

**MINUTES of the MEETING OF MAUGHOLD PARISH COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON Monday 3rd August 2009, 7.30 PM AT DHOON CHURCH HALL**

7.30 pm Meeting of Maughold Parish Commissioners – Public Session

Present: Mrs Lace CP, Mr Cowley, Mrs Fargher, Mr Moughtin.
Clerk.

09/31. Apologies: The clerk reported that apologies had been received from Mrs Stephens.

09/32. Consideration of the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of 29th June 2009.

Resolved: RM proposed that the minutes of 29.06.09 be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting.
Seconded **MF**. The minutes were duly signed and dated by **HL**.

09/33. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 29th of June 2009.

a. MER Halts & the Dhoon Sidings

The removal of materials from the halts and railside over the last weeks was noted. It was also reported that some materials had been removed from the Dhoon sidings. However the Commissioners are still very concerned about the untidy appearance of the area, and in particular the way materials are stored. The site is open access and a range of health and safety concerns were expressed by Members.

Resolved: The clerk was asked to write to the MER thanking them for the good progress made on clearing the line, and requesting further action is taken to tidy the Dhoon Sidings; particularly that all materials are safely stored. The situation is to be monitored and reported on at the September meeting.

b. Opening of Office Facilities 24th August 2009.

The clerk reported that the Office at the Parish Hall in Maughold Village on Monday the 24th of August at 9.30 am. The office will be open from that date every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, between 9.30 am and 3.00 pm.

09/34. Matters for Discussion

a. Preparations for Civic Service

This year's Civic Service takes place at 3.00 pm on Sunday the 20th of September at Kirk Maughold.

Resolved: HL to organise order of service, readers, and refreshments etc. Clerk to send invitations to local authorities and organisations prior to 6th of August. Invitations to parishioners and notices for the newspapers are to be issued week commencing 24th of August.

b. To approve the issue of an operating licence to the Crossags Camp Site.

The clerk reported that no reply had been received from government on this matter since the last meeting.

Resolved: The clerk was instructed to write to DLGE Environmental Health requesting clarification of the situation at the campsite.

c. Commissioners access to e-mail facilities (*generated in correspondence from MC dated 22.06.09*).

MC asked which Commissioners had access to e-mail facilities. Two of the four members present confirmed they had such facility. MC stated that use of e-mail reduced the use of paper and other resources. These matters were noted by those Members present.

d. Maintenance of War memorials in the Parish.

The clerk reported that the contractor had not as yet provided a quotation for maintenance work on the war memorial in the church yard at Kirk Maughold. A solution to provide access to all faces of the memorial had been proposed by a local tool hire firm. The contractor had been notified of this proposal.

Resolved: The clerk was instructed to contact the newly formed War Memorials Committee for advice in these matters.

e. Implications of the Recommendations of the Select Committee of Tynwald on the Affairs of Braddan Parish Commissioners.

The clerk drew Members attention to this document and specifically the recommendations which resulted from the Inquiry. A copy of this document was placed in to the Circulation File. There followed discussion of the current arrangements for registering Members' Interests. It was noted that revisions to practise had already been discussed in early 2009. At that time the scope of Interests deemed to indicate an interest had been broadened and clarified.

Resolved: It was agreed that the current system for registering Members Interests was adequate.

f. Request from CLA regarding Copyright Compliance.

The clerk read correspondence from this UK organisation who are seeking to exact fees from Manx Government agencies. It was noted that many sectors of government and other local authorities had paid the fee. The clerk reported that no publications covered by this annual licence had been copied by his office in the last four years. The clerk also reported that by their own admission in the correspondence the organisation had no power to extract fees on behalf of the UK government from jurisdictions outside the UK.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the Commissioners would not pay a fee to this UK organisation. It was also agreed that the Commissioners should adopt a policy not to copy from such publications.

g. To Note: Copy of Corporate Code of Conduct Document for Local Authority Members (Circulation File – Discussion to take place at September meeting).

The clerk drew the attention of Members to this document which was placed in to the circulation file for discussion at the September meeting.

09/35. Consultation Matters

a. Consultation on the proposed Flood Risk Management Act (clerk's report circulated).

The clerk's report was noted. There followed discussion during which broad support for the proposals was agreed.

Resolved: The clerk was instructed to reply to the consultation.

09/36. Correspondence

a. Office of the Council of Ministers – Request for information on war memorials in the Parish.

Resolved: The clerk was instructed to forward the relevant information to the organisation.

b. Marown Parish Commissioners – Invitation to Civic Service 3.00 pm Sunday 13th September 2009, Marown Parish Church.

