g) Nil

#### h) Appeal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

- i) Nil

#### j) Planning Enforcement (DLGE Planning and Building Control)

- k) Nil.

### 151/13 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Mid Monthly Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014 were examined for accuracy, and it was unanimously resolved they represented a correct statement of events.

*Proposed JJ, Seconded JB*

### 152/13 Matters arising out of the minutes 19<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

#### a) Meeting reference 145.13, item a).

[Stuart.Quayle@cso.gov.im](mailto:Stuart.Quayle@cso.gov.im) e-mails at 1223 hours on 10.02.14 regarding Consultation on the Freedom of Information Bill 2014. - Please find attached the Freedom of Information Bill 2014 consultation document together with a feedback form for electronic responses. The consultation on the Bill runs for 6 weeks from today. The closing date for submissions is Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

2014. These documents, together with an FAQs document, can be accessed electronically at: <http://tinyurl.com/ohle7dc> The consultation proposes a phased introduction for the Freedom of Information Act, which, when fully implemented will include all public authorities in the Isle of Man including local authorities. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

*Resolved to note.*

### 153/13 General correspondence

- a) Manx National Two Day Trial writes on 19.03.14 asking for permission to use part of Laxey Beach for the event on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August between 1300 hours and 1500 hours. Reply to Tony Temple.

*Resolved to Approve.*

- b) Steven Morley letter to tenderers of 19.03.14 with clarification of items regarding The Promenade

Kiosk.

*Resolved to note.*

- c) Paul Cowin at Douglas Borough Council emails on 27.03.14 - At its last meeting, the Joint Committee for the Eastern Civic Amenity Site agreed to charge £6.50 and £8.00, including VAT, for disposal of PC Monitors and TV sets to offset the cost that will be charged by the Department from 1<sup>st</sup> April.  
Those charges will be £4.00 and £5.50 exclusive of VAT – equating to £4.80 and £6.60 with VAT. There has been considerable correspondence by e-mail today relating to standardising the charges across all Sites. West and South suggest the charges we have approved are too high and there seems to be a consensus around charging £6.00 and £8.00 inclusive of VAT. There is a need to reach a conclusion quickly to enable implementation from next Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April.  
Could you please indicate your Authority's concurrence with the minor variation of the charge for PC Monitors from £6.50 to £6.00? It will of course be placed before the Joint Committee at its next meeting, in May, for ratification.  
*A discussion took place and it was Resolved to concur with the revised charges for the disposal of PC monitors.*
- d) Peter Hill emails on 28.03.14 with draft 'Garff' art work for the Welcome signs and Kinrades Refuse Vehicle. Please respond by 3<sup>rd</sup> April.  
*A discussion took place and it was resolved the additional wording on the welcome signage would be in Capitals letters and the Kinrades refuse wagon signage as presented.*
- e) Martin Royle emails on 28.03.14 reference Garff Joint Initiative meeting on 26.03.14, with draft letter to John Wrigley at Waste Management Unit attached. The letter is in response to Mr Wrigley's request to provide costs associated with Refuse Collection.  
*A discussion took place and it was resolved to approve the letter as presented.*

#### 154/13 Committee Reports

- a) **Municipal Association** – Roz Bate – 27.03.14, Willow House Onchan at 7.00pm.  
RB reported that Caron Palmer and Dave Adamson had given a presentation on Managing Health and Safety. In particular reference was made to the importance of checking that contractor's staff had been briefed on Health and Safety plans submitted prior to commencements of works. RB advised the Municipal Association AGM would be hosted by Braddan Commissioners and would take place on the evening of Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at Vagabonds Rugby Club, at a cost of £16.50 per head.
- b) **Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust** – Peter Kinnish  
The Clerk advised that the Commissioners were due to make their annual donation to the Trust in respect of Tourism information services provided. PK reminded the Board they had agreed to provide funding toward the painting of the Snaefell Wheel. A discussion took place and it was resolved the Clerk write to the Trust requesting an update on the cost of painting the Snaefell Wheel.
- c) **Coil Roi Housing Authority** – Andrew Moore, Justin Rosa. – AM reported that an Extraordinary Meeting had taken place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March.
- d) **Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities** – Jeff James.
- e) **Garff Joint Initiative Committee** – Roz Bate, Justin Rosa - meeting **26.03.14** at 7.00pm.  
It was reported that all three public meetings had been positive and unanimously in favour of further investigating the proposal in principle to form a Garff Board. PK stated he was concerned Laxey needed to progress capital projects in order to reduce the reserves to an acceptable level before assets and liabilities were transferred.
- a) **Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee** – Roz Bate. - No Report.
- b) **Laxey Youth Initiative** – Roz Bate, Jeff James. - No Report.
- c) **Regeneration Committee** – Peter Kinnish, Justin Rosa. Meeting dates: **26.03.14**, 30.04.14 and 28.05.13. All meetings at 6.30pm.
- i. Mines Road Manx National Heritage signage – Commissioners to consider taking ownership

pending MNH inspecting reference condition. MNH have stated they are willing to work with LVC to produce new designs however LVC would have to pay for them.

- ii. Mines Road Coach Park - Commissioners to consider paying for the benches, cost between £4,000 and £5,000. The advice given this would help support the business case and future business cases by demonstrating local buy in. The total cost of the scheme including the benches is £105,000.
- iii. Unadopted highway between the top of Church Hill and the MER station. Proposal for the Commissioners to pursue The proposal was for the Commissioners to progress an Application for Ownership Based on Possession. Assuming sworn Affidavits can be obtained indicating unimpeded and uninterrupted access across the land during the past 21 years, and no objections are registered, the ownership being transferred to the Department of Infrastructure.
- iv. Discussion re the stone wall on the road to Laxey Wheel car park. It is understood the wall impedes access to the Bus Vannin vehicle. It was agreed that this should be revised if the Bus trial proves successful. PK proposed this work could be paid for by LVC.

