

Lonan Parish Commissioners

Statutory Meeting

Wednesday 24th October 2012 at 1830 hours in the Laxey Commissioners Office.

MINUTES

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

Chair: Mr N. Dobson. **Clerk:** Mr P. Hill.

The Meeting commenced at 1830 hours.

71/12 Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 18th September 2012.

Action

The Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 18th September 2012 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: SC. **Seconded by:** JF.

72/12 Matters Arising out of the Minutes.

- a) **SC – 62/12(a)** – Asked if a Painter had been arranged for the repainting of the Pillar Clock. **PH** replied that he was still awaiting advice on suitable Contractors. **SEC** arrived at this moment and provided details of one approved Contractor and advised the Board that he would provide a second as soon as possible. **PH** **SEC**
- b) **SC – 67/12(h)** – Informed the Board that he had attended the Planning User Group Meeting yesterday and found it informative. He gave a full overview of the issues raised. Topical to Lonan Commissioners was their policy on retrospective applications. The Director of Planning stated that they treat all applications equally whether retrospective or not and do not consider this to be grounds for refusal. **SC** suggested that clearly there was a need to review Planning Law in this regard because it potentially creates an open door opportunity to develop property that may be difficult to redress once constructed. **SC** produced the meeting notes and asked the Clerk to circulate to all members. **PH**
- c) **ND – 70/12(a)** – Asked the Clerk if the matters relating to the Lane opposite Ballacollister Road had been addressed and had the complainants been kept informed. **PH** replied yes to both questions.
- d) **ND – 70/12(d)** – Commented on how well the Civic had gone and that there had been a substantial attendance of around 150 persons.

73/12 Minutes of the Extraordinary Planning Meeting of 2nd October 2012.

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Planning Meeting of 2nd October 2012 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: SEC. **Seconded by:** JF.

74/12 Matters Arising out of the Minutes.

- a) **SC – 71/12(a)** – Thanked **SEC** for the provision of the venue and how well the event had gone. **ND** stated that the costs to Lonan amounted to £130.00 plus the buffet, the invoice of which was still awaited.

75/12 Private Sessions.

76/12 Planning Applications.

- a) Planning Application No 12/01312/B of 24.09.12 in respect of erection of a dwelling on land at Ramillies, Clay Head Road, Baldrine, IM4 6DN. *The Board, after a lengthy discussion, believed that this application should be refused on the grounds that Clay Head Road has already reached its maximum capacity for traffic and that there were inaccurate statements made within the planning statement itself that were relevant to this application.* PH
- b) Planning Application No 12/01321/B of 01.10.12 in respect of re-locating driveway and vehicular access incorporating part of adjacent field into residential curtilage at Green Hills, Pinfold Hill, Lonan, IM4 7HJ. *Approved.* PH
- c) Planning Application No 12/01325/B of 27.09.12 in respect of installation of flue at Honeyfall, Barroose Road, Baldrine, IM4 6AP. *Approved.* PH
- d) Planning Application No 12/01328/B of 28.09.12 in respect of extension, (sun lounge), to front elevation at Sunnyholme, Main Road, Baldrine, IM4 6ER. *Approved.* PH
- e) Planning Application No 12/01373/B of 10.10.12 in respect of alteration to dormer on rear elevation at Cregary, The Crescent, Baldrine. *Approved.* PH

77/12 Correspondence.

