

**PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAUGHOLD PARISH COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON MONDAY 6th April 2009, 7.00 PM AT DHOON CHURCH HALL**

Present: Mrs Fargher (Chairman), Mrs Lace CP, Mr Cowley, Mr Moughtin.
M. Royle (Clerk).

7.00 pm – Meeting with Mr Thompson Chief Executive, DOT.

Mr Thompson was welcomed by Members at 7.00 pm . He advised that this meeting was a follow up to the meeting which had taken place in January. He referred to IRIS and told Members that his Department had received the proposals from the consultants about the next stage. These would be submitted to COMIN and further consultation would take place with local authorities in due course. Mr Thompson stated that the proposals indicated new facilities at Port Lewaigue, Corony, Glen Mona and Booilushag.

Mr Thompson advised that the Department had been investigating the situation for those children/parents walking to and from Dhoon School. A survey at the school had indicated that 5 children had walked to school on the survey date of 29th of June 2008. A recent traffic survey had indicated that cars were travelling at an average of 35 mph. This was an enforcement issue. However, it was noted that the police did currently employ officers with speed cameras from time to time. Mr Thompson suggested that the NTMLG would be a good forum at which to take this matter further.

Information on the cutting of verges at the Corony and Cronk Cardle was presented by Mr Thompson. It was stated that cutting was scheduled to take place 4 times a year. Mr Thompson had viewed the area recently and raised concerns with the amount of cut grass that remained in the verge. He advised that he would have this problem addressed as such matter could block drains and gulleys. He suggested that the Commissioners could have these areas cut in addition to the cuts undertaken by the Department. **MF** advised that the situation would be monitored by the Commissioners and that the latter suggestion would be considered.

Members questioned the frequency with which the roadsweeper visited the parish. Mr Thompson agreed to check on the frequency with which roadsweeping was carried out in the Parish.

There followed a discussion of mud being left on the roads by farm vehicles and other plant machinery. Mr Thompson stated that such mess on the road was a hazard and an inconvenience. The Department had the power to charge for clearing up in such cases.

General dissatisfaction with the untidiness created by the contractors undertaking the work on the MER was also discussed. The Commissioners are to monitor this situation.

Mr Thompson was thanked for attending the meeting, for obtaining information, and providing guidance on the issues discussed.

7.30 pm Meeting of Maughold Parish Commissioners – Public Session

The meeting was declared open at 7.47 pm.

1. Apologies: The clerk reported that apologies had been received from Mrs Stephens.

2. Consideration of the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd of March 2009.

MF proposed that the minutes of the meeting of the 2nd of March 2009 be accepted as a correct record.

Seconded **HL**. Resolved.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd of March 2009.

a. **Investigation of Office Facilities** - The clerk reported that a meeting had been arranged with the Church Warden for week commencing 20th April 2009. Details of the proposal for the Commissioners to use a room at Maughold Village Hall would be discussed. Telephone/Broadband services, as well as a posting box would need to be installed.

Action: *The clerk was instructed to make the necessary enquiries with the Church Warden and Manx Telecom, etc.*

b. **Recycling in the Parish.**

The clerk circulated a Cost Analysis Report for the provision of a kerbside recycling service in the Parish. This was noted by Members. A proposal to introduce smaller 'bring bank stations' in other areas of the Parish was also discussed. Initial contact with the DLGE had indicated that the Department may be able to offer some assistance

with such an initiative. It was agreed that options to enhance provision of bring bank facilities should be investigated at this stage.

Actions: Further discussion of the Cost Analysis for kerbside collection to take place at the May meeting. *The clerk was also instructed to investigate options for enhancing 'bring bank provision' and report back to the May meeting.*

c. Provisional date for **Visit to EFW Plant** – 7.00pm 20th May 2009.

It was agreed that this time and date was convenient for Members.

Action: Clerk *to confirm that 4 Members and the clerk will be attending at the EFW plant.*

d. **Golden Jubilee Trust Young Citizen's Fund Activities – Spring Youth Challenge.**

The clerk reported that the initial meeting of the youngsters from the northern parishes had been postponed until later in April. A new date is to be confirmed in due course. Mrs Corlett, the Young Persons' Champion was thanked for making arrangements for attendance by an entrant from Maughold.

e. **Proposal to investigate use by community of field by Dhoon Church.**

The Commissioners had written to Reverend Faulds to initiate discussion about the possibility of developing further opportunities for the use of the field by the community; particularly the young people of Glen Mona and the Youth Club. Reverend Faulds had replied indicating that if the Commissioners had specific proposals a meeting to discuss these matters could be arranged. Further comment on this matter was reserved until the May meeting.

