

LAXEY VILLAGE COMMISSIONERS

Mid Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 20th March 6.45 pm

Meeting Minutes

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

In Attendance: Mr P. Burgess, Clerk.

Apologies: Mrs R. Bate, Mr P Hill Deputy Clerk.

143/12 Planning Matters

Planning Applications

- a) Planning Application No 13/00246/B of 18.02.13 in respect of creation of footpath, erection of footbridge and car park wall and amendments to 10/01820/B at the Salmon Centre, Mines Road, Laxey. [LVC Ref: 3631].

Resolved - To Approve Planning Application no. 13/00246/B

- b) **Approval Notices (DoLGE Planning Committee)**

Resolved to note Planning Approval Notice No 13/00126/B and No 13/00148/C.

Planning Approval Notice No 13/00126/B of 14.03.13 in respect of extensions to rear of 41 Ard Reayrt, Laxey, IM4 7QP. [LVC Ref: 3626]{Delegated Powers}.

Planning Approval Notice No 13/00148/C of 14.03.13 in respect of change of use of existing first floor restaurant to residential at Browns Café, Dumbells Terrace, Laxey, IM4 7NY. [LVC Ref: 3627]{Delegated Powers}.

- d) **Appeal Notices (DLGE Planning Committee)**

Nil.

- e) **Planning Enforcement (DLGE Planning and Building Control)**

Nil.

144/12 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of Mid Monthly Meeting held on 20th March 2013 were examined for accuracy, and it was unanimously resolved they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed AM, Seconded JR

145/12 Matters arising out of the minutes 6th March 2013

- a) Meeting Ref 142/12 item f).

Invitation from Health & Safety Inspectorate to attend seminar on Health & Safety in Local Government on Thursday 4th April 2013 at 1830 hours at Ground Floor Meeting Room, Murray House, Mount Havelock. RSVP with details of person attending to Charlotte Geoghegan on 685881 or charlotte.geoghegan@gov.im

Clerks Note: This seminar was instigated by Maughold Commissioners and all elected members as well as officers are encouraged to attend.

AM and JR agreed they would try to attend.

146/12 General correspondence

- a) Department of Infrastructure letter of 08.03.13 regarding Attendance and Travelling Allowances for Local Authorities. The current rates have not changed for a number of years. **With regards to Attendance Allowance** should (a). The existing £30.00 remain the same, (b). Be increased with the rate of inflation since 2006, (c). The existing £30.00 be raised in line with non-Tynwald members to £78.00 per session. **With regards to Travelling Allowance** should (a). Remain the same, (44p per mile under 1300cc, 50p per mile over 1300cc). (Tynwald pays 46p and 52p respectively). (b). Be increased in line with the rate paid to Tynwald Members. **Also would the Authorities consider** paying (a). Different amounts depending on the nature of the meeting, (b). Set their own levels of

remuneration.

A discussion took place and it was Resolved the Clerk respond stating the Board propose the attendance allowance should be raised inline with non-Tynwald members to £78 per session and the travelling allowance raised in line with Tynwald members to 46p and 52p respectively.

- b) Chief Secretary's Office letter of 07.03.13 from Isle of Man Government Preservation of War Memorials Committee in which they remind Local Authorities that it is their responsibility to maintain War Memorial in their areas. The request is that with the 100th Anniversary of the beginning of the 1st World war that a special effort is made to enhance and tidy up these memorials before then.

Resolved to Note. Clerk to inspect War Memorial in the Valley Gardens.

- c) Isle of Man Steam Packet invitation to the Chairman or his representative to attend a Service of dedication of the Manx Merchant Navy Standard. It will be conducted by the Venerable Andrew Brown on Sunday 14th April 2013 at 1500 hours at St Georges Church, Douglas. **RSVP** to nicky.teare@steam-packet.com.

Resolved - Clerk to contact Roz Bate to see if she is able to attend.

- d) Barbara Dunworth e-mails at 1712 hours on 08.03.13 the response from Caldric Randall regarding Audit Costs. The nutshell is that until reviews are undertaken and completed it would not be timely to consider reducing audit requirements and associated costs.

Resolved to Note. This item will be reviewed at an unspecified future date.

- e) Julie Peel e-mails 1427 on 08.03.13 a copy of a draft letter from Tim Craig of Onchan Commissioners regarding Department of Social Care Housing Review. Also attached is a letter from Mrs Peel to Lonan and Laxey Commissioners, in which she states, "You may or may not be aware that I have attended a number of meetings with the other Local Authority Housing officers, the Department of Social Care and the Tolson Partnership. Many of the housing authorities are not happy with the consultations that have been carried out by the Tolson Partnership and feel that the questions are leading and that the final outcome will be to recommend that all housing goes under the department of social care. A number of the Authorities have now joined forces including the South and West of the Island and would like to look further into the option of the local authorities taking over the properties of the department instead of them taking over ours. I have been asked to contact you to see if this would be an option that you would like to pursue as the officers and MHK's in Onchan would like to arrange a meeting with Mr Robertshaw and tell him which authorities would like to go forward with this option. The second option that was offered was for Laxey and Lonan to join with Onchan. Can you please give me an indication as to how you would like to pursue this matter? I have also attached a copy of the letter I have just received from Onchan."

