

LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 5th March 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.

134/13 Guest Speaker - Sean Crossley, Disability Employment Adviser, Disability Employment Service.
To speak to the Board about Training Work Placement.

The following matters were discussed in private and moved to public.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Crossley to the meeting. Mr Crossley briefed the Commissioners on his role and the Disability Employment service. A detailed discussion took place and it was agreed that due to the small size, the Authority lacked the resources and support to be able to take on a work placement trainee. The Chairman thanked Mr Crossley for attending.

135/13 Planning Matters

a) Planning Applications

b) Planning Application No 14/00206/B of 19.02.14 in respect of installation of replacement windows at 15a New Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3667].

Resolved to approve – Planning application no. 14/00206/B. Approved.

c) Approval Notices (DoLGE Planning Committee)

Resolved to note planning approval notices 13/91433/B, 14/00049/B and 13/91512/B

d) Planning Approval Notice No 13/91433/B of 20.02.14 in respect of erection of sun lounge extension to replace existing conservatory and raised decking to rear garden at 3 Lower Cronk Orry, Minorca Hill, Laxey, [LVC Ref: 3660]. {Delegated Powers}. Approved by LVC.

e) Planning Approval Notice No 14/00049/B of 20.02.14 in respect of removal of existing chimney stacks and erection of replacement stack with flue at Ard Finwork, Ramsey Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3663]. {Delegated Powers}. Approved by LVC.

f) Planning Approval Notice No 13/91512/B of 28.02.14 in respect of erection of a replacement detached garage with first floor tourist living accommodation above with associated parking at Lowfield, Stoney Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3662]. {Delegated Powers}. *Approved by LVC.*

g) Refusal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

h) Nil.

i) Appeal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

j) Planning Appeal Submission Notice 13/91434/B of 20.02.14 requesting 6 copies of submission in respect of creation of a flat roof dormer to rear elevation of dwelling at 3 Lower Cronk Orry, Minorca Hill, Laxey, IM4 7EG. [LVC Ref: 3661]. Submissions before Thursday 13th March 2014.

Resolved to note planning Appeal Submission Notice 13/91434/B.

k) Planning Enforcement (DLGE Planning and Building Control)

l) Nil.

136/13 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 19th February 2014 were examined for accuracy, and it was unanimously resolved they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed RB, Seconded JJ

137/13 Matters arising out of the minutes 19th February 2014.

a) Meeting reference 131.13, item b).

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 4th 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.

JJ advised the Clerk had provided him with a paper copy of the document, which he would read and report back to the meeting 19.03.14.

b) Meeting reference 131.13, item g). – Mines Rd Speed survey.

PK enquired if the Department had been requested to carry out a new speed survey in August. The Clerk advised he had emailed Kevin Almond with the request.

138/13 General correspondence

a) Waste Management letter of 19.02.14 regarding the Consultation on Alternative Means of Delivery enclosing a questionnaire that seeks to obtain complete details of every cost aspect of our refuse service for attachment to our response.

RB reported the matter had been discussed at the recent Municipal Association meeting and that the data currently being collected by the Municipal Association Chairman had been collated this would be passed onto the Department in a format which would prevent identification of the individual Authorities.

b) Steve Willoughby e-mails at 1728 hours on 24.02.14 - Thanks for your correspondence on this and your patience. I have now had confirmation from the Treasury that they have no objection to Laxey repaying the loans early particularly as you have pointed out that the Isle of Man Bank have no objection to this and will not charge any penalties for doing so. I also wanted to point out that as we are not talking about setting up a new reserve, (you already have a general revenue reserve which you intend to take the money from) the Department do not need to give our approval. However, I would appreciate you sending me a copy of the documentation that confirms the paying off of the loans for our records. We should have a record of the taking out of the loan so we would be able to close the file on this at that point. I hope that this helps to clarify the position.

The Clerk referred to the Private meeting minutes dated 19.02.14 the Board Resolution repay and close the loan accounts, and advised a letter had been sent to the Isle of Man Bank instructing the same.

c) Isle of Man Water & Sewerage Authority letter of 24.02.14 stating that the rates will go up by 2.9% and a separate sewerage charge of £50.00 will apply.

Resolved to note.

139/13 Committee Reports

a) Municipal Association – Roz Bate – 27.02.14, Willow House Onchan at 7.00pm. RB advised that John Collister had attended the meeting to talk about proposals to create the ‘Public Services Commission’, which would cover all Government staff including Whitley Council employees. RB advised that Local Authority staff employed under Whitley council would not be covered under the new Commission and explained that there were options for Local Authorities to mirror the commission or to set up their own Council/Commission. RB reported the consensus of the MA members would be to mirror the commission.

b) Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust – Peter Kinnish. No report.

c) Coil Roi Housing Authority – Andrew Moore Justin Rosa. No report.

d) Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities – Jeff James. No report.

e) Garff Joint Initiative Committee – Roz Bate, Justin Rosa - meeting 26.03.14 at 7.00pm.

