## LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

## **Mid Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 10.00am.

# **Meeting Minutes**

Present: Mr J James, Mr P Kinnish, Mr AJ Moore (Chairman), Mrs J. Pinson.

In Attendance: Mr P. Burgess, Clerk.

**Apologies:** Mrs R.Bate (Vice Chairman), Mr P Hill, Deputy Clerk.

### 33/15 Planning Matters

a) Planning Applications

Nil.

b) Approval Notices (DoLGE Planning Committee)

Nil.

c) Refusal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

d) Appeal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)

e) Planning Enforcement (DLGE Planning and Building Control)
Nil.

f) Planning - other Correspondence Nil.

#### 34/15 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 were examined for accuracy and it was unanimously Resolved that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: JJ, Seconded by: JP.

## 35/15 Matters arising out of the minutes 1st July 2015.

a) 32/15 a) Car parking in the Village.

**JP** reported that she had spoken to the manager of the coop who had proposed that in order to free up car parking spaces in the village shop staff, offices workers etc could park in the Glen gardens either down past the rifle club or on Captains Hill. **JP** proposed that in order to encourage people to park on Captains Hill and to avoid the bird droppings that the Department could be approached with a view to moving the double yellow lines on Captain Hill form the west side to the east side of the road. JP also suggested using the grass area adjacent to the Commissioners Office and MER substation could be used for off road car parking for shop and office workers. A discussion took place and it was agreed that due to the access, sloping nature and size of the plot that unless significant engineering works were carried out this would not be suitable. A Commissioner enquired when the amended car parking order would be implemented on Dumbells terrace. The Clerk advised he believed it was just awaiting the Department to undertake the line marking and erect signage and would provide an update to the next meeting. A discussion took place in respect of an area in the top part of valley gardens, with access off Captains Hill. The Clerk advised the current zoning within the Laxey and Lonan area plan would likely prevent development taking place. AM proposed entering into discussion with the Department of Infrastructure and Parochial Church Council with a view to the Local Authority providing funding for the parking apron in front and the road around Christ Church to be surfaced with Tarmacadam. AM continued proposing his could be a contribution from Laxey Commissioners to the regeneration scheme. A discussion took place with respect to the provision of disabled car parking on Laxey station. PK proposed the Commissioners visit the site. AM proposed an agreement for the Commissioners to commence discussions with the Church and Department. A discussion took

place in respect of the cost of the proposed works and **AM** proposed an agreement in principle to investigate further and obtain costs. This proposal was unanimously Resolved.

**JP** stated that at the recent regeneration committee meeting she had proposed provision off parking for motorcycles on the grass verge opposite the MER station parking bay at a recent Regeneration meeting.

## 36/15 General Correspondence

a) Sian Christian e-mails at 1639 hours on 08.07.15 - Dear all – As promised by the Minister in May, I attach briefing papers on the following, together with an introductory letter from the Minister: Housing, Car Parking, Public Toilets, Waste Collection, Waste (EfW), Governance, You may recollect that we had intended to issue these papers by the end of June. Please accept my apologies that we were unable to achieve this, and for any inconvenience the delay may have caused. See attached papers.

A brief discussion took place and **JP** asked for clarification as to why social housing currently managed by Central Government was not included in the Housing briefing paper. It was suggested the question could be asked at the meeting.

- b) Personal invitation to Peter Burgess from Phil Gawne to become a member of a new Committee responsible for Heritage railways and voluntary sector. Inaugural meeting at 1000 hours on Saturday 18th July 2015. RSVP to <a href="mailto:Erica.radcliffe@gov.im">Erica.radcliffe@gov.im</a>
  - **JP** enquired if the PB was being paid to attend. **PB** advised the invite had gone to volunteers in recognition of works undertaken in connection with heritage railways and this correspondence had been placed on the agenda because it was addressed to the Commissioner's Office. **PB** stated that all work undertaken in respect of this was voluntary and unpaid.
- A teacher from St Ninians High School emails on 09.07.15. I am writing to ask for permission to have a BBQ with some friends/colleagues and their families on Saturday the 18th June at the far end of the beach where the picnic tables are (just past the public conveniences). We'd like to set up at 11:30 and have friends arrive from 12:30. We'd also like to have an inflatable bouncy castle for the children to enjoy. We will stop cooking on the BBQ at 15:30, and would aim to finish the afternoon at 18:00. We will of course make sure that we tidy up after ourselves and remove any litter.

  It was Resolved to approve and give permission for this event.

## 37/15 Reports

Nil.