A discussion took place and it was Resolved to raise this matter at the Garff meeting 10th April 2013 when Mr Robertshaw MHK will be in attendance.

- f) Andy Scullard of Moddey Dhoo Motor Cycle Club emails on 13.03.13, with email from Alcohol unit attached advising a Music and Dance Licence will need to be obtained in respect of the proposed live music at this year Laxey TT Bike on Thursday 6th June. Andy seeks letter of consent to hold the event and have live music during the day, this would normally be from 11am to 5pm.

Resolved – Clerk to write letter of consent.

- g) Peter Dunworth at Department of Infrastructure telephones on 13.03.13 to advise of works commencing to repair the river wall below the fire station footbridge. The bridge will need to be removed to enable the works to be undertaken, however there is a high voltage electric cable running underneath the bridge, this will need to be relocated to a point approx 3m upstream of the bridge and will require trenching works on the Commissioners land at Glen Mooar. Once the works have been completed and the bridge replaced the trench will be made good and the area re seeded.

Resolved - To note.

- h) Geoff Bolt - Treasurer Douglas Borough Council and LGPS emails on 14.03.13. A training seminar has been arranged for employing bodies of the Isle of Man Local Government Superannuation

Scheme to be given by Jayne Wiberg, Senior Technical Consultant at CAPITA on **Wednesday, 27th March 2013 at 2.30 p.m.** at the Strathallan Suite (above Horse Tram Sheds). Clerk to attend.
Resolved - To note.

147/12 Reports

a) Laxey Promenade Kiosk

The proprietor of the Kiosk has now supplied a key to the small promenade store, however there are two locks on the door and the key only fits on of the locks. Clerk has written to the proprietor requesting the second key for the large lock.

Resolved – JJ and PK to meet with proprietor to discuss the matter.

b) Cranleigh Ville – Glen Road

The property known as Cranleigh Ville and land surrounding has been placed on the open market priced at £265,000. This property is owned by the Department of Social Care and managed by Department of Infrastructure properties division. In January 2012 the Commissioners were contacted by the Department seeking their views in relation to potential use for the site. The Commissioners responded in a similar vain to Mr Rodan MHK stating that if the site remains of strategic value for Social Housing, first time buyer, sheltered housing or car parking.

See Item d).

c) Steve Rodan MHK emails on 13.03.13, in respect of Cranleigh Ville advising he has written to the Chief Executive and the Minister asking them to clarify when the decision was taken and why, stating this is contrary to the arguments made by himself and others that this site was a valuable strategic asset for housing or parking.

See Item d).

d) Steve Rodan MHK forwards email dated 15.03.13 from Andrew Wallis Head of Asset Management, Properties Division, Dept of Infrastructure, in respect of Cranleigh Ville, Glen Road, Laxey. Mr Wallis sets out the reasons behind the Departments decision to place the property on the open market, making reference to communication with Laxey Commissioners regarding potential purchase and use of the site. The Authority had responded stating they were not in a position to purchase the land and that they believed the site should be used for residential development, preferably public sector. The department considered that it could partially meet the aspirations of the Commissioners and will also provide a capital receipt to Government if developed for private housing, which includes off street parking covenanted as part of the site. See attached Blue Papers. A discussion took place and it was Resolved to invite John Houghton MHK to meet with Board to discuss the departments plans for the property.

e) Regeneration Meeting – 13.03.13

The Board requested to consider providing funding to underwrite the Laxey Link Bus for the 2013 season.

Discussed in Private

Resolved – Provisionally agreed to provide underwriting for the Laxey Link Bus. The Board will review this decision when Tours Isle of Man provide details of the service they propose to provide.

f) Works and Amenity

PK circulated a list of Works and Amenity tasks with high priority works identified with a number one.

Resolved - Clerk to progress the Works highlighted and advise the Commissioners of the progress. The Clerk advised he was on leave next week however could pick the matter up on his return.

148/12 Any Other Business

Onchan District Commissioners writes on 12.03.13 to say that their Civic Service will take place on Sunday 19th May 2013 at 1500 hours at St Peters Church. Invitations to follow.

Resolved - To note.

ECAS Press Release regarding changes to dumping hardcore, periods at bring and take, costs of

fridges and freezers and new height restriction of 2.2 metres.

Resolved - To note.

Treasury letter of 19.03.13 regarding Tenderers/Selective Tendering (Short Listing) – Minor Capital Works. Sets out advice as to requirements to advertise to various Agencies.

Resolved - To note.

MEA 2013 Public Lighting Maintenance Contract for approval. Also offers foliage clearance service and metal density checks on strength of poles.

Resolved – To approve the MEA street lighting contract commencing 1st April 2013. Contact signed by JJ and the Clerk.

Meeting Closed at 8.30pm
Next Meeting Wednesday 3rd April 2013.