Approval of Garff Newsletter. See draft attached please note meeting dates have not been confirmed. Garff signage - please can you establish from your Boards whether they want the writing in lower carriage or upper carriage and do they want the writing in black or say red so as to stand out.

A copy of the newsletter was circulated to the Commissioners. A discussion took place and it was resolved to approve the newsletter. Laxey Public meeting to take place on Tuesday 18th March 2014

at 7pm.

- f) **Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee** – Roz Bate. No report.
- g) **Laxey Youth Initiative** – Roz Bate, Jeff James. No Report.
- h) **Regeneration Committee** – Peter Kinnish, Justin Rosa. Meeting dates 26.02.14, **26.03.14**, 30.04.14 and 28.05.13. All meeting at 6.30pm. *The clerk circulated the minutes of the meeting 26.02.14.*
- i) **Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee** – Andrew Moore. The following matters were discussed in private and moved to public. AM reported that the Department had produced a copy of the leased for the ECA site at the meeting and advice provided by the Douglas Borough advocate had been discussed
- j) **Works and Amenity Report** – No report.

140/13 Chairman's Report

- a) No report.

141/13 Reports

- a) Rent Review - There would normally be an RPI increase applied to appropriate tenants. The annual rate of inflation as measured by the Retail Prices Index (RPI) showed an increase from 2.3% in October 2013 to 2.5 % in November 2013.
Consideration to letting two vacant beach huts.
A discussion took place and it was Resolved to increase the rents by 2.5% and the vacant beach huts to be advertised.

142/13 Any Other Business

- a) For information Revised Garff Newsletter as prepared by Mr Rosa. *See 139/13, item e).*
- b) Emma Mann of Isle of Man Newspapers emails on 05.03.14 at 0959hrs. Further to our telephone conversation, could you please assist me by supplying information about the possibility of selling T.T. News along Laxey Promenade during Laxey TT Motorcycle Show 2014. We are looking at using two sellers to cover the promenade area, on foot, on the 5th June. The time frame for selling will only be approximately 1pm till 5pm. I have spoken to Andy Scullard and he said that he would discuss it with yourselves.
Resolved to approve.
- c) Andy Scullard of the Moodey Dhoo Motor Cycle Club emails on 05.03.14 at 1006hrs. Sorry for the delay in contacting you this year - but we've had major delays caused by waiting for the Police to have our annual meeting - now just taken place. I'm now waiting for Tower to give us our usual insurance cover and then we should be able to proceed with all the normal 'road closure', Harbour Master, Music Licence, etc. DeD Funding is in place - but the computer has coughed, so we're still waiting for the pre-show payment - let's hope after all the mis-haps that it all goes smoothly from now on.
Resolved to approve insurance payment, and supporting letter re music and dance licence application.
- d) Andy Scullard of the Moodey Dhoo Motor Cycle Club emails on 06.03.14 at 1216hrs - I don't see a problem with IOM Newspapers being at the show - but maybe we'll try and get them to do a 'special' about Laxey and the Bike Show in return for letting them be there.
Can I ask you to send me an updated version of your approval to apply for the 'music licence', last year's was dated 21st March if that helps. *See 142/13, item b)*
- e) Regeneration update.
Laxey Link Bus - DCCL wording to be included in the Isle of Man Travel Guide forwarded by Steven Stanley via email 04.03.14.. *Bus Vannin* is planning to introduce a daily shuttle bus to serve Laxey village during the summer months. The new Service 15 route will be operated every day of the week from 9 June to 31 August 2014.
Minibuses will run in a loop around the village every half hour, starting at Mines Road, calling at the

Salmon Centre, Laxey Wheel access road and Minorca Hill en route to the promenade and return to Mines Road via Glen Road and Laxey Woollen Mills. The new service will operate every day of the week this summer from 1020 to 1420 with two additional buses on non-school days at 1450 and 1520.

Standard bus fares will apply on the shuttle buses and Explorer tickets will be accepted.

The Board resolved to welcome DCCL proposals to run the link bus for a trial period during 2014.

f) Tony Wild emails on 02.03.14 in respect of the Great Laxey Mine Railway and a number of requests for work to be undertaken by the Commissioners.

- A retaining wall to be built to stop the bank from further collapse
- A Concrete area under the wood store.
- The triangular flower bed also needs attention.
- Resurfacing of the path down to the station.
- Drainage of the path outside the engine and carriage sheds – large area of standing water from when it rains.
- Cutting back the embankment.

Clerk note – Have requested more detail on these items.

Resolved - Awaits clarification, noted.

g) PK raised a number of matters relating to the ongoing discussion in respect of forming a Garff joint Board. PK stated he was concerned how the following would be achieved; representation, rate equalisation, staffing and works and amenities. RB reminded the members that at this time they were only seeking agreement in principle and the detail would be resolved at a later date. A discussion took place.

h) PK enquired how the work to repair the storm damage to the Henry Bloom Noble Green was progressing. The Clerk advised the beach stones were still in the process of being cleared and once this had been completed the area would be top dressed and seeded.

Meeting Closed at 8.45pm

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 19th March 2014, 6.45pm.