

LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 7th January 10.00 am

Meeting Minutes

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

In Attendance: Mr P. Burgess, Clerk, Mr C. Kermode.

Apologies: Mr P Hill Deputy Clerk. Mr AJ Moore (Chairman), Mrs J. Pinson

Meeting Chaired by Mrs R. Bate (Vice Chairman)

Action

105/14 Planning Matters

Planning Applications

- a) Planning Application No 14/01443/B of 22.12.14 in respect of replacement of existing flat roof to sunroom with a lean to roof with roof lights at The Cliffs and Cliffside, Fairy Cottage, Laxey, IM4 7BR. [LVC Ref: 3704

Resolved to approve Planning Application No 14/01443/B.

- b) Planning Amendment Application No 14/01245/B in respect of enlargement of two existing windows and installation of replacement windows to south east elevation of dwelling at The Cliffs, Fairy Cottage, Laxey, IM4 7BR. [LVC Ref: 3694]. Submissions before Friday 28th November 2014.

Resolved to approve Planning Application No 14/01245/B.

Approval Notices (DoI Planning Committee)

- c) Planning Approval Notice 14/01297/B of 23.12.14 in respect of alterations and erection of ground floor and first floor extensions to garage at Whitebeam, South Cape, Laxey, IM4 7HY. [LVC ref: 3699].

Approved by LVC.

- d) Planning Approval Notice No 14/01300/B of 23.12.14 in respect of installation of replacement windows at La Mona Lisa Restaurant, Glen Road, Laxey, IM4 7AB. [LVC ref: 3700].

Approved by LVC.

Resolved to approve Planning Approval Notice no.s 14/01297/B, 14/01300/B.

Refusal Notices (DoI Planning Committee)

- e) None.

Appeal Notices (DoI Planning Committee)

- f) Planning Appeal Submission Notice 14/01189/A of 23.12.14 in respect of appeal against permission for approval in principle for erection of a dwelling addressing siting and means of access at land adjoining Ard Reayrt, (behind Wayside, Ramsey Road located at j/w Ard Reayrt). [LVC ref: 3691]. Refused by LVC. Fourteen (14) Copies of submission. Letter requests consent for written hearing. RSVP before 19th January 2015.

RB invited Mr Kermode to address the meeting. Mr Kermode advised he owned the land next to the application site and in principle he no objection to the application, however CK stated there were inaccuracies in the application in respect of the width of the access lane on the south side of the application site and the width of the lane was over stated and not suitable for construction traffic. CK advised his property shared a boundary with the Authorities land at Ard Reayrt and was concerned that if permission were granted and the covenant lifted the proposed route for the access road would prevent potential access to the adjacent site. A discussion took place and it was Resolved the Commissioners decision on the PA was still valid and no development could take place on the site due to the condition of the covenant in the title deeds and there being no other suitable access to the site. CK asked for it to be noted that if the covenant were to be lifted and planning approval granted he wished to granted access over the land and use the access road. A further discussion took place and it was Resolved a note would be place on the planning application file and Mr Kermode would write to the Authority confirming his request. RB thanked CK for attending.

Planning Enforcement (DoI Planning and Building Control)

- g) None.

Planning – Correspondence

h) None.

106/14 Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the mid monthly meeting held on Wednesday 17th December 2014 were examined for accuracy and it was unanimously resolved that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: JJ, Seconded by: RB.

107/14 Matters arising out of the minutes 17th December 2014.

- a) **102/14, c) – Promenade Kiosk lease** – Meeting with Mark Humphrey arranged for 1000hrs on Thursday 8th January. Clerk and Chairman to attend.
A brief discussion took place and on request it was Resolved PK would also attend the meeting.
- b) **102/14, e) - Freedom of Information Bill 2014** - Letter regarding the Freedom of Information 2014 Bill from the Minister for Policy and Reform, together with enclosures stated.
JJ briefed the meeting on the contents of the correspondence. Resolved to note.
- c) **101/14, f) – Mines Road toilet** – PK advised he still wished to meet with Mr J. Clawson to discuss option for refurbishment. Clerk to contract Mr Clawson to arrange meeting.
- d) **104/14, g) – Laxey Glen Car Park** – PK reported the mud around the grid had been cleared, but the rest of the area needed cleaning. PB advised he had contacted the officer at DEFA and was waiting for him to return from leave.

