

Lonan Parish Commissioners

Statutory Meeting

Thursday 31st March 2016 at 1700 hours at Laxey Commissioners Office.

MINUTES

Present: Mr J. Faragher, Mr S. Clucas, Mr N. Dobson, Mr S. Clague Mr P. Hill. **Apologies:** None.

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

The Meeting commenced at 1705 hours.

113/15 Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 23rd February 2016.

Action

The Minutes of the Statutory Meeting of 19th January 2016 were examined for accuracy, and it was agreed that they represented a correct statement of events.

Proposed by: MB. **Seconded by:** ND.

114/15 Matters Arising out of the Minutes.

- a) **ND – 109/15(d)** – asked what the status was with this matter. Clerk advised the Board that this was the subject of 117/15(d) of tonight's meeting.
- b) **JF – 109/15(b)** – raised the matter of trees at building plot next to Westdene, Croit-e-Quill Road and a discussion took place. Clerk advised the Board that Forestry had attended the Office earlier this day to inform the Authority of a request to cut down a further seven sycamore trees and that they were minded to approve this subject to the consent of an adjoining property owner. The Forester further added that any consent would be subject to a condition that trees would be replanted.

115/15 Private Sessions.

116/15 Planning Applications.

- a) Planning Application No 16/00322/B of 17.03.16 in respect of erection of a conservatory to rear of dwelling at Rivendell, Baldhoon Road, Lonan, IM4 7QH. **PH**
Approved.

117/15 Correspondence.

- a) Press release announcing a government consultation on red squirrels. Full details are now available on the gov.im website and the Department invites you to return your views, if you have an interest in this matter. *A discussion took place and it was generally agreed that these animals were not native to the Isle of Man and should not be introduced due to the harm they can cause to the indigenous creatures here and the fact that there is insufficient sources of food for them or habitat. It was resolved that any comment should be by individual choice.*
- b) Included within the domestic rates demands to be issued by Treasury in early April 2016 will be a Request for Information form. The attached explanatory letter and sample form are circulated for information. We would welcome the support of rating authorities in carrying out this research on the basis that it will better inform decision makers about potential changes. If there are any questions regarding the proposed research they should be direct in the first instance to this office. *A discussion took place and the consensus was that it was unrealistic to expect home owners to value their property in the current financial climate and indeed was one of the proposals rejected in the recent consultation.*

- c) Office of the Clerk of Tynwald Invitation of 24th March to the Tynwald Garden Party to be held on Sunday 3rd July 2016, hosted by Mrs Christian, MLC and in the presence of the Lt Governor, Sir Richard Gozney. **JF and MB to attend.** **JF/MB**
- d) Manx Utilities Quotation and plan for proposed Street light opposite Ingledene, Ballabeg. See SM – 23.02.16 – 109/15(d). *A discussion took place and it was agreed to proceed, subject to the views of the neighbouring property owners.* **Proposed by ND and Seconded by SEC.** **PH**
- e) Minutes of Garff – 09.03.16 and Agenda for 06.04.16. **ND** outlined a request from the meeting that each Authority should be quorate in order that agreed ring fenced sums could be finalised prior to the formal merger of the Authorities. **PH** stated that he had been approached by Maughold's Clerk, who was preparing the Memorandum of Agreement regarding ring fenced monies and had indicated that they were ring fencing an optimum sum for their respective projects. On behalf of the Lonan Board he had indicated that the current amount ring fenced by Lonan for Play Equipment was unrealistic and revised the figure accordingly, stating that this was net of VAT. **SC** proposed that the difference should be transferred to the savings account to protect it for this purpose and it was agreed. (The extra amount added £10,000.00 and the amount to be transferred would be this plus VAT on the total). **PH**

118/15 Enforcement Matters.

- a) *No new matters.*

119/15 Special Agenda Items.

- a) *None Notified.*

120/15 Any Other Business.

- a) **SEC** – Raised the matter of the rusting green railings opposite the Baldrine Methodist Chapel which were unsightly and potentially dangerous to passing pedestrians. **PH** stated that he had repeatedly asked the Department to deal but had not had any response. He would write again. **PH**
- b) **SEC** – Asked if Ballamenagh Road between Ballannette and the St Adamnans turning could be repaired as it was badly potholed. **PH**
- c) **JF** – Asked if Ballagawne Road could be examined and repaired as it was heavily potholed, particularly in the area west of The Rhaa turning. **PH**
- d) **MB** – Expressed his disappointment that the Motor Cycle Event in Laxey was now going to Peel when the Valley Gardens could have been used as an alternative venue to the promenade whilst the bridge was under replacement.
- e) **JF** – Stated that the Old School building at Ballabeg was beginning to look very run down and asked if something could be done about this. **PH**
- f) **PH** – Stated that an informal discussion had taken place regarding his proposal to continue beyond his retirement date on a self-employed basis to complete the audit work, but nothing had been confirmed in writing. Now he sought confirmation that they were in agreement to this and that at the same time he would run the Office as normal, dealing with the day to day issues that may arise. A

discussion took place regarding mode of payment and it was resolved that **PH** would continue as suggested above and invoice them at the next meeting and any additional time required to finalise the accounts in May. Proposed by **ND** and Seconded by **MB**.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 1800 hours.

The next Statutory Meeting of the Authority will be on Tuesday 26th April 2016 at 1830 hours