4. Matters for Discussion

a. **Evaluation of operation of the web site.**

The clerk reported that the administrator had suggested a further option to allow the site greater flexibility. The option would allow the clerk to upload news directly on to the site. There would be one-off charge for installing this option, but it was felt that the improved flexibility would allow the site to be updated more frequently.

Action: *Clerk to request the administrator to install this facility.*

The use of the site to advertise businesses was discussed. Now that the site was up and running it was felt that the cost of uploading information on behalf of other businesses/organisations should be borne by those parties. It was agreed that this was a matter that would be monitored.

b. **Approval of MEA Maintenance Contract** – The schedule of maintenance for all public lighting in Maughold was noted. The cost of maintenance will be £158.84 plus VAT. Members were notified that this amounted to an annual rise of £11.20 over that charged for 2008/09 – a rise of 1.8%. – Proposed that the contract be accepted. – seconded this proposal. Unanimously resolved. The contract was duly signed by **MF** and the clerk.

Action: *Signed document to be returned to the MEA.*

4.a Consultation Matters

i. **DHSS** – Consultation on Proposed Changes to Family Income Supplement and income Support for Lone Parents.)

Documents in regard to this matter had been circulated at the March meeting of the Commissioners. The general consensus was that the measures would encourage lone parents back to work and should be supported in general. However, concerns were raised including that the consultation document did not address the lack of availability of childcare facilities, particularly during times of school holidays. Comment was made that the needs of children should be paramount in this matter.

Action: *The clerk was instructed in a response that gave qualified support, but asserted the concerns expressed by Members.*

ii. **DLGE** – Consultation on Proposed Changes to the Building Control Act 1991.

Documents in regard to this matter had been circulated at the March meeting of the Commissioners. **MF** proposed that a response be submitted reflecting the comments in the clerk's report. This was seconded by **HL** and resolved.

Action: *Clerk to submit response as requested by 30th April 2009*

iii. **DHSS** – Consultation on the Strategy for the Future of Health Services.

Documents had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Members noted the documents and that a response is requested by May 31st 2009. Further comment was reserved until the May meeting.

iv. **CSO** – Consultation on the Human Rights (Amendment) Bill.

Explanatory documents had been circulated prior to the meeting. The changes to the HRA outlined in the Bill were discussed. The general consensus being that these changes were necessary to ensure compliance with European Law. It was agreed that the Commissioners did not need to comment on these amendments.

v. **DOT** – Consultation into Proposed Legislative Changes to the Road Transport Act 2001.

Response requested by 22nd May 2009. Further comment was reserved until the May meeting. **RM** was issued with a copy of the document for perusal.

Action: *clerk to liaise with RM prior to preparing a summary for the May meeting.*

5. Correspondence

a. **Patrick Commissioners** – Invitation to Civic Service. Sunday April 26th, 3.00 pm St Paul's, Foxdale. This matter was noted by Members.

Action: *It was agreed that the clerk should notify that unfortunately no Member was available to attend.*

b. **Office of the Council of Ministers** – Regarding Young Persons Working Group & Request for information on the provision of informal social leisure facilities in the Parish aimed at 14-23 year olds. This matter was discussed and a list of informal facilities in the Parish drawn up.

Action: *The clerk was instructed to forward details about the youth club, the various events provided by Maughold Social Club, and the Young Persons' Champion, and other facilities such as the Parish Field.*

c. **Resident** – Anonymous letter complaining about dog fouling in the Corony Area.

d. Request from a **Ramsey resident** for a dog bin near Cloughbane Walk.

The clerk reported that there were no dog bin facilities in this area of the Parish which is popular with dog walkers who use the several footpaths which terminate at this point in Ballure. The clerk reported that he had contacted the contractor and agreed that a dog bin could be placed at the exit of the Lhergy Frissell footpath at the Ballure tram crossing. The dog bin at the Dhoon car park had been removed as it was rarely used. Posters indicating that the litter bins at the car park could be used for bagged dog waste had been made. This arrangement maintained the total number of litter/dog waste bins which require emptying at 30.

e. **Zero Waste Mann** – Notification of composting event at the Dhoon Glen Car Park, Saturday 2nd May 2009.

This event was noted by Members. The organisers had requested use of the Commissioners' bunting for the event.

Action: *The clerk was instructed to make the bunting available to ZWM for the day.*

f. **DTL**- Notification & entry forms for Island in Bloom 2009.