108/14 General correspondence

- a) Consultation letter of 19.12.14 from Department of Infrastructure Planning and Building Control Department regarding recently revised arrangements for the publication of the weekly list of planning applications as part of a cost saving exercise by them; they say the former system cost them £38,000.00 per annum. Instead of publishing the list in the Courier they will continue to publish them on their website and those that cannot access the web can view printed copies of them at the local library or Local Authority Offices. The requirement to display a yellow notice will remain. The Department seeks your views on the revised system no later than Friday 9th January 2015.
A discussion took place and it was Resolved the Clerk write stating the current system was not satisfactory and the newspaper advertisements should be reinstated. If the costs was still an issue then the cost of advertising should be included in the planning application fees.
- b) Letter of 19.12.14 from Department of Infrastructure regarding Transfer of Functions in which it states that although the deadline for setting the rates is 31st January there is plenty of time to put the services out for expressions of interest, tendering, formulation of contracts and costs. Also attached is a gate fee escalator showing savings caused by freezing EFW costs.
Resolved to note.
- c) Laxey Fire Station letter of thanks regarding Fireworks and fact that they spent a total of £1350.00 on the display.
Resolved to note.
- d) Haydn Brand of the Laxey Diner e-mails at 1417 hours on 23.12.14 a letter regarding the Kirk Michael Chippy for consideration by the Laxey Commissioners Board. [See attached Blue papers.](#)
Clerk's Note: On 19.12.14 it was confirmed Treasury had released the funding for the Laxey Regeneration schemes and Derek Sewell of Department of Infrastructure has advised that the Coach park will be used to store materials and will not be accessible while the works are undertaken. A discussion took place and a number of points were contained within the letter were discussed, it was noted that a number of points in the letter were not relevant. It was also noted that the Laxey diner had chosen to open on a Tuesday and Friday evening during December, it was highlighted the Tuesday night clashed with the Kirk Michael chippy and they would have been better opening on a different night. It was resolved the Clerk write to Mr Brand advising they feel some of the comments were not

relevant however the contents of the letter have been noted and also contact the department of Infrastructure regarding permissions.

- e) Would you know how to manage your records in a disaster, such as a fire or flood? The Isle of Man Public Record Office would like to gauge interest in running a training session on records salvage which will improve your contingency planning and help to safeguard your records. The training would be delivered by Emma Dadson from [Harwell Document Restoration Services](#). It is aimed at holders of public records and would be of value to records managers, contingency planners, facility and building managers and anyone who may need to make decisions on what to do with wet or fire-damaged records. The following programme is proposed: Morning * 10.30am Case studies - importance of planning for emergencies affecting documents and records * 11.15am - Responding to incidents effectively - how to contain incidents to prevent damage. * 12pm - Managing major incidents * 12.45pm Lunch break Afternoon * 1.45pm Risk assessments for disaster recovery situations * 2.10pm Salvage techniques, triage and tactics * 3pm Practical salvage exercise * 3.30pm Managing major incidents - focussing on the collections. * 4pm Close. The morning session is open to all bodies holding public records. The afternoon session is more practical, so places may need to be limited. The cost of the training will depend on the number of participants. The morning session is expected to cost £25-50 and the afternoon an extra £30-60. It is expected the training would take place early in 2015. Please could you let me know whether you would be interested in attending the training (morning, afternoon or both)? Or, if you wish to suggest or nominate other members of staff within your organisation who might attend, please pass their details onto me.

A discussion took place and it was Resolved that if available the Clerk would attend the proposed morning session.

