

**MINUTES of the MEETING of MEETING OF MAUGHOLD PARISH COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON Monday 7th December 2009, 7.30 PM AT DHOON CHURCH HALL**

7.30 pm Meeting of Maughold Parish Commissioners – Public Session

Present: Mrs Lace CP, Mrs Fargher, Mr Moughtin, Mrs Stephens.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.31 pm.

09/90. **Apologies:** The clerk reported that apologies had been received from Mr Cowley.

09/91. **Notice of Summons Agenda:** Members all reported that they had received their agenda at least three full days prior to the meeting.

09/92. **Declarations of Interest:** All Members present reported that they had no interests to declare in the business of the agenda.

09/93. **Consideration of the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd of November 2009.** Mrs Fargher proposed that the minutes were a correct record. Seconded by Mr Moughtin. Resolved.

09/94. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of the 2nd of November:**

a. **Response from Police re. concerns regarding Speeding Traffic in Glen Mona.** The clerk reported that the officer tasked to carry out speed checks on the A2 in Glen Mona had contacted the Commissioners to advise that random speed checks would be undertaken in the coming weeks. The particular difficulties experienced by those residents who live either side of the shop/filling station had been discussed with the police; as was the speed of vehicles past the school. The clerk advised that Mr Cowley had been asked to request that traffic calming options be raised with the NTMLG as resolved at the November meeting.

b. **Proposals for accepting the Code of Conduct Document and Guidelines on Members Interests for Local Authority Members.** The clerk reported that he had attended the briefing hosted by the DLGE in Ramsey in November. Although the Code was not mandatory the clerk advised that it would be best practise to adopt its principles and guidance. The current approach to declarations of interest adopted by the Commissioners was agreed to be thorough, open, transparent and fit for purpose. It was agreed that a document should be drawn up to record individual members acceptance of the Code. This to be drafted and approved prior to acceptance at the AGM in 2010.

c. **Arrangements for the Garff Commissioners' Carol Service** - The clerk reported that readers had been nominated and furnished with their readings. Mince pies, mulled wine, coffee, tea, juice, etc to be arranged by clerk and Members. Costs of these to be apportioned equally to each authority. Cost per authority anticipated to be in the region of £30.00.

d. **U92 Maughold Mountain Road** – The recent newspaper article reflecting the Commissioners concerns about vehicular damage to the uplands as expressed in their letter to the DOT Minister was noted. It was also noted that the photograph taken by IOM Newspapers was of another track way in Maughold. Mrs Fargher advised that she had contacted the newspaper to alert them to this error. No reply had been received from the DOT Minister to the Commissioners' request for further action to limit the damage to the uplands. A letter from the Chief Operating Officer at the DTL received on the day of the meeting was read to Members. This briefly summarised the DTL's attitude to the use of the uplands by the variety of 'user groups'. The clerk reported that Mr Rodan had indicated his intention to ask a question for written answer at a forthcoming session of Tynwald Questions. The Commissioners agreed to continue to monitor the situation.

e. **Implications of the imposed twelvefold rise in Audit Fee on Rate Setting for YE 2011-** the clerk reported that the increase would effectively mean that the audit charge would account for about 4p of the parish rate. There followed discussion of the increase. It was felt that, at the very least, the ratepayer deserved an explanation of the reason for the magnitude of the rise. The explanations furnished by Treasury and the DLGE had referred vaguely to

the new requirements of the Audit Act without giving any further detail. A letter sent to PKF requesting assistance in detailing the charges had not been answered directly; it being forwarded to Treasury who had issued a restatement

of the explanation previously given in September. Mr Moughtin advised that the Municipal Association would be investigating the matter on behalf of their constituent authorities.

Resolved: Situation to be monitored closely.

f. **Budget Estimate for YE 2011** – Reference was made to the twelvefold rise in audit fees imposed by central government. This would impact significantly on the rate for YE 2011. To help mitigate this and other government imposed rises on local authorities, Members considered ways of making savings in other areas of service provision. The clerk presented information that identified a range of services that should be deemed essential and a range of services that, whilst desirable, could be the focus of reassessment. A range of areas in which cost savings could be found were identified. The likely decrease in the subsidy for tipping at the EfW was discussed. Any rise imposed by government would have an impact on the charges that have to be borne by the ratepayer. A draft budget for YE 2011 was considered, but no decision was made due to the uncertainty over the waste charges.

09/95. **Matters for Discussion**

a. **IRIS** – To discuss proposals for Maughold following meeting with Drainage Division 23.11.09.

Concerns were expressed about the creation of an engineered access route across the current field to the proposed pumping facility in Glen Mona. The clerk reported that comments had also been received from residents around the other locations identified in Maughold. These are to be conveyed directly to the Drainage Division. The Commissioners will continue to monitor the situation. It is anticipated that the Division will present their proposal to the public in Feb/Mar 2010.

Resolved: Clerk to request urgent site meetings with Senior Planning Officer & Representatives from the Drainage Division.

09/96. **Current Consultations**

a. **DLGE** – Draft Planning Policy Statements on "Development and Flood Risk" and "The Role of Landscape Character in Development" (*Comments by 29th January 2010*).

These consultations were noted. The clerk was instructed in the content of response to each Statement.

b. **The Personnel Office** – Public Sector Pensions Bill Consultation Document.

This document was noted and placed into the Circulation file for further consideration by Members.

c. **DAFF** – Consultation on the Fisheries Bill. Response requested by 8th January 2009.

