

Lonan Parish Commissioners

Statutory Meeting

Wednesday 21st May 2014 at 1930 hours at Lonan Commissioners Office.

MINUTES

Present: Mr S. Clucas, Mr J. Faragher, Mr N. Dobson, Mr S. Clague, Mr M. Burgess, Mr P. Hill. **Apologies:** Nil.

Chair: Mr S. Clucas. **Clerk:** Mr P. Hill. **Guests:** Nil.

The Meeting commenced at 1925 hours.

12/14 Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 22nd April 2014.

Action

The Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 22nd April 2014 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: ND. Seconded by: MB.

13/14 Matters Arising out of the Minutes.

There were no matters arising.

14/14 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 15th May 2014.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 15th May 2014 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: JF. Seconded by: ND.

15/14 Matters Arising out of the Minutes.

There were no matters arising.

16/14 Private Sessions.

17/14 Planning Applications.

a) Planning Amendment Notice No 14/00384/B of 07.05.14 in respect of creation of field access at Field 612727, Baldrine Farm, Baldrine Road, Baldrine. *Original approved by LPC.*

Amendment approved.

b) Planning Application No 14/00535/C of 29.04.14 in respect of extension of domestic curtilage into adjacent field to provide additional garden and parking area at Field 614708 adjacent to Gull Cottage, (formerly Fy Yerrey), Beach Road, Baldrine, IM4 6ES. *Approved.*

18/14 Correspondence.

a) **Consultation: Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill 2014 and Representation of the People Regulations 2014** Please find attached the consultation document on the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill 2014 and Representation of the People Regulations 2014. Unusually, this consultation document is seeking views on the draft Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill 2014 and the draft Representation of the People Regulations 2014 as a package. This approach has been taken to provide the opportunity for comment on all primary and secondary legislation relating to the electoral process. The intention of the amendment Bill is to ensure key reforms and modernisation of the existing legislation is undertaken in the time available before the 2016 General

Election. Although further reform will need to be considered in the future the changes are an important step towards improving transparency and governance of the Island's election process. The main aims of the Isle of Man's legislation package, on which views are being sought, are to: ensure the electoral process is easily understood by returning officers and those who assist in the running of elections, prospective candidates and the electorate; and to update the legislation to introduce the key recommendations from the Independent Panel's Review. These provisions relate to the registration of political parties and the declaration of candidates' expenses. We welcome your views on the draft Bill and Regulations which can be found electronically at: <http://tinyurl.com/ohle7dc> The consultation on the Bill runs for 8 weeks from today. The closing date for submissions is **5pm on Friday 27 June 2014**. *Noted, individual submissions to be made.*

- b) Laxey Fair invites the Chairman and Board Members to attend the Laxey Fair on Saturday 28th June 2014. To wear traditional Victorian Costume, if you wish and join the special train that departs Fairy Cottage Station at 1315 hours. *SC, JF and MB to attend.* SC/JF/MB
- c) Office of the Clerk of Tynwald writes on 13.05.14 with regards to Tynwald Day on Monday 7th July 2014 and the allocation of Grandstand Tickets. Allocation is of two tickets and car parking for the Chairman. Please reply by 30.05.14 if you want them. *Discussion – to order the two tickets.* PH
- d) Minutes of the Garff Meeting of 14.05.14. *Noted.*
- e) Douglas Corporation confirmation of their Civic Service on Sunday 8th June 2014 at 1020 hours at St Georges Church, with reception afterwards. *JF to attend.* JF/PH

19/14 Enforcement Matters.

No new matters.

20/14 Special Agenda Items.

- a) **Possible Closure of All Saints Church.** {Origin: Statutory Meeting – 22.04.14 – 07/14(b)) – JF}.

JF informed the meeting that there had not been any further developments in relation to the future of All Saints Church, but believed that whatever happened it would remain open for funerals and the graveyard would be maintained. It was possible that in the event of a reduction in usage then the support of the Local Authority may be needed. A discussion took place regarding the other two Churches and SEC advised the meeting that St Adamnan's was doing well with regards to attendances. ND asked JF to keep them informed of any relevant developments.

- b) **Clerk's Refusal to disclose Confidential Information.** {Origin: Statutory Meeting – 22.04.14 – 08/14(b)) – SEC}.

A discussion took place and it was resolved that in future (1). Complaints of an anonymous nature would not be investigated, (2). Vexatious complaints would not be proceeded with unless the complainant was able to attend and outline the case and (3). That persons seeking confidentiality with good grounds would be investigated. Proposed by SC and seconded by ND. The Board were satisfied that with regards to the matter before them today, the Clerk had acted in good faith in accordance with the appropriate guidelines.

21/14 Any Other Business.

- a) **JF** – stated that he had received complaints regarding the state of the road outside the Liverpool Arms. **ND** explained that the Department of Infrastructure owned the forecourt of the Public House and agreed that the surface was in poor condition. He told the meeting that the Department were not repairing it as it was not in the main road. A discussion took place and the Clerk was directed to write to the Department seeking their cooperation to repair the holes. **PH**
- b) **PH** – sought suitable dates for the Garff Meeting with the Department stating that so far 3rd July was the best date, be it in the evening or day or at Laxey or the Sea Terminal in order to progress the matter; a discussion took place.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 2035 hours.

The next Statutory Meeting of the Authority will be held on Wednesday 18th June 2014 at 1815 hours.