

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAUGHOLD PARISH COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 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.

09/74. **Apologies:** The clerk reported that apologies had been received from Mrs Stephens.

09/75. **Notice of Summons Agenda:** Members indicated that they had received their Agendas in good time in advance of the meeting.

09/76. **Declarations of Interest:** **MF** and **HL** indicated an interest in matters relating to the Dhoon Church and Maughold Social Club. Items relating to these organisations appeared on the agenda at items 09.80.h & 09.83.3. These matters were duly recorded in the Register of Members' Interests.

09/77. **Consideration of the accuracy of the Minutes relative to the following:**

- Extraordinary Planning Meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> September 29<sup>th</sup> 2009
- Statutory Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009
- Extraordinary Finance Meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009

It was agreed that these sets of minutes were an accurate record of the three meetings. **Resolved.** They were duly signed and dated by the Chairman.

09/78. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**

a. **Response from Public Rights of Way Officer regarding the Glen Mona to Lhaggan Ford pathway -**  
The clerk read a letter advising that works to firm up the surface of the pathway would shortly be undertaken.

b. **Code of Conduct Document and Guidelines on Members Interests for Local Authority Members -**  
The clerk circulated information for consideration by Members at the December meeting. **MF** drew Members attention to the wording of certain clauses in Section 20 in regard to dealings with planning officers.  
Action: clerk to clarify these clauses with the Department.

c. **Master Composting Course -** The clerk advised that information on the composting advice that was now available in the Parish was on the 'Refuse and Recycling' page of the web site.

d. **Ballafayle Cairn -** It was noted that the fallen trees had now been removed and that visitors could access the site once more.

e. **Pandemic Contingency Plan –** arrangements to replace clerk - The clerk circulated information on the critical functions of the clerk's office for information. These would be discussed at the December meeting for inclusion in the Pandemic Contingency Plan and Risk Management Strategy documents.

f. **Tipping Problem at Dreemskerry Road -** The clerk advised that the sign for placement at Dreemskerry had been ordered and should arrive during November.

g. **Web Site amendments –** The clerk advised that a range of amendments had been forwarded to the administrator and would be completed by week ending 8<sup>th</sup> of November.

09/79. **Matters for Discussion**

a. **To discuss the implications of the changes to the VAT sharing agreement between the Isle of Man and the UK.**

The impact of this change was discussed in detail. Members referred to the recent meeting with the DLGE Minister at which local authorities had been briefed on the scale of the difficulties. **RM** proposed the formation of a finance

sub-committee that would meet to discuss rate setting and to formulate a response to the coming challenges. This would comprise **RM**, **MC** and the clerk. This proposal was seconded by **HL** and **Resolved**.

**Action:** *It was agreed that the committee should bring detailed proposals to the December meeting.*

b. **Residents concerns regarding Speeding Traffic in Glen Mona** (Request as received in writing from **MF**, 23.10.09)

These concerns were noted and discussed in detail.

**Resolved:** It was agreed that **MF** should raise the concerns with Inspector Flint at the police meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November; in particular requesting that the current speed limit be enforced.

It was agreed that the Commissioners should request that new options to 'calm traffic' passing through Glen Mona should be considered on the agenda of the next meeting of the Northern Traffic Management Liaison Group.

c. **Annual donation to the Royal British Legion** – It was **resolved** that the sum of £100.00 should be forwarded to the RBL as a donation from the Parish to the cost of the wreath supplied for the Remembrance Service.

d. **Production of Maughold Guide booklet** (Request as received in writing from **MF**, 23.10.09). **MF** advised Members that she was withdrawing this proposal.

e. **Arrangements for the Garff Commissioners' Carol Service** – **HL** advised that she would liaise with Reverend Faulds in regard to the Order of Service, etc. The clerk advised that invitations and Posters had been drafted and would be distributed week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> November. Refreshments would include mince pies tea, coffee and other drinks.

f. **To discuss the Consultation on the Criminal Justice Bill 2009** (Explanatory summary attached). **MC** advised Members on the content of the Bill. The consensus reached being that in general it provided powers and mechanisms that were needed by the police to carry out their operations with greater efficiency. The clerk was instructed to reply by the 18<sup>th</sup> of November.