Resolved: RM to attend. Clerk to notify Marown Parish Commissioners.

c. DOT – Request for Commissioners to undertake grass cutting at the Corony.

This matter was noted and discussed.

Resolved: The clerk was instructed to contact the DOT and request further information. Clerk to contact suitably experienced contractors to obtain costings for maintenance of these areas.

d. Play Inspection Company Ltd - Quotation for annual inspection of Play Area.

A quotation for £125.00 exclusive of VAT was considered.

Resolved: It was agreed to accept the quotation. Clerk to arrange for inspection to take place during August.

e. Resident – Copy of correspondence with Mr Winstanley of DOT on IRIS and proposals for treatment of sewage at Port Lewaigue.

This correspondence was noted by Members. The clerk was instructed to thank the resident for forwarding this useful information.

f. Stephanie Gray DLGE – Regarding Master Composting Course for residents.

The provision of a composting course in Laxey Glen Gardens during September was discussed. It is anticipated that a resident/s could attend the course and subsequently act as a source of advice for other residents undertaking composting.

Resolved: MC to notify the clerk if he is able to attend. Clerk to publicise the course on web site/noticeboards.

g. **Resident** – Feedback to the Commissioners on recycling and kerbside collection. Constructive comments on recycling matters from a resident were noted. Members considered these with interest. They will be used to inform the debate on future strategies for recycling in the Parish. Kerbside Collection and the placement of 'mini-recycling-centres' are two strategies currently being considered. The Commissioners would very much welcome the comments of residents in these matters.

h. **Resident** – Request for assistance with community project work in the grounds of the Dhoon Church. This correspondence was read and carefully considered. The excellent work of the group of volunteers being undertaken in the church grounds was noted. **HL** advised that there were restrictions on rate monies being used to fund projects or development on privately owned properties. This had previously been confirmed by the Office of the Attorney General. It was noted that where available the Commissioners tools had been placed at the disposal of the volunteers, and that several of the Members had provided their own labour and other support to the volunteers. The value of the project was recognised and it was agreed that such support would continue. The Commissioners would provide help where possible, but were unable to help with funding of refurbishment works on private or church properties.

Resolved: The clerk was instructed in reply to the resident.

09/37. Searches: Land at Hibernia.

This matter was noted by Members.

09/38. Parish Maintenance:

- **Play Area Annual Inspection**

This matter was dealt with at 09.36.d above.

- **Island in Bloom**

MF commented that the Parish had once again looked wonderful for the judges this year. This was unanimously agreed. Particular comment was made about the improvements at the Arboretum. The bright displays at the tram stops were also noted, as well as the excellent standard of the businesses and private gardens entered in the competition. The Commissioners thanked all those who had contributed, and look forward to receiving the comments of the judges on the various projects and gardens at the presentation ceremony which takes place at the Villa Marina in September.

- **Arboretum Sign**

The clerk circulated a photograph of the new sign which had just been delivered.

Resolved: It was agreed that the location should be moved to the opposite bank on the arboretum approach track. Clerk to seek agreement from DAFF prior to installation in this location.

- **Dhoon Church Grounds.** A written update from Mrs Stephens was read and noted. Matters were dealt with at item 09.36.h above.

- **Any other maintenance matters.**

No further maintenance matters were discussed.

09.39. PLANNING.

39.1 **COMPLETION CERTIFICATES** – 13th July 2009. 89/02254/DGA Garages at The Moorings & Thie Lewaigue, Port Lewaigue.

These matters were noted by Members.

39.2 **OTHER MATTERS**

39.3 Decisions from DLGE:

09/00751/B **Faaiie Mooar**, Port Lewaigue, Installation of replacement windows and doors;– Approved 02.07.09.
09/00758/B **Caardee**, Dreemskerry Hill, Alterations, erection of an extension and installation of replacement windows;– Approved 02.07.09.

09/00817/B **Glen Cairn**, Port Lewaigue, Alterations & erection of extensions to dwelling house – Approved 10.07.09.

The above decisions were noted by Members.

39.4 Decisions to be made:

09/01052/B **Elgin Stables**, Jacks Lane, Alterations & extension to dwelling house;
The Commission has no concerns to raise and recommend approval.

09/01067/A **Field 624255 & 624256 Glen Mona Loop Road**, Approval in Principle to erect a detached dwelling;

Members of the Commission note the various policies of the Isle of Man Strategic Plan which make reference to new development in the countryside. They note that no area plan is in place to assist in identifying locations that would satisfy the requirements of the definition of 'in-fill' and 'ribbon' development.