- a) Department of Infrastructure letter of 18th September regarding the Local Authority General Elections Review. Such matters under consideration include having an additional section on the Absent Voters Form to show the submission deadline date and to bring them in line with the House of Keys Legislation. *The Board agreed in principle the policy of having a common process for elections be it national or local.*
- b) Ramsey Town Commissioners invitation to their Civic Service on Sunday 28th October 2012 at 1030 hours at the Trinity United Reformed Church, Waterloo Road with parade starting at 1000 hours from outside the Town Hall. Chains of Office to be worn. *JF to attend.* JF/PH
- c) Christmas Tree Price List and Order Form. (2011 Year Price for 15' was £72.60 + £60.00 = **£132.60** including VAT). (Current Year Price for 15' is £72.60 + £60.00 = **£132.60** including VAT). *Agreed to purchase as last year. Proposed by ND and seconded by JF.* PH
- d) Minutes of Municipal Association Meeting held on 30th August 2012. *Noted.*
- e) L&LS&CF letter of 20.09.12 notifying members of the forthcoming AGM on Thursday 25th October 2012 at 1930 hours at the Football Club. Letter includes Agenda and Minutes of 26.05.11. (ND and SEC are LPC Representatives). *JF to attend.* JF
- f) A Consultation on the Fire Precautions (Flats) Regulations 2012. These regulations revise and update the Fire Precautions (Flats) Regulations 1996 and also make provision for the installation of sprinkler systems in new build flats, and buildings which are converted into flats, in order to bring this legislation into alignment with the requirements of the Building Control Regulations 2007. *Noted.*

- g) Chris Littler e-mails at 0912 hours on 03.10.12 asking if we would consider allowing him to contact our Tourist Advertisers on the website to offer them a feature box on the site at a one off fee of £40.00 as per his original proposal shown here. "One proposal I put to you a while ago was to offer the tourism accommodation owners (<http://www.laxey.org/laxey-tourist-accommodation.html> and similar page on Lonan site) a "feature box" with photos to help promote their businesses. They would be charged for this service, not the Commissioners. I would need a one off fee of £40 from the owner, and if you wanted to set the fee higher than this, or make it an annual payment, then there would be profit for the Commissioners. Would you be happy for me to approach the accommodation owners with this proposal"? *The matter was discussed and it was approved but with caveat that any content should be examined prior to publication as the Commissioners had overall responsibility for the contents on the website.* PH
- h) German Parish Commissioners e-mail at 1422 hours on 08.10.12 an invitation to their Civic Service on Sunday 18th November 2012 at 1100 hours at St Johns Methodist Church, followed by refreshments. *JF to attend.* JF/PH
- i) A response from Malew Parish Commissioners, Michael Commissioners and Arbory Parish Commissioners to the Scope of Government Report. *Noted.*
- j) Department of Infrastructure letter of 05.10.12 regarding Consultation on Introduction of Fees For Planning Appeals. It is proposed to charge people who seek an appeal a one off payment of £150.00, refundable if successful. See www.gov.im – Current Consultations. *The Board agreed in principle that charging for appeals was a good idea but believed that the proposal itself was not satisfactory in that they did not believe that Local Authorities should have to pay the fee, nor should there be multiple fees for the same appeal.* PH
- k) Chief Minister letter of 08.10.12 regarding invitation to the National Service of Remembrance and Re-Dedication at the Royal Chapel of St John on Sunday 11th November 2012 at 1500 hours. RSVP before Friday 2nd November if anybody is going to attend. *It was noted that this was the same day as the Lonan Service; hence nobody would be able to attend this.* PH
- l) Consultation on the Criminal Justice Strategy. Open, transparent and fair justice, available to all, is fundamental to our society. But, we must also expect the system which underpins the delivery of criminal justice to be not only effective but also economically sustainable. Our recorded crime rate is at its lowest rate in recent memory and the public perception of safety contributes to the overall quality of life which makes our Island an attractive place to live and work. Yet despite these positive first impressions, there are challenges on the horizon. The current system is resource intensive and is not working well for victims, witnesses, offenders or those who work within it. It is clear that reform is necessary to ensure the system is fit for the future. The attached strategy document sets a clear direction of travel and identifies priorities and principles for the whole of the Criminal Justice System. Further detailed work in respect of delivery of the strategy will be developed as part of the next stage of this modernisation programme. The strategy proposes changes in the way the system works and particularly how less serious matters can be dealt with, without the need for the case to go through the court system. By increasing the number of offences which can be dealt with through alternative methods of disposal such as fixed penalty notices, more serious cases will reach court in a timelier manner. The document sets out major policy areas for improvement. These are: prevention of crime, an appropriate response when crime is committed, and rehabilitation of offenders to reduce future offending. The strategy also deals with developing new ways of working for those agencies within the Criminal Justice System, ensuring that information is passed between different parts of the system as effectively as possible and that processes and systems are made more efficient. Whilst we invite comments on any area of this draft strategy we would ask respondents to pay particular

attention to the questions on page 31 of the attached document.