#### 09/80. Correspondence

a. **Juan Watterson MHK** – Regarding his forthcoming Bill in regard to extending the consideration of the Budget. Papers in regard to this matter had been circulated at a previous meeting. The consensus was that Mr Watterson's Bill should be supported. The clerk was instructed to reply in due course.

b. **Mr Anderson, DOT Minister** – Reply regarding the Commissioners concerns over the U92 Maughold Mountain Road.

The clerk read this correspondence to Members. Mr Anderson advised that the forthcoming works would be "small scale" with the intention of improving the drainage of water from the track. Works would also be undertaken to provide indication of the track's course. The letter indicated that no other actions were being contemplated to safeguard the uplands from vehicular induced erosion. Mr Anderson declared that he was unwilling to discourage visiting motorcyclists from using the track; the suggestion being that they brought income to the Island. There followed a discussion during which it was stated that the level of erosion that the track had suffered in recent years was unsustainable. In light of this Members questioned the adequacy of the "small scale works" that had been outlined by the Minister.

**Resolved:** *MF to liaise with the clerk prior to submission of a reply to the Minister.*

c. **DLGE** – Draft Planning Policy Statements on "Development and Flood Risk" and "The Role of Landscape Character in Development" (*Comments by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2010*) – these documents were placed in to the circulation file for discussion at the December meeting.

d. **DLGE** – Invitation to briefing on Corporate Governance and Code of Conduct for Local Authorities Document at Ramsey Town Hall, 7.00 pm, 24.11.09 – this matter was noted. Clerk to attend. Members to attend as available on the night.

e. **DLGE** – Response to Commissioners’ request for justification for the rise in audit fees – This was read to Members. It was **Resolved** that the clerk should write to the newly appointed auditor, PKF, to request a detailed breakdown of the newly imposed charge.

f. **DLGE** – Re. Enforcement Issues and Planning Workshops – this correspondence advised that the workshops would not be taking place in November as previously suggested. No subsequent date was indicated. The matter was noted by Members.

g. **Hyperbaric Chamber** – Acknowledgment of donation from Civic Service Collection. This matter was noted by Members.

h. **Maughold Social Club** – Regarding Bonfire Night Arrangements. It was noted that the Commissioners spend a much lower percentage of their income on entertainment than other local authorities. It was **Resolved** that the Commissioners would contribute £300.00 towards the costs of this event from the Parish Entertainments Budget.

i. **The Chief Minister** – Invitation to the National Service of Remembrance and Re-dedication, St John’s, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 3.00 pm. This matter was noted. Members will be in attendance at the Service at Kirk Maughold on Remembrance Sunday.

j. **DLGE** – Notification of the publication of a Draft Area Plan for the South of the Island was noted by Members.

k. **Cornaa WI** – Invitation to Christmas Party on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009, 8.00 pm. RSVP by 19<sup>th</sup> November. It was agreed that **HL** and **MF** would attend. Clerk to advise the Secretary of the WI.

l. **Circulation File** (Listed at Appendix 1.) This correspondence was noted by Members.

m. **German Parish Commissioners** – Invitation to Civic Service, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009, 11.00 am, St John’s Methodist Church. As no Members were available, the clerk was instructed to forward apologies.

n. **German Parish Commissioners** – Request for comments on the rise in audit charges. The clerk was instructed to reply advising that the Commissioners had contacted the DLGE and Treasury requesting justification for the rise, and that they would be writing to PKF requesting a detailed breakdown of the charge.

09/81. **Searches:** 7, Cooilushtey; Lismolin, Port Lewaigue; Glenbeigh, Ballajora Hill. These were noted by Members.

