

LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 4th December 2013 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, Ms A Street, Department of Community Culture and Leisure, Isle of Man Railways.

Apologies: Mr P Hill Deputy Clerk.

91/13 Guest - Angie Street. Department of Community Culture and Leisure, Isle of Man Railways.
The Chairman welcomed AS to the meeting. AS said Isle of Man Railways would not be holding the Swinging 60's or the Victorian Extravaganza events during 2014 this was due to poor attendance, however there was a budget to 'new' event in Laxey and the Department is looking for ideas. A discussion took place and a number of suggestions were tabled. Nothing firm was agreed and AS asked the Commissioners to get back early January with suggestions. AS left at 7.15pm

92/13 Planning Matters

Planning Applications

- a) Planning Application No 13/91361/B of 18.11.13 in respect of installation of new window and door onto Whitehouse Close at Old Butchers Shop, Whitehouse Buildings, New Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3658].
Resolved - To Approve the following Planning Application Notice no. 13/91361/B.

Approved

- b) Planning Application No 13/91344/B of 13.11.13 in respect of erection of an extension to dwelling at The Evergreens, South Cape, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3657].
Resolved - To Approve the following Planning Application Notice no. 13/91344/B.

Approved

c) Approval Notices (DoLGE Planning Committee)

Planning Approval Notice No 13/91253/B of 29.11.13 in respect of retrospective application to erect replacement roof over garage and timber cladding to external walls at Braeside, Glen Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref:3654]{Delegated Powers}.

Approved by LVC.

Resolved - To Approve the following Planning Approval Notice no. 13/91253/B

d) Refusal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

Nil.

e) Appeal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

Nil.

f) Planning Enforcement (DLGE Planning and Building Control)

Nil.

93/13 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Mid Monthly Meeting held on 20th November 2013 were examined for accuracy, and it was unanimously resolved they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed RB, Seconded JJ

94/13 Matters arising out of the minutes 20th November 2013

- a) RB reported that Laxey Campsite had been awarded runner up in the Campsite/Hostel in the 2013 Isle of Man Tourism Awards. JJ proposed congratulations be passed to John Bate.
- b) RB reported that the Beach Café open sign was still in position at the top of Old Laxey Hill. The Clerk advised he had tried to contact the proprietor but understood she was off Island. A Commissioners proposed the proprietor was also asked to remove the metal Gazebo frame. It was resolved a letter was sent to the proprietor requesting both item were removed.

95/13 General correspondence

- a) David Cretney MHK writes letter dated 19.11.13 regarding Local Government (Members Attendance Allowances) Order 2013. *Circulated.*
RB reported the Members Attendance Allowances) Order 2013 had been discussed at the recent Municipal Association meeting and a number of questions were raised which have been forwarded to the department for clarification. The questions are:-
- a) What is an approved meeting.*
 - b) Who will determine meeting preparation time and the hourly rate claimed.*
 - c) As this was now an hourly rather than an allowance would it be taxable.*
- b) Lezayre Parish Commissioner copy letter to Chief Minister dated 19.11.13, in respect of the statement made in Tynwald on 15.10.13 by the Chief Minister on the report for alternative means for delivery for waste collection and disposal. Letter states that average cost per annum for collection and disposal of refuse is £78. (this is based on financial year 2012/2013). *Circulated.*
RB reported the yet to be published report for alternative means for delivery for waste collection and disposal had been discussed at the recent Municipal Association meeting and a letter was to be sent to the Chief Minister requesting to see the Energy From Waste Plant contract terms. RB stated there were concerns that the contract made provision for SITA to be offered an all Island Waste Contract.
- c) Mr Willoughby from the Department of Infrastructure writes on 21.11.13 regarding budget setting and future rate borne schemes. This letter follows his original letter of 16th August last about the pre-petition process and the need to carry out discussions with their technical Officer, Mr Ian Jackson. The Department believes that it would be beneficial to hold regular meetings with him to discuss any future plans and he will be in touch to arrange these. If you wish to meet him earlier please contact Mr Willoughby before 31st December.
Resolved to note.
- d) Deborah Reeve writes on 21.11.13 regarding Tynwald approval of the Housing Review recommendations. She states that consultation with the Local Authorities will take place over the coming months as their cooperation will be essential to the success of the changes being implemented and they look forward to the engagement of them.
Resolved to note.
- e) Mayor of Douglas invitation to the Chairman to attend a Christmas drinks reception on Monday 9th December 2013 at 1800 hours at the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Douglas. Chains of Office and Guest. RSVP.
Resolved to send Apologies.
- f) Steve Rodan writes on 26.11.13 to thank the Board for making the former Police Office available to the Laxey & Lonan Live at Home Scheme.
Resolved to note.
- g) Copy of letter from Chief Minister to Lezayre Parish Commissioners dated 27.11.13, responding the letter dated 19.11.13 (minute ref 80/13 item a.) in respect of Waste Management. *Circulated..*
Resolved to note.