- f) Please find attached and below for your information a news release issued by the Cabinet Office on the forthcoming annual update of the voters register. Annual update of voters register All householders will soon be receiving registration forms for them to confirm details of eligible voters living at their premises. To ensure the accuracy of the Island's electoral register, names will be removed from the voters list next year if forms are not completed and returned by March 18, 2015. Residents cannot vote in House of Keys or local authority elections unless they are on the register. Being unregistered can also affect a person's credit reference history and excludes them from jury service. The registration forms will arrive at every household early in the New Year, in envelopes prominently overprinted to highlight the importance of the enclosed documents. A spokesperson for the Cabinet Office's Crown & Elections Unit explained: 'Voting in elections is the fundamental democratic right of every eligible Island resident, but you can only exercise that right if your name is on the register of electors. 'It was the practice in previous years to leave names on the list if there was no response from a property, but over time this has made the electoral register increasingly unreliable and inaccurate. Now that we are taking action to clean up the register the onus is more than ever on the householder to ensure that voter details are confirmed.' Voter awareness initiatives will be undertaken in the New Year to promote the registration process and the importance of completing and returning the registration forms. For further information on registering to vote or for any other enquiry regarding the electoral process please contact the Electoral Registration Unit, Crown and Elections, Cabinet Office, Government Office, Bucks Road, Douglas, IM1 3PN. For email enquiries use voters@gov.im or call the telephone voters general enquiries on 685754 during office hours (Monday-Friday).

RB encouraged the Commissioners to complete and return the forms. Resolved to note.

- g) Paul Cowin e-mails at 1228 hours on 24.12.14 - Attached are the (draft) minutes of the 8th December meeting. As an update, I have been advised that the tender for supply of skips (Clause A8) was in fact the lowest once carriage charges were calculated and added to the unit price. And I can confirm that a letter has gone to Hospice advising them that with effect from Monday 12th January, if their invoices are not paid, their waste will not be accepted. I also advised them of the alternative disposal routes open to them: direct to the EfW Plant, through commercial contractor, or to the other Civic Amenity Sites on the Island that don't charge.

Resolved to Note.

- h) Michael Commissioners invitation of 22.12.14 to their Civic Service to be held on Sunday 8th February 2015 at 1015 hours at Michael Methodist Hall. RSVP.
Resolved to note - No one available to attend.
- i) Campbell McFarland writes on behalf of the Cooil Roi Residents Association to thank for the 5 star Christmas party provided and also looks forward to the New Year and Warden.
Resolved to note.

109/14 **Committee Reports**

- a) **Municipal Association** – Roz Bate- RB advised the next meeting would take place on Thursday 15th January at Braddan Commissioners, with Phil Gwane MHK as guest speaker.
- b) **Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust** – Peter Kinnish – A discussion took place and it was resolved the Clerk obtain a quotation for the tarmacking the lower section of the footpath the Mines Railway station. **PK** to attend the meeting Thursday 8th January.
- c) **Cooil Roi Housing Authority** – Andrew Moore, Jeff James. **JJ** advised the had attended the residents Christmas party which had been well received. Next meeting Monday 11th January.
- d) **Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities** – Jeff James. AGM 7th January.
- e) **Garff Joint Initiative Committee** – Roz Bate, Julie Pinson. Next meeting 14th January.
- f) **Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee – (Next Meeting – 20.01.14).** Roz Bate, Peter Kinnish.
- g) **Laxey Youth Initiative** – Roz Bate, Jeff James. No Report
- h) **Regeneration Committee** – Peter Kinnish, Julie Pinson – Next Meeting 28th January.
- i) **Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee** – Andrew Moore. No Report
- j) **Works and Amenities** – Andrew Moore, Peter Kinnish. No Report.

110/14 **Chairman’s Report**

No Report.

111/14 **Reports**

- a) **Financial Review 2014/15 with recommendations for 2015/16 budget, 2nd Draft dated 2nd January 2015. With amendments agreed by the Board at the meeting 17th December 2014.**
See attached White papers.
Deferred to meeting 21.12.15.