#### 09/82. **Parish Maintenance:**

A statement from the Clerk necessary works in the Parish was read. These included refurbishment of the notice boards and tidying of the Coronary Play Area, Arboretum, areas around the flagpoles etc.

**Action:** *The clerk was instructed to write to the church authorities in regard to the upkeep of the mound area around the bus stop at Glen Mona.*

#### 09.83. **PLANNING.**

##### 83.1 **COMPLETION CERTIFICATES –**

##### 83.2 **Decisions from DLGE:**

The following matters were noted:

Schedule for the demolition of Cedar Bank, Ballajora Hill.

09/01247/B **The Hibernian**, Erection of a replacement garage and store –

Approved 13.10.09.

09/01398/B **Rhianfa**, Ballafayle, Render work to dwelling and installation of a replacement vehicle entrance gate – Approved 19.10.09.

09/01429/B **Hillcrest**, Corony Hill, Alterations and extension to dwelling house – Approved 12.10.09.

09/01447/B **Ballaglass Farm**, Creation of hard standing adjacent to farm buildings – Approved 09.10.09.

### 83.3 Decisions to be made:

09/01696/B **Dhoon Church Hall**, Erection of a replacement porch, window replacement and repairs and formation of disabled car park; The Vicar & Wardens of Dhoon PCC.

Members noted the proposals carefully. No objections to these proposals were recorded.

### 83.4 Appeal Matters – None pending

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#### 09/84. Finance

##### a. Approval of October Cheques

DD	26-Oct-09	Manx Telecom (Inst. & Sept Bill)	197.72	25.79	DD
90	30-Oct-09	MEA (Maint Contract)	182.67	23.83	2439
91		MEA (replacement light fittings)	411.59	53.69	2440
92		Chrystals (Valuation)	115.00	15.00	2441
93		Spotless Cleaners (toilet cleaning)	200.00		2442
94		IOM Gov Tipping Sept	807.50	484.50	2443
95		Feltons (for Dhoon Sch Daff Comp)	22.04	2.87	2444

##### b. Consideration of October Finances

A balance sheet detailing October transactions and the funds in the Commissioners accounts was circulated and noted.

##### c. To Discuss Setting of Rates for Y/E 2011.

These matters were also discussed at 09/79.a above. It was noted that the government imposed rise in audit fees from £257.00 to £3,000 would have significant impact of almost 4p on the parish rate. Other inflationary pressures were also referenced in the discussion. The clerk was detailed to list those services which are deemed essential and those that are 'desirable'. It was noted that the Finance sub-committee would bring proposals for any possible cost savings to the December meeting. Further discussion was reserved until the next meeting.

#### Private Session – Items 09/85 to 09/88

#### 09/89. Any Other Business

- **To Note:** Documents from the Civic Service marking the Centenary of the Commissioners. Mrs Craine had forwarded these. They were noted and are to be placed on file.

**The meeting was closed at 10.02 pm.**

<b>Next Meeting Monday December 7th 2009, 7.30 pm at Dhoon Church Hall</b>
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## **Appendix 1.**

### **Items of Correspondence in the September 2009 Circulation File.**

**RTL**C – Circulars 283, 284.

**Office of the Council of Ministers – Isle of Man Government Annual Report 2009.**

**DOT** – Highways Monthly Oct 2009, Issue 39.

**Police** – Minutes of Forum Meeting 06.10.09.

**Municipal Association** – Minutes of the Meeting of 24.09.09.

**DOT** – U92 Road Closure Order.

**GJIC** – Minutes of the Meeting of 14.10.09

**Government Laboratory** – Bathing Water Quality Readings at Port Lewaigue up to September 30th 2009.

**DLGE** – Tipping at EfW August 2009, 40,180 tonnes (5 collections & AV). Approx 16kg per household per week.

Tipping at EfW Sep 2009, 32,300 tonnes (4 Collections & AV). Approx 16kg per household per week.

**DOT** – Transport Quarterly Sept 09.

### **Maughold Parish Commissioners Contact Details:**

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