Noted.

- m)** Mike Barnes e-mails at 1624 hours on 15.10.12 to a local resident regarding his contact of 05.10.12 to the Departments Website regarding the Bus Stop for South Bound use next to the old Post Office. He wants a cut in for people to stand, etc. Mike Barnes states that this is not an option as this has previously been raised on his behalf by Lonan Commissioners. **He will see if they can arrange for a Street Light to be attached to the Electricity Pole, or move the Bus Stop.** PH
resident e-mails Mike Barnes at LPC at 1749 hours on 15.10.12 suggesting that they acquire land from the property that is currently rented or place a light on the MEA Pole. *A discussion took place and it was agreed to adjourn this matter to the next meeting in order that the site could be visited.*
- n)** Marianne Kerruish writes to thank the Board for their invitation to the Civic Service and comments how good it was. *Noted.*

78/12 Enforcement Matters.

No new matters.

79/12 Special Agenda Items.

- a)** Garff Joint Initiative Committee. *{Origin: ND}*.

ND addressed the Board and provided a comprehensive overview of the recent Garff meeting from which a lengthy discussion took place. At the conclusion of which it was resolved that they supported the proposal raised at the aforementioned meeting, but this was subject to strict confidentiality and the presentation of a proper agreement between the respective Authorities. The Clerk was asked to provide the Board with the details of the adjoining Authorities Rates. PH

80/12 Any Other Business.

- a)** **SEC** – proposed a vote of thanks to the Clerk for the progress made towards rectifying a derelict building in Baldrine and asked what progress had been made towards another such property. To the latter, **PH** stated that he had conducted enquiries in Ramsey, but these had not yielded the expected result, but enquiries were still in hand. **SEC** asked if anything could be done in relation to another problem, not only from the visual aspect but from road traffic issues caused by parked cars. **PH** stated that as regards the cars, during the hours of darkness they were parked illegally, albeit close to the kerb. After a discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the owner in respect of both matters. **PH** stated that it was unlikely that anything would be achieved by this. PH
- b)** **JF** – raised the matter of a complaint he had received from the owner of the Baldrine Ménage in that they had not been formally introduced to the Lieutenant Governor when he visited the establishment in April. The Board were surprised at this as they were aware of the fact that he had engaged all in conversation. Unfortunately the then Chairman is no longer a member and it was not possible to speak for him, but it was agreed that a letter would be sent to the complainant. PH
- c)** **JF** – informed the Board that Ballagawne Road, near the entrance to Pooil Villa was in a dangerous condition and that a woman driver had lost her wheel when she went down a pothole. Clerk asked to contact the Department. PH
- d)** **JF** – Asked if the Board were having a Christmas meal this year and if so he recommended a venue in Onchan, namely Views Restaurant. A discussion took place when it was also suggested that the PH

Liverpool Arms would be a good venue. It was resolved that they would try the Views and that Friday 7th December was the preferred day, with a fall back of 14th December. Clerk to arrange booking.

- e) **PH** – Introduced a letter from the Fire Service requesting a donation towards the annual fireworks display. A discussion took place and it was resolved that £200.00 would be donated as this was a Parish Event open to all. Proposed by **JF** and seconded by **SEC**. **PH**
- f) **ND** – asked for Board approval for him to write a tongue in cheek letter to the Press pointing out that their references to the Lonan Gentlemen’s Fellowship, Sam Barks and Mark Cavendish being Laxey Residents were unfounded as they all came from or lived in Lonan. *Approved.*

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 2050 hours.

The next Statutory Meeting of the Authority will be held on Tuesday 20th November 2012 at 1815 hours.