96/13 Committee Reports

a) **Municipal Association** – Roz Bate – See 95/13, item a) and b),

b) **Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust** – Peter Kinnish –
PK REPORT FOR NEXT MEETING ON LAXEY & LONAN HERITAGE TRUST AGM.

It was quite a pleasant meeting and not really a lot to report.

Things that concerned LVC were

The painting of Snaefell Wheel, which has been forgotten about recently but was mentioned that it needs to be done. They will bring it up again in their next Committee meeting.

Some additional Car parking for the Village. A suggestion was that there may be an area on the Valley gardens side of the Captains Hill which can be used.

A mention that the LVC were going to tarmac the path from Blacks down to the mines train station.

An embarrassing mention of the toilets at the bottom of Mines Road by the Miner's Statue. Where are we up

to with this and what is the hold up? There were over 30 people there mostly Laxey Ratepayers and they were not impressed with the lack of progress. Neither am I.

A discussion took place with respect to the footpath from Laxey Station to Captains Hill, PK sated he would like to see this improved to encourage people to use it more. It was agreed that the Commissioners would inspect the footpath and report back.

- c) **Cooil Roi Housing Authority** – Andrew Moore Justin Rosa – *No Report.*
- d) **Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities** – Jeff James, *JJ reported he a recently attend the AGM and that the current secretary had resigned, also the alterations to the changing room had been completed and the new shed built.*
- e) **Garff Joint Initiative Committee** – Roz Bate, Justin Rosa meeting 03.12.13. *RB reported it had been unanimously resolved that there were sufficient grounds to exempt the current Garff refuse contract from the tender process and award the contract to the existing provider. The grounds were, (1). The current Contractor had consistently provided an excellent service throughout their tenure and had fully met the expectations of the Authorities and Public alike, (2). They had done so at a cost that was considered good value for money, (3). Previous tender processes had not resulted in applicants who could satisfy the Boards that they either met the criteria or would be able to provide the same or better level of service as provided by the current Contractor, (4). The current Contractor was local to the Sheading of Garff.*
*It was unanimously **Resolved** to approve the resolution as detail above and that the Garff Refuse Contract be awarded to Kinrades Haulage. Proposed RB, Seconded JJ.*
RB then reported that a debate on the future of the Garff Joint Initiative Committee had taken place and that the three Authorities should amalgamate into one Garff Sheading Authority, with equal representation on what would be, the three wards of Laxey, Lonan and Maughold and the Garff Committee seek support for the above proposal in principle for the three Boards and obtain a resolution to that affect.
*A discussion took place and it was unanimously **Resolved** support the above proposal in principle and engage in discussion to move the matter forward.*
- f) **Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee** – *No report.*
- g) **Laxey Youth Initiative** – Roz Bate, Jeff James - *No report.*
- h) **Regeneration Committee** – Peter Kinnish, Justin Rosa. *JR reported the he had volunteered to lead to progress a sculpture event in Laxey based around the Laxey Glen. It is proposed to hold a sculpture competition in late Sept early October with entrants being invited from on and off island. It was hoped accommodation could be provided through a home stay type scheme. If the event was successful it could grow the following year and become an annual event. JR stated that the Regeneration Arts sub committee had given approval to progress a proposal for a sculpture interpretation of the Mercury Arc Rectifiers, it had been suggested the best location for this would be in Whitehouse Close. It was hoped the funding for the sculpture would be a combination of private and Arts Council grants. JR stated a detailed discussion had taken place with respect to car parking in the centre of the village and that the DoI had tabled the plan which involved reducing the number of car parking spaces at the Rose Gardens. JR said this would have a detrimental effect of the village businesses. JR stated that he believed the only way to resolved the issues with car parking in the village was to take part of the Rose Gardens and create diagonal parking. JR urged the Board to agree in principle to this proposal so that a scheme could be investigated. It was unanimously **Resolved** to support this proposal in principle.*
- i) **Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee** – Andrew Moore – *No report – Next meeting 16th December 2013.*
- j) **Works and Amenity** – *The works and Amenity report Circulated and noted.*