However, due to the proximity of other dwellings in a close 'series', Members have no strong objections to the proposals in the application which they feel could be termed as 'in-fill' development along the seaward side of the Loop Road.

In the absence of an Area Plan, they are content to leave the judgement of the appropriateness of these proposals to the discretion of the planning Committee. They would object very strongly to any future applications for 'tandem', 'backland' or sporadic development in this locality.

09/01099/B **The Anchorage**, Port e Vullen, Extension to and conversion of existing detached garage in to tourist accommodation.

Members raised potential concerns regarding the loss of parking capacity involved in change of use of the garage. The clerk was instructed to request conditions presuming against change of use to a permanent dwelling and separation from the main dwelling into a separate property in the future. Members also requested that drainage and environmental health officers assess the sewage and drainage arrangements for the property. Notwithstanding these concerns it was also noted that the proposals were currently modest, and in an area of coastline that is already developed.

The clerk was instructed to respond in detail as stated above.

09/01124/B **Shearwater**, Port Lewaigue, Rendering works.

The Commission has no concerns to raise and recommend approval

09/01147/A **Land adjacent to Shirrah ny Ree**, Approval in Principle for the erection of a dwelling with integral garage.

Members of the Commission noted the various statements in the Policies of the Isle of Man Strategic Plan which relate to new development in the countryside. Members expressed concerns with the proposals which they feel constitutes inappropriate 'backland' or 'tandem' development. Concerns about access were also expressed.

The clerk was instructed to recommend that the proposals are refused.

09/ 01178/B **Ballellin Farm**, Extension to existing barn.

The Commission has no concerns to raise and recommend approval

09/01186/B **Windmill Farm Cottage**, Alterations and extension to dwelling and erection of detached garage.

Members noted the proposals and the subsequent amended drawings for this property in the Maughold Conservation Area. They are a little concerned that the detached garage is remote from the property, but note that the style, scope, and particularly the height, of the garage are modest.

In the light of the latter circumstances they have no strong objection to the proposals, but seek assurance that the Conservation Officer is consulted and that his comments are used to further inform the Planning Committee prior to a decision being made.

09/40. Finance

a. Approval of July cheques:

INV.	DATE	EXPENDITURE	GROSS	VAT	CHQ
42	30-Jun-09	Office of Data Protection	40.00		2385
43	16-Jul-09	IOM Water Authority	28.60		2386
44	24-Jul-09	IOM Municipal Association	254.72		2387
46	03-Aug-09	IOM Gov CA Site 2nd qtr	2,585.40	337.23	2389
48		Manx Telecom	2.04	0.27	2391
49		IOM Gov. DAFF Sign	434.94	56.73	2392
50		IOM Gov Tipping June	1,156.50	693.90	2393
52		Feltons	29.56	3.85	2395
53		MEA	182.67	23.83	2396
54		Wolseley UK Ltd	27.63	3.60	2397
55		Spotless Cleaners	200.00		2398
47		MEA	124.66	5.66	2399
58		Maughold Social Club (costs Parish Day)	654.79		2403

The above cheques were noted, approved and signed by Members.

b. Approval of July Finances.

A spreadsheet indicating the status of the Commissioners accounts as at July 31st was noted by Members.

09.41. Any Other Business

26. a. Future of Bulgham Field

MF reported that she had visited the field recently along with the clerk. The future of the field was discussed. It was agreed that due to its remote coastal location its future use by the Commissioners was limited. It was noted that an adjoining field was in the possession of MNH.

Resolved: It was agreed that the clerk should contact the properties manager at MNH to discuss whether that organisation would have any interest in the field.

b. Dog Fouling at Coronry – A persistent dog fouling problem outside the play area outside at the Coronry was reported and discussed. The clerk advised that this matter was being investigated.

c. Commissioners Bunting

Clerk to arrange for removal of the bunting as soon as possible. Mr Corlett will be asked to drop the bunting off with **MF**.

d. HL raised a concern with a pothole on the A2 at 'Andersons' corner below the property 'Clifton'. **RM** requested that the DOT be contacted with a view to cutting the Rhenab Road, which has not been cut this year. **Resolved:** Clerk to notify DOT of these matters.

e. RM raised the possibility of holding a Commissioners' surgery prior to the monthly meeting to encourage communication with residents. This was considered an idea worthy of further discussion.

Resolved: Item to be placed on the agenda of the September meeting.

f. MF commented on the poor condition of the water trough at Hibernia. It was agreed that private arrangements will be made to have the trough cleaned.

Next Meeting Monday September 7th 2009, 7.30 pm at Dhoon Church Hall

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