

LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 7th October 10.00 am

Meeting Minutes

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

In Attendance: Mr P. Burgess, Clerk, Members of Public x 2

Apologies: Mr P Hill Deputy Clerk, Mr P Kinnish, Mrs J. Pinson.

67/15a Guest Speaker – Mr Andrew Scarffe, Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust, to update the Commissioners on the MER goods shed and other matters. **AM** welcomed Mr Scarffe to the meeting. Mr Scarffe reported there were two matters he wished to brief the Commissioners. The first was in respect of removal of the Mercury Arc Rectifiers and associated equipment from the old MER sub-station. The second was in respect of the MER goods yard used by Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust for display of historic equipment. In respect of the MAR equipment Mr Scarffe stated there were issues with licences required for the transfer of the mercury to a new owner, this was currently being looked at by the Department. With regard to the second matter Mr Scarffe stated that the goods yard had been used by the Heritage trust for displaying equipment for 25 years or more, however the trust never had a formal agreement with the department and on behalf of the trust he was requesting the Commissioners take on the lease for the yard and allow the Trust to continue with the projects. This would be an extension to the lease for the goods shed which the Commissioners have already agreed in principle. A discussion took place and in principle it was unanimously Resolved to agree Mr Scarff proposal and that **RB** and **AM** would take the lead on the matter. **AM** thanked Mr Scarffe for attending. Mr Scarffe left at 10.15hrs. Action

67/15 Planning Matters

Planning Applications

a) Planning Application No 15/01061/B of 21.09.15 in respect of installation of replacement front door at 4, Bay View Terrace, Laxey, IM4 7DG. [LVC Ref: 3730].

It was Resolved to approve Planning Application No 15/01061/B

b) Planning Application No 15/01069/B of 22.09.15 in respect of installation of replacement patio doors to rear elevation at Mariners House, Back Shore Road, Laxey, IM4 7DQ. [LVC Ref: 3731].

Subject to there being no objection from the two absent Board members it was Resolved to approve Planning Application No 15/00530/B.

JJ declared an interest and withdrew from the meeting.

Approval Notices (DoI Planning Committee)

d) Planning Application Approval Notice No 15/00898/LAW of 30.09.15 in respect of application to make lawful the installation of replacement windows at The Old Post Office, Old Laxey Hill, Laxey, IM4 7DA. [LVC Ref: 3728]. *Approved by LVC.*

It was Resolved to approve Planning Approval Notice No 15/00898/LAW

Refusal Notices (DoI Planning Committee)

e) Nil.

Appeal Notices (DoI Planning Committee)

f) Nil.

Planning Enforcement (DoI Planning and Building Control)

g) Nil.

Planning – Correspondence

h) Nil.

68/15 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the mid monthly meeting held on 16th September 2015 were presented for approval.

The minutes of the mid monthly meeting held on Wednesday 16th September 2015 were examined for accuracy and it was unanimously Resolved that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: RB, Seconded by: JJ.

69/15 Matters arising out of the minutes 16th September 2015.

a) Nil.

70/15 General correspondence

a) Marie.Collins@gov.im e-mails at 1543 hours on 16.09.15 a copy of a letter from Jo Callow regarding Pre 1984 Planning Application Files. **Re: Pre 1984 Planning Application files.** I write to inform you that the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture has recently transferred ownership of all pre 1984 planning application files to the Public Record Office (PRO). The impact of this transfer will result in all future pre 1984 planning application enquiries being directed to visit PRO at its Unit 40/40A Spring Valley Industrial Estate, Cooil Road, Braddan. Please be aware that their opening hours are Thursday 9.30-1pm, 2-5pm and Friday 9.30-1pm, 2pm-4.30pm. It is recommended that you contact their offices in advance of a visit by telephoning 693569. Guidance on accessing planning applications and a list of what is held by PRO is available on their website - the PRO web address is www.gov.im/pro. The PRO has asked me to advise you that it does not offer a commercial search service for planning records to satisfy legal enquiries. However members of the legal profession carrying out property enquiries are welcome to search for applications during a visit to their Office. The PRO will aim to assist researchers as much as possible when using planning records; however they cannot offer a paid search service or legal advice. May I also take this opportunity to remind planning agents: □ to use the current forms, all available to complete electronically from our website <https://www.gov.im/categories/planning-and-building-control/planning-applications/making-a-planning-application/> □ a new guidance leaflet has recently been published regarding provision of photographic surveys on historic buildings <https://www.gov.im/media/1348668/historic-building-photographic-surveys-v3.pdf> □ The website pages listing registered buildings have been reviewed and are now split. The buildings which have been deregistered and those which are in the throes of registration are published on a separate page <https://www.gov.im/categories/planning-and-building-control/registered-building-and-conservation-areas/registered-buildings/proposed-and-de-registered/> □ it would be appreciated that the reference numbers of plans submitted in support of a planning or building regulations application are not unnecessarily and unduly long. Numbering along the lines of 01, 02 is quite sufficient with perhaps a separating the job number. Should you have any queries regarding this detail please do not hesitate to contact myself.