#### 38/15 Any Other Business

- a) AM reported the Department has indicated that the bollards installed to the rear of the Coop on the MER station would be removed.
- b) Draft Garff Order Roy Corlett emails on 08.07.15 with responses to question raised at the Garff meeting. AM asked for a debrief from the Garff Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015. JP advised that RB had requested the matter to be deferred until the meeting 5<sup>th</sup> August as she would be absent at this meeting and had requested the debrief take place with all five Board members present. A detailed discussion followed and AM asked for an update on discussion reference transfer of assets to the new Board. JP stated that RB had debriefed the Garff Committee in respect of matters discussed at the Laxey Commissioners Private meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> July and the Garff Committee had expressed concerns in respect placing proposed covenants on properties and that moving forward Garff Parish Commissioners would be responsible for maintaining and repairing property and the cost would be borne by the rate payer of Laxey Lonan and Maughold, however the trade off for this would be a reduction in Laxey's rates. JP continued stating that it had been agreed that if a property had to be demolished or disposed off for example Health and Safety reasons this could be done with unanimously approval by the Garff Parish Board. PB advised that the Garff committee has reasoned that if Laxey Commissioners property were to remain for the benefit of Laxey residents it was felt that

Laxey rate payers would have to continue to pay for the maintenance and repair and this would require a separate rate for the village and if that was the case Garff could not happen as there would be no equalisation of the rates etc. JJ expressed concerns over references made to when Garff takes over and that it seems like a done deal. JP continued reporting that it had been agreed to hold public meetings in the respective districts which would based around a prepared presentation. AM confirmed that this was currently just a political consultation and a full public consultation would take place at a later date. AM requested the Draft Garff Order and debrief from the Garff Committee meeting be placed on the agenda for the meeting 5<sup>th</sup> August. A discussion took place with regard representation of the Boards view and the view of individual Commissioners and concerns that individual Commissioners had concerns about certain aspects of the Draft Garff Order.

- **Promenade Children's Play Area JP** reported that members of public had equired about the repairs c) currently being undertaken at the play area. PB advised some spares had be ordered and delivered and would be fitted next week. AM enquired were the enquiries had come from. JP advised they were on Laxey Central. AM made a suggestion to the Board that the existence of a forum known as Laxey Central should not be brought to the Boardroom because the involvement of a Commissioners officer as admin is as a member of the public and not as an employee of the Authority. AM continued stating it does make it clear on the Laxey Central page that it has not connection with the Local Authority but unfortunately there are individuals who don't read or don't understand that fact and Laxey Central has no place in the Boardroom. AM requested that the Commissioners don't bring anything they have seen on Laxey Central to the meeting as it is not pertinent or representative. AM asked if the Commissioners had any issue with this proposal. PK stated it was sometimes very difficult to separate the two. Further discussions took place and it was Resolved that only matter raised directly through individual Commissioner or via the office would be discussed in the Boardroom. JP proposed that on a rotation basis Commissioners make themselves available 10mins before the start of a meeting to allow members of public to raise any issues on a formal basis. AM suggested that individual Commissioners were already available to be approached. Further discussion took place and AM stated that member of public could contact Commissioners via the existing formal channels.
- MER Tram Trailer no. 58 Derailment PK stated this was a concern about safety of the point system where the tram has derailed and over turned and derailments had occurred there before. PK proposed that the Commissioners write to the department and request a copy of the enquiry report into the incident. A discussion took place and it was Resolved the Clerk write to Director of Public Transport and request the document be forwarded to the Commissioners when available.
- e) **JP** requested a monthly or by monthly maintenance report. A discussion took place and it was Resolved the Clerk produce a brief Works and Amenity report to be circulated to the Board on a bymonthly basis.
- f) Rob Callister e-mails Gawne at 0731 hours on 11.07.15 - Morning Minister, Thank you again for the briefing papers relating to the meeting scheduled to take place on Friday 17th July 2015. There is certainly a lot to take on board and to discuss during the meeting. However, the final paragraph in your letter addressed to the Local Authorities gives me some concern and I would welcome your clarification in advance of the meeting. Can you please confirm that there will open dialogue between local authorities and your department during each topic tabled for discussion, and that local authorities will not have to wait until 3.30pm to raise any questions or concerns? As I am sure you are aware, many Local Authorities elected members will be taking next Friday off, using up valuable holiday entitlement in order to be given an opportunity to represent their authorities, staff and the ratepayers who are having to bear the brunt of these increased costs. I also take this opportunity to raise the following question in advance of Friday's meeting, which relates to the EFW Plant and the Capital Costs. Putting the operational difficulties and fixed costs associated with it to one side, I hope you will allow an open discussion to take place on what is considered a "Reasonable Charge" under Section 68 of the Isle of Man Health Act 1990. "a local authority shall pay to the Department of Infrastructure such reasonable charges as the Department of Infrastructure may determine in respect of the disposal of waste delivered to the Department of Infrastructure by the authority under this section; and any

question under this subsection as to what charges are reasonable shall, in default of agreement, be determined by arbitration" I don't believe it was the Government's intention or will of Tynwald Court to have Capital costs transferred onto the ratepayer, and I am unable find any Hansard record where this was mentioned at all. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss this item on behalf of Onchan's ratepayers on Friday. Many thanks Rob Callister Onchan Commissioner.

Resolved to note.

Meeting Closed at 12.05pm Date of next meeting - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2015, 10.00 am.