This document was placed into the Circulation File for further consideration by Members.

09/97. **Correspondence**

a. **MEA** – Regarding dangers of Christmas decorations mounted on lighting/power facilities.

This matter was noted by Members, and the advice would be borne in mind as a part of the risk assessment process undertaken by the Commissioners.

b. **DLGE**- Training in court procedure on enforcement matters involving prosecution under Section 53 of the LGA.

This matter was noted by Members. Due to success of the 'community' based approach to litter and dog fouling problems undertaken by the Commissioners it was considered that this training was not appropriate at this stage.

c. **Treasury** – Response to Commissioners' letter requesting breakdown of new audit fee; originally sent to PKF.

This correspondence replied to a letter originally sent to the newly appointed auditor. As indicated above, it was noted that the response from Treasury was similar in content to the one elicited from that Department in September. Mr Moughtin advised that the Municipal Association were making representations in regard to obtaining adequate justification for the rise. It was agreed that further action would be reserved until any reply had been received by the M.A.

d. **Circulation File** (Listed at Appendix 1.) The correspondence in this file was noted by Members.

09/97. **Electronic correspondence to consider.**

a. **DLGE** – Guidelines on Litter Control Notices (Amendment) Regulations 2009.

This matter was noted by Members. No further action was deemed necessary at this stage.

b. **Northern Neighbourhood Policing Team:** Regarding tipping at Ballaglass. It was noted that this matter was being dealt with by the police.

c. **DAFF** – Regarding Marine Nature Reserve Community Meetings. Ramsey Town Hall, Friday 20th February 2010.

This forthcoming meeting was noted by Members.

09/98. **Searches:** Glebe Cottage, Maughold Village.

This matter was noted by Members.

09/99. **Parish Maintenance:**

To discuss correspondence received regarding future management of the Arboretum.

Mrs Stephens had to leave the meeting at this stage. It was agreed that consideration of this matter should be reserved until the full Board were present at the January meeting.

09.100. **PLANNING.**

100.1 **COMPLETION CERTIFICATES** – 01/07114/DGA Kerrowdhoon, The Dhoon, Replacement garage
01/07116/DEX Kerrowdhoon, The Dhoon Sunlounge extension
to outbuilding.

These matters were noted by Members.

100.2 **Decisions from DLGE:**

The following decisions were noted by Members:

09/01052/B **Elgin Stables**, Port e Vullen, Alterations & extension to dwelling House – Refused 24.11.09.

09/01186/B **Windmill Farm Cottage**, Maughold Village, Alterations and extension to dwelling and erection of a detached garage – Approved 17.11.09.

09/01468/B **Rhennie Farm, Dhoon**, Alterations to dwelling to form an annexe – Approved 24.11.09.

100.3 **Decisions to be made:**

09/01808/B **Tower Farm, Albert Tower**, Installation of a 6.5 m pole with 2 antennas; Arqiva Services.

Members requested that the clerk obtain further information regarding the need to install this new pole away from the tree mast. However, it was noted that the pole would be within the current compound and at a height that would not impact with great significance on views from above Tower Farm or from Ramsey. The clerk reported that Mr Whiteway, Chief Executive of Ramsey Town Commissioners had been contacted and had indicated that his Board had no objections to the proposal. The clerk was instructed in reply.

09/01868/B **Cardle Chapel, Coronoy**, Installation of replacement windows.

No objections were raised to these proposals. The Board recommended approval.

100.4 **Appeal Matters** – The following matters were noted by Members:

09/01067/A **Fields 624255 & 624256, Glen Mona Loop Road**, AiP to erect a detached dwelling – Appeal dismissed, application refused.

09/00550/B **Willow Cottage, Coronoy**, Convert garage to provide living accommodation – Appeal dismissed, application refused.

09/101. **Finance**

a. **Approval of November Cheques**

07-Dec-09 Rachel Price Photography	75.00		2448
MEA	5.27	0.25	2449
Spotless Cleaners	200.00		2450
IOM Gov Tipping Oct	732.50	439.50	2451
DD ManxTelecom	38.01	4.96	DD
Feltons	57.68	7.52	2452
IOM Newspapers	120.89	15.77	2453
Signrite	23.00	3.00	2454
Maughold Social Club	300.00		2455

b. **Consideration of November Finances.** A spreadsheet indicating the current position of the Commissioners accounts was noted by Members.

09.10

Any Other Business

Members referred to the mobile fast food outlet which was being stored on the Glen Mona Car Park. A further complaint had been made by a local resident. The clerk reported that the licensee of the hotel had been contacted previously when the original complaint had been received from another resident. The car park was private. The DLGE had been contacted previously and indicated that no infringement was being committed and that no enforceable action could be taken in the current circumstances.

The Commissioners **resolved** to continue monitoring the situation.

Mrs Fargher requested that the DAFF were informed that the lower bridge into The Dhoon Glen had been 'swamped' with debris following the recent rainfall.

Resolved: The clerk was instructed to contact the Department.

Private Session opened at 09.55 pm

Meeting closed at 10.25 pm

Next Meeting Monday January 4th 2010, 7.30 pm at Dhoon Church Hall

Appendix 1.

Items of Correspondence in the November 2009 Circulation File.

RTL – Circulars 285, 286.

DLGE – Leaflet for distribution regarding Carbon Monoxide poisoning.

SMP – Regarding provision of accounting services.

Treasury- Appeals to rent and rating tribunal rulings.