The entry form was noted by Members, and a provisional list of entries in each category drawn up.

Action: *The clerk was instructed to make arrangements to complete the entry and report back to the May meeting.*

g. **CSO** – Invitation to Young Persons Working Group Forum, Tuesday 5th May 2009, IOM College, 5-9 pm. Details of the forum were noted by Members. The clerk was given no further instruction.

h. **Office of the Clerk of Tynwald** – Invitation to Tynwald Garden Party, 5th July 2009, the Nunnery. The invitation was noted by Members and residents identified who would be approached to attend from the Parish.

Action: *The clerk was instructed to contact the residents and make the necessary arrangements.*

i. **Hon SC Rodan SHK** – Regarding the decision to refuse the application for the extension of Dreemskerry Quarry. Correspondence from Mr Rodan noting the "thorough" and "persuasive" case made by the Commissioners was noted by Members.

j. **Mayor of Douglas** – Invitation to Mayor's Masquerade Ball, Saturday 18th April 2009, 7.00 pm. Members noted the details of this invitation. The clerk was given no further instruction.

k. List of **further Correspondence** in the April Circulation File Attached below.

l. **Resident** – Regarding Planning Hearing on PA 08/00672/A & poor sea water quality at Port Lewaigue. These matters were noted and considered by Members.

Action: *The clerk was instructed in reply to the letter on the matter of PA 08/00672/A, and to contact Environmental Health and the DOT Drainage Division to investigate the reasons for the poor water quality readings at Port Lewaigue particularly during August of last year. Report back to be made on the latter at the May meeting.*

m. **DOT** – Regarding TT & MGP road safety campaigns.

The clerk reported that the Department intended to place banners at the Dhoon Car Park and at the Hairpin on the TT course. These would carry a road safety message. Comment was made that advertising hoardings often attracted criticism for distracting drivers, and the similar potential negative effect of these banners was raised. However, it was noted that the Road Safety Unit of the Department felt that these messages were beneficial.

Action: *The clerk was instructed to acknowledge the request and insist that the banners be removed once the MGP had finished.*

6. Searches: Lowfield, 4 Cooilushtey; **Treetops**, Ballafayle.

These matters were noted by Members.

7. Parish Maintenance.

Adoption of Tram Stops: The clerk reported that an information sheet & safety leaflet were being distributed to those who had 'adopted' tram stops. This information outlined the logistical and financial help that could be offered by the Commissioners and the MER.

Arboretum: **MF** reported that excellent progress was being made by Mr and Mrs Smith with the refurbishments at the Arboretum. Each tree was being given individual attention, and the process of replacing dead trees had begun. The clerk reported that significant progress had been made and the effects were already very noticeable. Mr & Mrs Smith were thanked by the Board for the lead they had given and the hard work they had already put in to improving the facility.

Action: *the clerk was instructed to investigate the cost of a display board for the lists of memorial trees.*

Maughold village Car Park: The clerk reported that some work had been undertaken to improve the surface of the car park, but more work may be needed in future. The trees had been tidied, and covers fitted to the sensors on the lights.

CPA: The play area had been given its first cut of the year. Works on the climbing frame steps had also taken place to remove algae.

Action: *The clerk is to arrange for the collection of the sleepers from the Dhoon week commencing 20th April 2009.*

9. PLANNING.

To note:

- Refusal decision from the Inspector and COMIN on PA 07/01827/B, the application to extend Dreemskerry Quarry. The Inspector's Report was noted by Members, and the refusal decision welcomed. There followed discussion of the reasons for refusal including the lack of a coherent plan for extraction of the Island's mineral resources. Reference was made to the cost of the Inquiry, and the perceived shortcomings in the process. A decision on any comment to government on these matters was reserved until the May meeting.
- 09/00424/B **Croit Rance, Ballafyle;** Alterations and enlargement of utility area. Application withdrawn. This matter was noted by Members.

9.1 COMPLETION CERTIFICATES – None this month.

9.2 Decisions from DLGE:

09/00044/B **The Spinney, Dreemskerry**; Installation of 2 solar panels;– **Approved** 26 February 2009.

08/02330/B **Booilushag House, Booilushag**, Amendments to existing paddock access;– **Approved** 1st April 2009.

09/00186/B **The Old Mill, Corony Bridge**, Installation of replacement windows;– Approved 30th March 2009.

09/00200/B **Primrose Lodge, Slieu Lewaigue**, Alterations & erection of a porch on Holiday cottage;– Approved 30th March 2009.

