

LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 15th February 2012, 6.45pm

Meeting Minutes

Present: Mr J James (Chairman), Mr G Pearce-White (Vice Chairman), Mrs S Jones, Mr P Kinnish,

In Attendance: Mr P. Burgess (Clerk), Adrian Rush, Peter Maddocks (Chief Engineer, DCCL).

Apologies: Mr P.Hill (Deputy Clerk). Mr S Haddock

122/11/ A Guest Speaker – Mr Peter Maddocks Chief Engineers from the MER invited by GPW to speak to the Board about the proposed MER station refurbishment. Action

JJ welcomed Mr Maddocks to the meeting PM advised the Commissioners of issues with various items that required works. The MER Bridge over Church Hill had been replaced last year, the Sub Station at the rear of the Commissioners officer was due to be replaced with a request for funding being presented to Tynwald next month. PM advised the station Café was not big enough and various options were being investigated to resolve this. PM provide drawings of the scheme to relay the track in the station area and improve the surface and pedestrian access. PM stated the station area has no surface water drainage, the cost of providing surface water drainage was in the region of £400K and is prohibitive, this was a factor in determining the type of surface. The track layout was to be modified to provide greater separation between the MER and Snaefell lines. PM advised the gravity shunting would now not take place on the station and a new siding would be provided between Mines Rd and Princes motors for this purpose. A new pedestrian access would be provided to the Mines Tavern via the Heritage Goods yard and two small siding would be provided on the station for the display of rolling stock during special events etc, the points at the existing goods shed would be removed. JJ thanked PM and asked the Commissioners if they had any questions. PK stated the fence that runs along the beer garden at the Mines Tavern needed improving. PM agreed and said it would be looked into. PK enquired who owned the play area and shelter next to the Mines Tavern PM advised this was owned by the MER and leased to the Brewery. PK enquired who owned the land around the Christ Church. PM advised the Church own 5m around the building with a covenant covering 50ft which belonged to the MER. PM advised that discussions were ongoing with the Reverend Jo Dudley in respect of repairing the surface. PK enquired about the public lighting around the station. PM stated the existing lights were actually fibre glass and the lens had become stained green and would not clean up. PM continued stating replacements were to be included in the scheme on the Poles which were not shown on the drawing. JJ referred PM to Any Other Business Item a). and the query from DCCL regarding how to control the railway patrons car park. PM suggested this was a separate matter for consideration by the Commissioners. JJ thanked PM for attending. PM left at 7.22pm.

JJ asked GPW to take the chair as he was feeling unwell.

122/11 Planning Applications

- a) Planning Application No 12/00078/B of 19.01.12 in respect of installation of replacement front door and windows to side elevation at Rencell Cottage, Rencell, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3563]. *Approved*
- b) Planning Application No 12/00089/B of 23.01.12 in respect of erection of a conservatory to rear elevation at Ballacowin Cottage, Glen Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3564]. *Approved.*
- c) Planning Amendment Notice No 11/01696/B of 03.02.12 in respect of alterations and extension to dwelling at Glevum, The Promenade, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3558]. (Entrance moved to side and window moved to side).

JJ declared an Interest and withdrew from the meeting .The Board do not believe that the further amendments of 3rd February address or alter their original grounds for refusal as detailed below.

The Board recommends refusal of the above application on the grounds that,
(a). *The development is over intensive and un neighbourly,*
(b). *The lane into which the rear entrance is proposed is too narrow to afford safe egress and access and is prejudicial to road safety.*

Approval Notices (DoLGE Planning Committee)

- d) Planning Approval Notice No 11/01295/B of 03.02.12 in respect of alterations and extensions to dwelling including the installation of replacement windows at Burnside, Glen Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3550]. {Delegated Powers}. *Refused by LVC.*
Noted.

Refusal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

- e) None.

Appeal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

- f) Planning Appeal Notice No 11/01275/B of 03.02.12 in respect of appeal against refusal to allow off road parking at Veg Veen Cottage, Glen Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3549]. *Approved by LVC.*
Noted.

123/11 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 1st February 2012 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed JJ, Seconded SJ

124/11 Matters arising from the Minutes of 1st February 2012.

The Clerk referred to 116.11 Matters Arising and advised the Commissioners that meeting minutes were a record of decisions made by members present at the meeting and that it was inappropriate for a member who had not been present at the meeting 18th January 2012 to propose the minutes were amended. The Clerk advised this issue had been highlighted by the Deputy Clerk at the meeting, but his advice was ignored.

Noted.

125/11 General correspondence

- a) Community Officer Report for January 2012 – no offences disclosed. *Noted.*
b) Mr R. Black of Blacks Fireplaces writes at the request of Local Residents on 31.01.12 regarding the alleged proposals by LVC to site recycling bins at the end of Mines Road. They believe that this is a prime tourist spot and would be out of keeping with this. He states that if the Board is proceeding down this route then he wants to meet a Commissioners representative to discuss this at the earliest opportunity.

A discussion took place and the Board resolved the Clerk write to Mr Black and advise nothing finalised and the matter was still being looked into and no firm decisions had been made.

- c) Minutes of GJIC of 25.01.12.
d) Linda McCauley e-mails at 1015 hours on 02.02.12 the Minutes of Regeneration Meeting of 31.01.12.

Linda McCauley e-mails at 1017 hours on 02.02.12 to say that the next Regeneration Meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd April 2012 at 1830 hours at LVC Offices.