It was Unanimously Resolved to note the document.

b) Colin.Brew@gov.im e-mails at 0932 hours on 15.09.15 regarding Consultation on National Health and Care Service Bill (Local Authorities) 2015 - I am writing to invite your comments in respect of the attached public consultation document regarding the draft National Health and Social Care Bill 2015. The proposed legislation gives the Department flexibility to develop and strengthen services in a rapidly changing care environment by introducing Schemes for the provision of care instead of Regulations. All such Schemes will be subject to public consultation and Tynwald approval before they are published. Much of this Bill re-states) existing provisions from the NHS Act 2001, for example in relation to committees and complaints. One of the new provisions, however, proposes that the use of any of the Department's facilities by any individual constitutes a contract which would legally oblige them to leave the facility when they no longer needed to be there. Also, The Bill confirms that the Schemes must include provision for any charges for care and for how those charges are to be calculated. Current charges include prescription charges, dental charges and charges to overseas visitors. Thank you for taking the time to review this document and I look forward to receiving your comments. Please forward any comments or queries directly to me at Colin.Brew@gov.im or by writing to the address below. Thank You, **Colin Brew**, Policy and Legislation Manager (Health), Department of Health & Social Care, Crookall House, Demesne

Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 3QA, Tel. 01624 642627 or 07624 469464. Subs before Friday 23rd October 2015.

It was Unanimously Resolved to note the document. AM said he would access and read the document.

- c) Andreas Parish Commissioners Invitation to their Civic Service on Sunday 11th October 2015 At 1115 hours at Andreas Parish Church followed by refreshments.

It was Unanimously Resolved to note the Correspondence.

- d) Ramsey Town Commissioners Invitation to their Civic Service to mark the 150th Anniversary of the promulgation of the Ramsey Town Act on Sunday 18th October 2015 at 1500 hours at Our Lady of the Sea and St. Maughold Church, Queens Promenade, Ramsey. Refreshments afterwards. RSVP before 5th October 2015 to the Town Clerk or Moira Chrystal, 810105/810106 or peter.whiteway@rtc.gov.im or moira.chrystal@rtc.gov.im.

It was Unanimously Resolved that the Chairman would attend.

- e) Eric.Whitelegg@gov.im, Housing Quality & Business Improvement Manager, Department of Infrastructure emails on 28.09.15 at 1526hrs in respect of the Eastern Area working group Terms of Reference – Housing. Please find attached the draft Terms of Reference for the eastern working group, which I should be grateful if you could please progress through your Boards. The general structure of the Terms of Reference is that there will be an officer-led group with responsibility for delivery of tasks, and for which Colin Whiteway, Braddan Commissioners will be the chair. There will also be a steering group at political level which will be chaired by Mr Chris Thomas, MHK. The Terms of Reference explains this in more detail.

Colin will forward invites to the first officer working group meeting and would be grateful if you could please indicate your interest in being included in the working group.

Likewise, if you could please indicate your Board's political interest in being included in the membership of the steering group. Please note, it is envisaged that there will be a maximum of one Commissioner representing each Authority.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Colin.

The Clerk advised the Commissioners that unfortunately Laxey had been missed off the original circulation however this has now been rectified.

It was Unanimously Resolved to note the correspondence.

- f) German Parish Commissioners invitation to their Civic Service on Sunday 25th October 2015 at 1100 hours at St Johns Methodist Chapel.