97/13 Chairman's Report

Nil.

98/13 Reports

a) Nil.

99/13 Any Other Business

- a) Laxey Carol Concert and Torchlight Procession Wednesday 11th December - Father Christmas arrives by Lifeboat at 6.30pm followed by Procession to Laxey Methodist Church for Carol Concert at 7pm. Please note times may vary due to Tide and Weather Conditions.

Resolved to Note.

- b) Port Erin Poster advertising their Carol Service on Thursday 19th December 2013 at 1900 hours at St Catherine's Church.

Resolved to Note.

- c) Marie Connan e-mails at 1648 hours on 29.11.13 on behalf of Jo Callow - The Department of Infrastructure is proposing to introduce public speaking at its Planning Committee. Speaking is to be allowed in accordance with a guidance leaflet that is attached for your information. Initially it is proposed that this be undertaken as a 12 month trial (starting at the Planning Committee to be held on 18th December 2013) with a decision regarding its permanency being taken at the end of the trial period.

In order to allow the successful operation of public speaking, please note the following changes to our existing procedures:

- 1) Following the introduction on 18th December 2013 of public speaking, the date of the next planning committee meeting will be advertised one week in advance of that meeting in the IOM Courier, so that the public are alerted to the fact that an application in which they are interested may be on the agenda that will be published the following week. The dates of all Committee meetings are advertised on the Department's web-site.
- 2) Responsibility will remain with the applicant/agent and/or any parties that have made comment (including your authority), to follow the progress of an application and register to speak (should they wish to do so) at the appropriate time.
- 3) Registration **by phone** or **in person** at the public counter **by the deadline** is the **only** avenue for registration to speak. Please refer to the leaflet for further information.
- 4) Anyone attending to speak must present the identification number that will be given the caller on registration.

It is hoped that the opportunity to speak will be embraced and further assist parties in presenting an open and interactive planning process. Please be aware that due to the bank holidays surrounding Christmas 2013, the Committee meeting day for the initiation of public speaking (December 18th) is, unusually, a Wednesday. This means that the agenda will be published in the afternoon of 12 December and the deadline for registering to speak will be 4.30pm on the 17th December. Should you have any questions as to the process please do not hesitate to contact myself or Miss J Chance at your earliest opportunity on 685950.

Resolved to Note.

- d) Graham Shimmin from Manx Telecom e-mails at 1004 hours on graham.shimmin@manxtelecom.com on 02.12.13 - Thank you for your email requesting that the K6 payphone kiosk be maintained at Laxey MER station. We are currently investigating this option, with the intention of drawing up the appropriate terms and agreements of sale (at a nominal amount), should any local authority wish to adopt a kiosk in this way. For the avoidance of doubt, the payphone mechanism would be removed under these terms. Any changes to our payphone guidelines will be agreed through the Communications Commission. Be assured we will not remove the kiosk until changes have been agreed and an agreement forwarded to Laxey Village Commissioners for consideration. Please let me know if you have any further questions at this time.

Resolved to Note.

- e) Minutes of the Garff Joint Initiative Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd December 2013.

Resolved to note.

Meeting Closed at 9.10pm

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 18th December 2013, 6.45pm.