112/14 **Any Other Business**

- a) Paul Burnett, Independent Chair, Isle of Man Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Partnership writes from Department of Health & Social care on 31.12.14 regarding Safeguarding Forum: Friday 20th February 2015. The letter seeks nominations for representatives from Laxey Commissioners to participate in this the first of two annual events and thereafter to discuss matters relating to Children and Adults. Send the Nomination Form to Gary Mcmanus/Helen Prescott at Helen.prescott@gov.im, Markwell House together with your proposal for an initiative to showcase in the Market Place Event.
A discussion took place and it was Resolved to pass the letter to the Clerk of Cooil Roi Housing Authority.
- b) The 4WD & Van Centre writes to say that they have been taken over by Ocean Ford but that normal service will be maintained under their control.
Resolved to Note.
- c) David Moore, farmer, submits a report on the Countryside Care Scheme Review which deals with funding and de-coupling, (paying farmers to do nothing). Submissions before 16th January 2015.
Resolved to Note.
- d) Steven Morley letter of 05.01.15 enclosing copy of a completed Planning Application in respect of 35 New Road & Land to rear.

Resolved to Note.

- e) Alan Brook e-mails at 2110 hours on 06.01.15 regarding Geocaching - We are in the process of organising a week of Geocaching events on the Isle of Man with the main aim being to bring visitors to our island. The events all have a Manx theme and we hope to take our visitors to many parts of the island. Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location. There are over 2.5 million geocaches hidden throughout the world and over 700 are here on the Isle of Man. More can be read about the hobby at geocaching.com Geocaching is a very social hobby and there are many events run where geocachers meet and then go geocaching in the area. These events range from a 'pint in a pub' to Mega events where over 500 people attend. These are usually annual events held all over the world and people travel and even take their holidays at these events. Here in the Isle of Man we have had several small events over the years and these usually attract 20-30 participants. There has been a proposal made to IoM Tourism to hold a ManxCacheFest in 2015. It is planned to hold a series of small events throughout the week 15-21 August 2015. The proposal has been put forward by Dr. Terry Marsh who was the original director of the Isle of Man Walking Festival. He is also the author of books on Geocaching and walking guides in the Isle of Man. It is hoped that many geocachers, particularly from the UK, will attend along with local participants. It is impossible to say, at this stage, how many will travel here but we expect the starting figure to be about 50. There has been quite a bit of interest in the proposal already from people wishing to visit the island but the main promotion of the event will start in February. There is a website with preliminary information here: www.manxcachefest.com Some of the local geocachers, myself included, have got together to form a planning 'committee' and several events are now in the planning stage. We would like to hold a very short 'Flash mob' type event on the Washing Floors in Laxey on Monday 17th August. The idea would be for all those taking part to form the shape of the 3 legs and all wave a small Manx flag. Photographs can then be taken from a high vantage point and should look quite impressive if it all goes to plan. Could you help us by passing this email onto the land manager of the Washing Floors to ask permission for us to hold this 'Flag Mob' event on the Washing Floors at 10:00 - 10:30 a.m. on the 17th August. Thanking you in anticipation, Regards Alan Brook t: 433932. *A discussion took place and the Board Resolved to support this event and grant permission for the Flag mob event.*
[AM arrived at approx. 12:00pm]
- f) **PK** Rose Garden Arches – As part of the regeneration scheme the arches have been removed and **PK** enquired what was happening with them. The Clerk advised they had been carefully removed and placed in storage. A discussion took place and it was agreed in principle to relocate them in the Valley Garden on the level footpath above the riverside walkway. PK raised the matters of street lighting on Captains Hill and it was Resolved the Clerk contact the MEA to arrange meeting to discuss options.
- g) Diving Raft – **PK** Advised he had met with the new owner of the Village Workshop who had offered as a community gesture to carry out repair for of charge, however the requested the Commissioners pay for the transport and painting.
- h) Defibrillator – **RB** requested an update. The Clerk advised we have the defibrillator with had been donated by the Craig Heartstrong foundation, however we were still waiting for the box to house it, which was being supplied free of charge by St Johns Ambulance.

Meeting Closed at 12.45pm

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 21st January 2015 10.00 am