*A general discussion took place and it was resolved to invite Derek Sewell of Department of Infrastructure to a meeting to discuss the following items:*

- *Coach park programme of works and temporary arrangements for parking.*
- *Coach park scheme benches.*
- *Revised parking scheme for Rose Gardens.*
- *Section of unadopted road between Church Hill and the MER station.*

AM proposed meeting at 1030hrs on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

- v. **Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee** – Andrew Moore – See meeting reference 153/13, item c).
- vi. **Works and Amenity Report** – Clerk gave an overview of major works currently being progressed. PK raised a number of matters for action and requested to view time sheets.

### **155/13 Chairman's Report**

- a) The Chairman reported he had been a guest on Manx Radio's Present Politics show on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

### **156/13 Reports**

- a) Nil.

### **157/13 Any Other Business**

- a) Deputy Clerk of Tynwald writes on 28.03.14 regarding Select Committee on the Domestic Rating System (Petition for Redress by Buttery on 06.07.09). This is a Consultation in which the Local Authorities are asked, (1). Does your Local Authority believe that the current domestic rating system is fair? (2). If your Local Authority were in a position to design a new system starting from a blank piece of paper what system would it wish to put in place? (3). What other comments would your Local Authority wish to make to the Committee about the issues raised by Mr Buttery's petition? Subs by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014, preferably by e-mail to [j.king@tynwald.org.im](mailto:j.king@tynwald.org.im).

*A discussion took place and in respect of the rating valuation differential between old and new, rural and urban housing. PK advised that some traditional manx cottages had very low rates and that prior to the introduction of the fixed refuse charge, there were cases where the rate collected failed to cover the cost of refuse collection service. It was agreed that a fairer rating system could be based on the size of the property and the size of the land attached.*

- b) Mrs Jacobs calls into the Commissioners office on 31.03.14 and requests the Commissioners write to the owner of the Glen House Residential home requesting their staff to park their vehicles in the upper car park to free up space in the lower car park. Mrs Jacobs is concerned that a number of elderly residents are struggling to find car parking spaces close to the shops.

*The Clerk advised the Authority had written to the Department Environment, Food and Agriculture.*

*Regarding in 2013 in respect car parking and sign at the Glen and their response were that the provisions were adequate. A discussion took place and it was resolved that this was a matter for Department to address.*

- c) PK e-mails at 1810 hours on 31.03.14 regarding the beach and wrack and requests the Clerk forward to DOI -

By all means send this onto the DOI.

I see that the digger is down the clearing out the harbour and dumping the contents on the beach. I spoke to John Cowley who put me in touch with Chris Clark DOI Harbours who has just taken over from Pete Best. He seemed helpful is on 686 923 and at [chris.clark@gov.im](mailto:chris.clark@gov.im) I left him my mobile number.

I do believe that Laxey Commissioners have control of the beach and while we would not object to the contents of the rotting wrack (seaweed) and leaves being dumped onto the beach we would expect something in return.

I think I did explain but not very well that over the years the DOT Harbours have dumped thousands of tons of stones and boulders from the river onto the beach. Consequently the harbour end of the beach has a great deal of large stones and boulders along with a quantity of rock armour that has been moved by the storms. A number of residents have been saying that accessing the beach from that end is difficult.

I explained that the DOI Harbours usually tidied up the beach at the harbour end and move the rock armour and also the larger stones and boulders back against the harbour wall.

I would be grateful if you can send Chris an e-mail supporting me as I have had a few complaints about the state of the beach.

On another issue I mentioned the steps at the harbour end that very badly worn and are dangerous and also have no handrail and that the steps at the end café are still waiting for a new hand rail and have been closed off for several years. This could be the responsibility of DOI Highways, I am not sure.

*A general discussion took place with respect to access to the beach in particular the steps adjacent to the harbour pier. It was agreed that raising the matter with the department may result in this particular access being closed. A discussion took place with respect to provision of better access to the sand, possible clearing a path though the stones at the slipway or a board walk. JR proposed obtaining a quote for clearing stones to make a path. Resolved Clerk to write to Department and seek permission in respect of clearing a path.*

- d) MEA emails - RE: LA154 - NEW ROAD - Further to a site visit by one of our streetlight technicians, we have been advised that the above fitting is beyond repair. The fitting is no longer watertight and has been disconnected. We would recommend a replacement fitting which I have estimated the cost of below. The estimated cost will be £460 + 20% VAT. Please send an email, letter or fax confirming the above so we may carry out this work at our earliest convenience.

*Resolved to approve.*

- e) MEA emails - RE:LA148 – PINFOLD HILL - Further to a site visit by one of our Streetlight Technicians we have been advised the above fitting is beyond repair. The fitting is no longer water tight and has burnt out. We previously replaced the control gear in this light on 05/03/14 as it had burnt out however it has failed again. We would therefore recommend a replacement fitting which I have estimated the cost of below. The estimated cost will be £460 + 20% VAT. Please send an email, letter or fax confirming the above so we may carry out this work at our earliest convenience.

*Resolved to approve.*

- f) A Commissioner enquired regarding progress of the fencing to the bowling green on Glen Road. The Clerk advised that due to workload this was still pending.

Meeting Closed at 9.26pm

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2014, 6.45pm.