

# Lonan Parish Commissioners

## Statutory Meeting

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 1830 hours at Laxey Commissioners Office.

### MINUTES

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

**Chair:** Mr J. Faragher. **Clerk:** Mr P. Hill

The Meeting commenced at 1830 hours.

#### 20/15 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

Action

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed that they represented a correct statement of events.

**Proposed by: ND. Seconded by: SC.**

#### 21/15 Matters Arising out of the Minutes.

- a) **PH – 17/15(a)** – Sought directions from the Board regarding the type of street name plate that they required on the basis that the current one at Ballamenagh Road was in two colours with wording Bayr Balley Meanagh – Road of the Middle Farm. A discussion took place and whilst it was considered that the Manx translation should remain, the road was more commonly known as Ballamenagh Road. Thus the decision was to have the writing in black and Road of the Middle Farm replaced with Ballamenagh Road. Proposed by **ND** and Seconded by **SEC**. **PH**

#### 22/15 Private Sessions.

#### 23/15 Planning Applications.

- a) Planning Application No 15/00590/B of 26.05.15 in respect of demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of a detached dwelling with integral garage at Barns, Ballaragh Road, Ballaragh. **PH**  
*Approved.*
- b) Planning Application No 15/00591/B of 26.05.15 in respect of removal of existing decking to front elevation and replace with wall, steps and paving at Emscote, Highfield Drive, Baldrine, IM4 6EE. **PH**  
*Board sought clarification about the height of the wall but otherwise approved the application.*
- c) Planning Application No 15/00625/B of 04.06.15 in respect of erection of a summerhouse at Ingledene, Ballabeg, Lonan, IM4 7HB. **PH**  
*Approved.*
- d) Planning Application No. 15/00635/B of 05.06.15 in respect of alterations and extensions to dwelling and erection of detached summerhouse comprising amendments to PA 14/00880/B at Linden Lea, Old Lonan Road, Baldrine, IM4 6DF. **PH**  
*Approved.*
- e) Planning Application No 15/00668/B of 15.06.15 in respect of erection of a replacement dwelling at Ashwood, Ballamenagh Road, Baldrine, IM4 6AL. *A lengthy discussion took place and whilst they had no objection to the principle of replacing the current structure they believed that the proposed dwelling was not of similar size and out of place with the local visual amenity, consequently they recommended refusal of the said application. Concerns were also expressed regarding the access to the new dwelling having regard to the single track nature of the road. SEC, whilst participating in the discussions, abstained when the Board decision was made.* **PH**

## 24/15 Correspondence.

- a) Douglas Corporation writes - Please find the base costs for your respective areas. I will be pleased to answer any queries regarding the proposals this evening. With regards to the legal agreement, I have reviewed a couple of existing Council agreements currently in use, which again I'll be happy to discuss and will bring examples this evening. (This showed an overall cost to Lonan Parish Commissioners for all of the services provided). *Noted.*
- b) Consultation on the Reform of Domestic Rates - Treasury has today published a report summarising responses to its consultation on the Reform of Domestic Rates. The consultation created considerable public interest resulting in one of the largest consultation responses received on any subject by the Isle of Man Government. Treasury received a total of 1,484 individual responses to the consultation 84% of which were made on-line. Responses were also received from 17 of the 39 rating authorities including 15 of the 24 local authorities. The majority supported revaluation of domestic properties and moving the basis of domestic property taxation from rental value to capital value. Respondents also agreed that each domestic property should be placed within one of nine property tax bands, though views were expressed that the range and value of the proposed bands should be amended. Support for a change in the calculation of property taxes did not extend to the proposed valuation process which involved an element of self-assessment. When considering how property tax should be collected the largest number of respondents (but not local authorities) were in favour of an all-Island basis with income being raised equally across all properties in the same tax band and allocated to local authorities according to their needs. Individual views were also expressed supporting the need for a rate rebate scheme and for discounts in certain circumstances, however due to the additional cost of administering such a system this received little support from rating authorities. Respondents also showed significant support for the reform of commercial and agricultural rating together with domestic rating to ensure that any revaluation was fair to all rate-payers. Treasury will consider all the views expressed by respondents before determining how best to proceed to deliver reform of domestic rates. A more detailed explanation of the consultation findings is set out in the report which can be viewed on the Isle of Man Government's Website <http://www.gov.im/ConsultationDetail.gov?id=493>. Paper copies are also available on request from the contact details below. *Noted.*
- c) Consultation on proposed Consumer safety Regulations Prohibiting Sales of Sky Lanterns in the Isle of Man - The Isle of Man Office of Fair Trading is seeking your views in relation to its proposal to ban the sales of sky lanterns in the Isle of Man. Please find attached a copy of the consultation paper which sets out the Office's proposals. Comments should be submitted in writing by post, fax or email no later than 5.00pm on **Friday 3 July 2015**. Additional copies of this document can be obtained from the Office by telephoning (01624) 686567. Electronic copies are also available at [www.gov.im/oft/consultations.gov](http://www.gov.im/oft/consultations.gov). If you have any additional queries, please do not hesitate to contact me. *Noted.*
- d) The Parish of Lonan and Laxey – Island Flower Festival 5<sup>th</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015. Your Local Church at Laxey is participating in this event again and seeks help with displays, donations, stewarding, baking or other assistance. *Due to the lateness of the meeting it was considered too late to contribute financially or otherwise.*
- e) Garff (Local Government District) Order 2015 – a discussion took place.
- f) Consultation on the Police (Amendment) Bill 2015 - Please find attached for your consideration a covering letter and consultation document with regard to the Police (Amendment) Bill 2015. The