It was Unanimously Resolved to note the correspondence.

- g) Department of Infrastructure Footpath Officer emails on 01.0.15 The Department of Infrastructure have had a temporary one way system in place at Packhorse Road to try and alleviate further damage to the track by uphill riding.

We are now looking at making this permanent by way of Traffic Regulation Order.

I have written to the residents in the area to request their views and would also invite the Commissioners' to comment on the proposal should they wish to.

Please find attached draft copy of the letter that went out to residents in the Breeze Hill area.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. *Please see attached blue papers.*

A brief discussion took place and it was Resolved the Commissioners had no objections to the proposals.

71/15 **Committee Reports**

- a) **Municipal Association** – Roz Bate, Julie Pinson. **RB** reported that Chris Thomas MHK had been the speaker and had talked a lot but said little. **RB** reported Mr Thomas has briefed the meeting on housing review and had advised that the rate revaluation will now not take place until after next year's general election. The rest of the meeting was taken up discussing the Energy from Plant charges and the fact the Local Authorities should not be paying toward the capital cost of the plant. **RB** advised that John

Shimmin MHK would be attending the next meeting to talk about the Cabinet Office, in November fair trading, February Planning and March Minister Teare to speak about Treasury.

- b) **Laxey & Lonan Heritage Trust** – Peter Kinnish – No Report.
- c) **Cooli Roi Housing Authority** – Andrew Moore Jeff James. – **AM** advised the residents had been without heating for a short period due to the heating oil running out. This issue was resolved the same day.
- d) **Laxey & Lonan Sports and Community Facilities** – Jeff James. No Report.
- e) **Garff Joint Initiative Committee** – Roz Bate, Julie Pinson. Next Meeting - A discussion took place with respect to the public meeting to be held that evening.
- f) **Northern Traffic Management Liaison Committee** – Roz Bate, Peter Kinnish. – Next Meeting 20th October
- g) **Laxey Youth Initiative** – Roz Bate, Jeff James – No Report.
- h) **Regeneration Committee** – Peter Kinnish, Julie Pinson. The Clerk advised the Commissioners that a number of matter had been discussed, summarised as follow's:

1. Mortar residue on Village Square to be removed. Discussion currently taking place between the Architect and contractor on the best way to achieve this.
2. Sealing of paving on MER station – At the end of the season a contractor would be cleaning and sealing areas of paving round the running lines.
3. Replacing paving in MER goods yard. Paving stone left over from the scheme to be made available for volunteers to relay footpath across the Goods yard.
4. Car Parking and bollards at the rear of the Coop – Department not willing to remove the bollards, therefore that matter will be raised to a political level.
5. Tree on MER station and surrounding land – The department has commissioned a consultant to produce a tree management plan.
6. Way marking and signage – Regeneration Committee request the Commissioners progress the scheme.
7. Public Art – The original plan to commission a bronze relief map was being re-evaluated because the cost was too prohibitive. The subcommittee were now looking at alternative options, obtaining additional funding, including a grant application by the Commissioners to the Arts Council.
8. Car Parking on Pavement outside Blacks shop – The department has now conceded that part of the pavement does belong to Mr Black and has offered a resolution to the matter, which involves providing a reserved car parking space just past the Coach park.
9. Flower Boxes and hanging baskets on MER station – The committee requests the Commissioners give consideration for providing these next year.
10. Station Kiosks – To prevent the bases rotting works to be carried out to lift these off the ground.
11. Rose Garden Bus stop - Bus Vannin to install a bench.
12. Main Scheme curtailed works – Path from station building to Mines Tavern and rear of Coop to station, tarmacking of car parking spaces at rear of the coop and apron in front of church. Due to budget restraints there are not plans to complete these works.
13. Coach Park – Surface to be relayed in the next 3 to 4 weeks.
14. Next Regeneration meeting 18th November at 6.30pm.

The Clerk recommended the Commissioners may want to place Way marking and Signage on the agenda for the next meeting and they may wish to make political representation with respect to the incomplete paving and tarmacking. It was Resolved the Clerk obtain a quotation for tarmac surfacing including drainage around the church and apron in front.

