

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAUGHOLD PARISH COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON Monday 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2011, 7.30 PM AT DHOON CHURCH HALL**

**7.30 pm** Meeting of Maughold Parish Commissioners – Public Session

**Present:** Mrs G Stephens (Chairman), Mr R Moughtin, Mr M Cowley, Mrs M Fargher. Clerk.

11.133. **Apologies:** Mrs Lace CP.

**Mrs Stephens** thanked Members for their attendance at a number of additional meetings over the previous month. These had included planning seminars, meetings with the auditors, with Treasury, and on community issues. She advised that their commitment was much appreciated.

11.134. **Notice of Summons Agenda:** Members reported that this had been received in good time.

11.135. **Declarations of Interest in the Business of the Agenda:** None declared.

11.136. **Consideration of the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2011:** Members considered the draft minutes and resolved that they were a correct record.

11.137. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2011.**

a. audited Accounts 2011.

The clerk reported that the Financial Statement for YE 2011 had been completed and had been submitted to the Auditors. It was noted that additional payments had been requested in regard to auditing the accounts. The clerk pointed out that the fee had risen thirteen fold over the last two years from £251 to £3,200. The general consensus was that in these circumstances the ratepayer should not be burdened with additional charges from the auditors. Mr Cowley stated that the Commissioners' accounts were not complex and proposed that the Commissioners should not pay any further charges above the £3,200 audit fee. This was unanimously agreed by Members.

b. Progress report on communications on **hedgcutting** operations with DoI.

An acknowledgement from the Director of Highways had been received. A further response to the Commissioners' questions was expected by the time of the December meeting.

c. Progress report on Pedestrian Access to Dhoon School and traffic movement at school opening and closing times  
A report by Mrs Stephens on the meeting that had taken place with Residents, The Headteacher, Commissioners (Mrs Stephens & Mr Moughtin) and Officers from Highways had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. Mrs Stephens reported that sensors had already been installed to monitor traffic movements and speeds, and that it had been requested that this should be in place on days when the A18 Mountain Road was closed. The narrowness of the current pavement was discussed and the clerk was instructed to re-contact Highways to ask when the hedge would be cut back effectively. Mrs Fargher favoured the provision of a footpath from Ballagorry. Members questioned the accuracy of the £150,000 cost of such a footpath, and it was felt that this was a matter that could be investigated further. Further comment was made on the proposal to move the bus stop into the lay which the meeting was told was being trialled in the next few weeks. It was felt that this would improve visibility for parents and children crossing the road. The provision of a pedestrian crossing had been discussed with the Officers from Highways, and, although their initial response was negative it was felt that this option should be pursued as the preferred option. It was noted that the new Head Teacher was involved in the discussions. Cowley stated that the Department of Education should be contacted as they had a direct interest in this issue.

Mr Moughtin referred to the poor driving standards of parents he had witnessed outside the school as they picked up their children. He said that this was a further issue that needed to be addressed. Mrs Stephens agreed that parents were causing problems in the manner in which they parked. Mr Cowley stated that parents must act more responsibly and should be spoken to by the school if their driving behaviour was poor. Mrs Stephens closed the

discussion by stating that further liaison and discussions would take place and that progress would be monitored; it was a case of making the best of the viable options.

#### 11.138. **Matters for Discussion**

a. Feedback from Mr Cowley on meeting with Senior Officer from Rates Division of Treasury to discuss provision of rating information and defaults.

Mr Cowley briefed Members on the approaches taken by Treasury to pursue those who had rate arrears. Reminder letters were sent out and then the file was handed over to the Attorney General. Mr Cowley advised that a new IT system was improving matters and allowed easier access to information on defaulters.

The process of how debts were eventually written off had been discussed. Mr Cowley suggested that the Commissioners requested information on debts to be written off in advance. This was agreed.

He also proposed the withdrawal of services such as refuse collection at properties which had defaulted. This was discussed and the clerk was instructed to contact the Local Government Unit to investigate the matter.

#### 11.139. **Current Consultations for consideration:**

a. To discuss **Draft Planning Policy Statement**, 'The Replacement or Extension of Dwellings in the Countryside' Response by 11<sup>th</sup> of November (copy in last month's CF).

The document had been circulated at last month's meeting. It was resolved that no comment was necessary.

b. Consultation on the Recreational Use of the Island's Reservoirs (Letter and Introductory Explanation in C/F. By December 12<sup>th</sup>)

A summary of this document had been circulated. It was agreed that further comment should be reserved until the December meeting.