PH

Bill seeks to (1) Allow the Police to sub contract out some of their functions, (2) matters other than specific complaints about Police Officers to be referred for investigation, (3). Re-appoint incumbent Chief Constable without need to re-advertise the post. Please could you submit any views on this consultation to the Department, via letter to the address below or email to [dhaconsultation@gov.im](mailto:dhaconsultation@gov.im), by no later than Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015. *A discussion took place during which concern was expressed about the privatisation of a number of Police services believing that the public expected to see a Police Officer rather than an individual employed by a private security firm. Clerk to respond.*

- g)** Letter from Diocese of Sodor and Man of 26.05.15 with final closure notice and explanation of circumstances and potential future uses. Also comments on negotiations with Jurby and how this could work for All Saints Church. *A discussion took place when it was proposed that a Requisition Meeting should be called but beforehand a meeting with Mr Rodan and interested parties should take place. Clerk to write to Mr Rodan.* PH
- h)** Letter from Mr Gawne of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2015 regarding further discussions on the Transfer of Services. He has set up a number of Policy Development Discussions firstly on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015 for an all-day session at Barrule Suite, Tywnald Buildings. Timetable – 0930 – 1100 – Waste Management; 1115 – 1245 – Governance; 1400 – 1515 – Housing; 1530 – 1645 – General Items. A further Regional Meeting will take place in respect of the East on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 1900 hours at the Laxey Working Men’s Institute. Please advise Mary Hall, ([mary.hall@gov.im](mailto:mary.hall@gov.im)), whether the Clerk and members are attending any or all of these meetings before Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. *A discussion took place and members stated their preferences for attendance. Clerk to respond.* PH
- i)** Consultation on the Isle of Man Government as a Single Legal Entity. You can complete the Consultation by going to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/2RSNHXZ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2RSNHXZ) or to [Hilary.Leece@gov.im](mailto:Hilary.Leece@gov.im), 648062 before Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2015. *A discussion took place and it was generally agreed that the proposals contained therein were sensible and progressive. Noted.*
- j)** Peel Town Commissioners invitation of 16.06.15 to their Civic Service to be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 1100 hours at Peel Methodist Chapel, Atholl Street, Peel. RSVP. JF/PH  
*JF stated he would attend if well enough.*
- k)** Fly-Tipping of tonnes of plaster board in bridleway at Baldrine Road. *A discussion took place and the Clerk was thanked for the work that he had done towards trying to identify the person’s responsible and seeking removal of the said debris. Clerk was authorised to write to the Press appealing for help to identify them.* PH
- l)** Rob Collister e-mails at 1619 hours on 27.06.15 the Waste Report Summary. SC lead the debate on this matter in which he brought to the Boards attention that it was the belief that the amount of the current Gate Fee was the correct amount and there shouldn’t be any further increases. The members attending the meeting with Mr Gawne on 17<sup>th</sup> July would raise this matter. ND/JF
- m)** Paul Cowin e-mails on 29.06.15 - Mr. Councillor R.H. McNicholl has been appointed by Douglas Borough Council as its representative on the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, replacing Mr. Councillor W.M. Malarkey. I need to set up a meeting of the Joint Committee fairly soon, so am looking for dates in July; Mr. Kelly of Santon Commissioners has already advised that he will find it difficult to attend after 20<sup>th</sup> July. If you have any suggestions, or items you wish to have specifically included on the agenda, I’ll be very pleased to hear from you. *ND outlined the situation regarding the need for the above meeting and the cancellation of the last meeting, albeit that it would have been quorate without Mr Malarkey and that he as Vice-Chairman had not been consulted. He stated that he was in direct contact with Mr Cowin regarding his availability in July.*

**25/15 Enforcement Matters.**

- a) *No new matters.*

**26/15 Special Agenda Items.**

- a) **Local Authority Meetings – Policy on Meeting Date Revisions.** *{Origin: ND}*

**ND** opened the topic by stating that he believed that it was essential that when a date was fixed the meeting should go ahead, even if some members were absent but provided that it was quorate. An intense discussion followed when **SC** stated that there were exceptional circumstances surrounding the change of this meeting date as he had an unexpected important meeting and he wished to be present when the Garff matter was discussed. He added that he had made every effort to arrange an alternative convenient date. The discussion continued and it was proposed that every consideration should be given to sticking to arranged meeting dates whereby they would be quorate.

**27/15 Any Other Business.**

- a) **PH** - Advised the Board that he would be absent from 20<sup>th</sup> July until 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

**There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 2030 hours.**

**The next Statutory Meeting of the Authority will be on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 1830 hours**