Linda McCauley e-mails at 1046 hours on 02.02.12 a List of Cruise Ships visiting IOM this year.

Noted.

- e) Pauline.Wood@gov.im e-mails at 1447 hours on 03.02.12 a Consultation on proposal to increase the maximum award limit under the Isle of Man Financial Services Ombudsman Scheme from £100,000.00 to £150,000.00. Submissions before Friday 16th March 2012.

Noted.

PB

- f) Rob Perry, Retail Operations Manager at the MEA asks if it would be possible to erect a memorial bench to memory of Dougie Spencer who was killed in a RTA on 01.02.12 on Promenade.
Defer to next meeting – Clerk to write and advise costs.
- g) Letter from the Isle of Man Model Engineering Society asking if the Authority has any land, minimum of half an acre and level, that they would be willing to lease for a period of at least five years for the purpose of setting up a raised track to run ride on model steam trains. Contact Norman Dowd of 55 All Saints Park, Lonan. *Brought forward from 01.02.12 at request of PK. Suggested the Railway could possibly be located in the Laxey Glen Gardens which are owned by the Department of Environment Fisheries and Agriculture. Clerk to write and advise Mr Dowd contact the Department.* PB
- h) Onchan District Commissioners letter of 06.02.12 confirming that their Civic Service will be on Sunday 29th July 2012 at 1500 hours. *Noted.*
- i) Mrs H. Planeta of 6 Fairfield Terrace, Douglas, IM1 1BE writes on 02.02.12 asking for permission to place Memorial Bench in The Valley Gardens to memory of Brother in Law Mick Wood.
Approved. PB
- j) Inspector Mark Britton emails at 09.28hrs 07.02.12 asking to meet with the Commissioners at their mid monthly meeting 21st March 2012. Mark wishes to discuss his annual plan – 2012/13.
Noted.
- k) Julia Ashby Smyth of the Hodson Loom Gallery emails on 08.02.12 with invitation to attend the Isle of Man Photographic Society Exhibition Premier evening at the Hodgson Loom Gallery, Laxey, Woollen Mills on Friday 17th February 2012 from 6.00 to 8.30pm. *Noted.*
- l) Laxey and Lonan Heritage Trust letter dated 09.02.12, in respect of the Commissioners proposal to place recycling bin at the end of Mines Road. There is a great deal of opposition to this suggestion, as the area is an area for regeneration and would therefore, be inappropriate. Seeks clarification as to where the bins will be placed.
Noted see General Correspondence item b). PB
- m) Item Moved from Private to Public Minutes.
SH e-mails at 1943 hours on 14.02.12 a letter of appreciation regarding the services of PB, PH and AR. *See Appendix A.*

126/11 Any Other Business

- a) John Kennaugh of Department of Community Culture and Leisure writes in respect of the Railway Patrons Car park at the MER station. The department is investigating options of how to best control access to the car park site, and seeks any views the Commissioners may have on the subject.
Item Deferred to meeting 07.03.12 to allow members to consider options.
- b) Smiths of Derby write advising the five year service contract in respect of the Village Clock has now finished, and offer renewal based on 3 years at the 2007 price. The price ruling at 2007 was £189 per year therefore a three year contract will be £567. Reverting back to an annual contract would cost £204.
Proposed SJ, Seconded JJ – Resolved Clerk to write and take up the offer of a 3 year contract. PB
- c) Martin Royle emails on 14.02.12 with proposed date for the next Garff meeting on 14.03.2012 at 7.00pm. Mr Ronan and Mr Rodan will be in attendance and all Commissioners are invited to attend.
Noted. PB
- d) JJ advised he had received the signed letters of apology from PK in relation to the Breach of Laxey Dog Bylaws and complaints received from residents. JJ advised he would deliver the letters to the complainants. *Noted.*

Meeting Closed at 8.53hrs.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7th March 2012 at 6.45pm

Appendix A

- Adrian Does a Fantastic Job in and around the village.
- We should take this opportunity to personally thank Adrian for the Good Works that he has done.
- And all the good work carried out in difficult and testing times.
- I have come across NO body who has said anything different, both in this boards sitting, and on my previous year to that.
- We have an award within this very Board room to say that. Tourism. Not Bad?.
- Adrian is one man. Not an Army of Men employed by various Local authorities to carry out work within the authority.
- We the Commissioners do not employ a constant army of sub-contractors, to carry out works and amenities. No, **we employ 1 man.**
- When we do occasionally employ outside sub-contractors to carry out works we do so frugally.
- And Correctly.
- Hence our Financially Legacy to the Next Board.
- With Adrian's Help and Along Side the help The 2 Peters, we are able to leave (should you not be re-elected) a board in a strong financial position. Not many local authorities can say that.
- Don't anyone say "NOTHING IS BEING DONE AROUND THE VILLAGE" as that is an affront to both the staff and to the people around this table.
- 4 years ago we were left with what can only be described as "Problems on the Table"
- *Shore Road Car Park = Sorted*
- *Pensions = Sorted*
- *Doubles Tennis Court re Surfacing = Sorted*
- *Garff = Sorted where apathy was the previous norm now positive action is the key.*
- **The List can go on.** BUT NOT IN PUBLIC !!! "How very convenient"
- With astute budgeting we now have all the above sorted.
- We leave a strong bank account.
- But more importantly we leave "Nothing swept under the carpet".