#### 11.140. **Correspondence**

a. **CSO** – Government Department Charts. **Noted.**

b. **DoI** – Keep MANN Tidy information. **Noted.** No further action.

c. **DoI** – Information on content of local authority minutes. The e-mail from Mr Willoughby was read at the meeting. It was agreed that no further action was necessary.

#### 11.141. **Parish Maintenance:** Clerk & GS to report.

The clerk reported that some materials including bags of cement had been tipped at the Dhoon Recycling Bank. These had been removed.

#### 11.142. **PLANNING.**

a. **Decisions from DLGE:** The following decisions were noted.

11/01147/B **Glen Moar, Ballure**, Erection of 2 storey extensions to side and rear elevations – Approved 17.10.11

11/01202/B **Mill Croft, Church Road**, Alterations and erection of extension to dwelling – Approved 17.10.11.

11/01116/B **Sarah's Cottage, Cornaa**, variation of conditions to allow roof lights – Approved 17.10.11.

11/01228/B **Croit ny Meagh Cornaa**, Extension and raised decking to side elevation – Approved 11.10.11.

11/00965/B **Margher e Kew**, Variation of condition to allow uPVC windows – Approved

b. **Decisions to be made:**

11/01333/B **Land adj. to Shan Vallah**, Erection of a detached dwelling.

The Approval in principle relating to this application was noted. Members noted the water harvesting system. No objections raised.

11/ 01488/D **Primrose Lodge**, Erection of advertising signage.

Further plans and clarification provided by the Planning Officer were noted. The potential for the sign to distract motorists was raised. It was agreed that Highways would raise this matter if it were an issue.

11/01497/B 2 **Ballagorry Heights**, Door and window alterations to rear elevation and creation of door to side. No objection.

**Margher e Kew** – Consultation on proposed installation of a bio-disc. No objection.

08.45

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11.143. **Finance Consideration of October 2011 Finances.**

The following matters were noted and payments approved:

**October Income:** Search 60.00

		FINANCES OCT 11		
INV. DATE	EXPENDITURE	GROSS	VAT	CHQ
DD	Manx Telecom	62.42	10.40	DD
80	07-Nov-11 Kinrades AV Oct	174.00	29.00	2760
81	Civ Service Refreshments	31.07		2761
82	Feltons Sept	151.94	25.32	2762
83	IOM Gov CA Site 3rd Qtr	3,106.98	517.83	2763
84	IOM Gov Tipping Sept	1,106.64	184.44	2764
85	IOM Gov Tipping Oct	1,327.97	221.30	2765
86	Spotless Cleaners	200.00		2766
87	Island Contractors	136.00		2767
89	Feltons Oct	17.95	2.99	2769

October Financial Overview. A spreadsheet was circulated at the meeting. Noted.

08.55

11.144. **Any other Business**

Mrs Fargher advised that there was Damage to the fencing at Maughold Brooghs car park. Clerk to notify properties at MNH and the Northern Policing Team in Ramsey.

Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday were discussed. A donation of £150.00 to the Royal British Legion was approved for the poppy wreath and memorial crosses.

Preparations for the forthcoming winter were discussed. Mrs Stephens advised that DoI were making grit dispensers available. The clerk was instructed to make enquiries about the possibility of several being located in Maughold for use by Commissioners and community volunteers, etc.

11.145. **General Correspondence/Information File.** The following were noted and placed into the circulation file.

**DoI** – Tipping Figures October 2011. 30,000Kg ( 4 collections in month). Average annual bin projection 0.82 tonnes. Mr Cowley asked if these figures were monitored. The clerk reported that the weekly average was around

7,500 kg. This figure generally increased by around 1,000 kg during Christmas week and through the early growing season.

RTLC – Circulars 350.

**Isle of Man Model Engineering Society** – Request for expressions of interest in providing land for a model railway.

**DoI** – Copy of Long or Heavy Vehicles (Designated Order) 2011.

**DEFA** – Further information on Ramsey Marine Nature Reserve Designation.

**CSO** – Re National Service of Remembrance.

**Private Session**

**Meeting closed 09.48.**

**Maughold Parish Commissioners Contact Details:**

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**Date of Next Meeting Monday December 5<sup>th</sup> 2011**