The above decisions were noted by Members. The clerk was given no further instruction.

9.3. Planning For Decision:

09/00371/REM **Baldromma Beg Farm, Ballajora Hill**, REM Application to convert farm building in to an agricultural workers dwelling and creation of vehicular access

Members had no concerns with the proposals for the conversion and extension.

Concern was expressed with the formation of the new entrance onto this narrow section of highway. The Commissioners seek assurance from the DOT that the visibility splays indicated on the plan would be sufficient in this location to ensure an acceptable level of road safety is maintained.

The Commissioners note the indication that the current hedge/wall will be re-profiled. In respect of this they seek assurance from the applicant that the works will be carried out with sensitivity in order to maintain the rural character of this section of the A15 highway.

09/00459/B **Rhennie Farm, Main Road Dhoon**, Erection of a detached double garage

This application was considered by Members. There were no concerns raised with the proposals.

9.4 Appeals - NTR

10. Finance

10.1. Approval of cheques:

12-Mar-09 Allansons Nurseries	23.12	3.02	2319
06-Apr-09 MEA	179.45	23.41	2322
MEA	118.86	5.66	2323
Spotless Cleaners	200.00		2324
Brew & Corkill	1,136.20	148.20	2325
Manx Printcare	288.88	37.68	2326
Isle of Man Gov Tipping Feb	699.50	419.70	2328
Chris Littler Web Design	180.00		2329
Attendance Allowance	90.00		2330
Attendance Allowance	90.00		2331
Attendance Allowance	90.00		2332
Manx Telecom	50.32	6.56	2333
Kinrade Bros AV Feb	214.74	28.01	2334
Feltons	50.76	6.62	2335
Kinrade Bros. Haulage	306.74	40.01	2337
(DiB Tools B&Q)	182.33	23.78	2338
IOM Government Tipping March	916.50	549.90	2339
09/10 IOM Government CA Site 1 st Qtr	2,248.17	337.23	2340

accounts

The above cheques were noted and duly signed by Members.

10.2 March Finances.

The clerk circulated a report on finances for the month of March 2009. These were noted by Members. The clerk was given no further instruction.

11. Any Other Business

- a. Members noted the following **meetings** to be attended by the clerk
- Meeting with Auditors Moore Stephens, 28th April 2009
 - Meeting with Marsh Insurance, 23rd April 2009
 - Code of Conduct Working Group Meeting 23rd April 2009
 - Training Course – Agendas and Minutes 30th April 2009
- b. The clerk was asked to fly the flags throughout the Parish during April.
- c. **HL** agreed to contact Reverend Faulds with a view to setting dates for the **Garff Carol Service** and **Civic Service**.
- d. The clerk advised Members that three incidents of Fly Tipping had occurred during March. These had been cleared by the Commissioners.
- Action:** *MC requested that the clerk post details of this on the web site. Agreed.*
- e. **MF** requested that the clerk contact DAFF and ask for the **dismantled sign at Ballaglass Glen** to be refurbished or replaced. **Action:** *Clerk to contact DAFF.*
- f. A request to plant a **memorial tree** at the Arboretum was noted. **HL** to liaise with the resident who made the request.
- g. It was unanimously agreed that the **May meeting** should take place on Monday May 4th (Bank Holiday) &.30 pm at Dhoon Church Hall.

12. Private Session

The meeting was declared closed at 10.42 pm

Next Meeting (AGM) Monday 4th May 2009, 7.30 pm at Dhoon Church Hall

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Appendix 1.

Items of Correspondence in the February 2009 Circulation File.

- a. **RTLC** – Circulars 252, 253, 254, 255.
- b. **DLGE** – Tipping Figures February 2009, 27.98 tonnes. Average 13.88 kg per bin per week.
- c. **NNPT** – Minutes of meetings of 17.02.09 & 17.03.09.
- d. **Long & Humphrey** – Request to be included on mailing list.
- e. **GJIC** – Minutes of the meeting of 11.03.09 & Agenda for meeting on 08.04.09. Diary of Events dated 01.04.09.
- f. **DOT** – Highways Monthly Issue 32 March 2009.
- g. **Ramsey Town Commissioners** – Information on Drug & alcohol Strategy Roadshow.
- h. **Neighbourhood Watch** – Information leaflets.
- i. **DOT**- Minutes of NTMLG of 13.01.09.
- j. **Treasury** – 1st Supplemental List 2009 – indicates £572.00 drop in Parish Rateable Value.
- k. **PKF** – Offer of accounting assistance.