The Clerk sort support from the Commissioner in respect of the proposal to provide a reserved car parking space for Mr Black on Mines Road. It was Unanimously Resolved to support the Departments proposal.

- i) **Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee** – Andrew Moore. **AM** reported that tender documents for the running of the site were currently being drawn up.

j) **Works and Amenities** – Andrew Moore, Peter Kinnish. – No Report.

72/15 **Chairman's Report**

No Report.

73/15 **Reports**

a) No Report.

74/15 **Any Other Business**

a) **Standing water at Junction of Rencell Hill and New Road – RB** advised she had been approached by a member of public who was concerned the water could freeze causing vehicle to overrun the junction. It was Resolved the Clerk report the matter to the Department.

b) **Cherry Picker in Glen Gardens Street** – It was resolved the Clerk contact DEFA and request this be moved.

c) **Correspondence Garff Commissioner Consultation, item 1** - Ken Ackroyd e-mails at 0015 hours on 06.10.15 - Dear Commissioners, Thank you for your letter on the subject of the proposed amalgamation of the three Garff authorities. Although we will not be at the Public Meeting, we would like to advise that we are in favour of the proposed course of action which would be infinitely better than any proposal likely to be made by central government for the inclusion of the area into even larger urban authorities. The formation of Garff as a single authority should be enacted as soon as possible. Best regards, Ken & Sue Ackroyd Braeside, Fairy Cottage, Laxey.

It was unanimously Resolved to note the Correspondence.

d) **Correspondence Garff Commissioner Consultation, item 2** - Nicola Bowker e-mails at 1958 hours on 05.10.15 - Dear Sirs, I am unable to attend the meeting on Wednesday but as a business owner in the village of Laxey and resident of Laxey I would like to register my support in principle for a joint authority for Laxey Lonan and Maughold to represent the residents of Garff. For the size of population there will be some administrative savings possible and hopefully we can resist either a Ramsey or Onchan take-over. I look forward to hearing more feedback after the meeting. Best regards, Nicola Bowker.

It was unanimously Resolved to note the Correspondence.

e) **Correspondence from Laxey Residents – Various matters** – Pat Burgess and Bill Snelling e-mail at 2234 hours on 05.10.15 - questions to PB to be raised at a Public Meeting. We have some questions that we, as Laxey Ratepayers, would like to put before your members. They are as follows: One of the main functions of a local authority is to ensure that they provide the required services to their ratepayers: (from the Government Guidelines) How are you providing required services to a majority of your ratepayers when you hold your meetings in the middle of the morning thus preventing them from attending, or, indeed becoming Commissioners, as they have to work? Public information and advice: (Guidelines) Since the Commissioners are supposed to be available to give help and advice, why do only two Commissioners have contact details available? Environmental health: Why, when Environmental Health are insisting on air conditioning being installed in the Promenade Kiosk, are the Commissioners refusing permission, even when it is at no cost to the ratepayers, as the lease holder is prepared to install it at her own expense? I trust these matters will be discussed at a public meeting. Yours sincerely, P. Burgess W. Snelling P.S. Thank you for sending the copies of the accounts, but you sent 03/13 and 03/14, when, in fact, we asked for 03/14 and 03/15. Please will you forward 03/15. Thank you in anticipation.

It was unanimously Resolved to defer this Correspondence to the meeting 21st October 2015.

f) Department of Infrastructure Lease for the Harbour Toilets for signature by the Board.

It was unanimously Resolved the lease be approved and signed by the Chairman, witnessed by the Clerk.

g) Paul Hampton Services e-mails at 2228 hours on 06.10.15 - Submits price for cleaning Laxey toilets including the extra toilet on the harbour once daily. This is also taking into account an increase in consumables required. – In Private.

It was unanimously Resolved to extend Paul Hampton Services contract to include the additional Cleaning.

- h)** Jurby Commissioners Invitation to their Civic service on Sunday 18th October 2015 at 1100 hours at Jurby Parish Church.

It was Resolved to note the Invitation.

- i)** Rachel Bevan e-mails at 1401 hours on 06.10.15 to say that the Local Authority Elections in 2016 will be on 28.04.16. Training will be given.

Resolved to note.

Meeting Closed at 11.45am

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