

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAUGHOLD PARISH COMMISSIONERS HELD ON MONDAY  
3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2012, 7.30 PM AT DHOON CHURCH HALL**

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

Present: Mr R. Moughtin (chairman), Mrs M. Faragher, Mr M. Cowley, Mrs C. Perks, Mr J.Quayle.

12.179. Apologies: All Members present.

12.180. Declarations of any Interests in the business of the Agenda.

None declared.

12.181. Consideration of the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2012. **Mrs Fargher** proposed that the minutes that had been circulated were a correct record. Seconded, **Mr Cowley**. Resolved.

12.182. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2012.

None raised.

12.183. **Matters for Discussion.**

- a. **Cuts to Number 16 Maughold Bus Service** Due to what the DCCL says are 'very low passenger numbers', Service 16 in Maughold can no longer be justified. Maughold will now be provided with school services, supplemented on Thursdays and Fridays by two off peak services to/from Ramsey (extract from IOM Today).

This matter was discussed in detail. It was noted that the service did not carry high passenger numbers, but Members expressed concern for those who rely on the service to access Ramsey and beyond. **Mr Moughtin** stated his concern that the Department had failed to consult with the community or the Commissioners prior to the announcements made in the media. Members agreed that this aspect was extremely disappointing given the effect the cuts would have on some residents. **Mrs Perks** raised the issue of overcrowding of schoolchildren on the morning and afternoon journeys; the bus had insufficient number of seats forcing children as young as four to stand. She also read an e-mail sent to her by a parent concerned at the overcrowding and at the fact that the A15 and Dreemskerry Road are not gritted on icy days. **Mr Cowley** proposed writing to Isle of Man Transport . The letter to express the above concerns and to request copies of the statistical data that the decision to cut services had been based upon: this to include the period and dates of the survey, the number of passengers recorded on a daily basis on each journey, etc. This was **Resolved** and the clerk appropriately directed.

- b. **Preparations for Garff Commissioners' Carol Service 2012.**

**Mrs Fargher** confirmed that Marlene Hendy and Dilys Sowery would be participating at the service. Mrs Cleator to organise refreshments. It was noted that Mrs Murray had kindly offered to provide mince pies and shortbread. It was resolved that tea and coffee would be served at the rear of the church following the service.

- c. Damage to gates and erosion of the U92 track. Response from Department.

**Mr Cowley** asked the clerk to read the letter from Mr Thompson, Chief Executive at the DoI, which responded to the Commissioners request for information on the recording of criminal damage when it occurred on the Island's green lanes and upland tracks. The letter indicated that in the Department's view the cause of the most recent damage to the upland gate and gate post was not clear. **Mr Cowley** confirmed that in his view it was clear that the damage had been deliberately. It was also noted that the gate suffers damage several times a year, particularly during periods when the track has been closed. Mr Thompson had also stated that none of his officers had been approached by the police. **Mr Cowley** said he had contacted the police and it appeared that they had reported the matter to officers at DEFA. Mr Thompson indicated that he believed the U92 Maughold Mountain Track was currently open. Members were concerned at this revelation as the closure signs were still erected, and because the track was so badly damaged due to water erosion that it was potentially very dangerous for motor cycles.

**Mr Cowley** advised that he was still in consultation with the police in Ramsey and requested that Mr Thompson's letter be acknowledged pending a further response in due course. It was agreed that the clerk

should contact the Department to clarify whether the track was closed, and to ask if it had been inspected by an officer prior to it being declared open.

- d. Meeting of Northern Commissioners at Jurby, 05.12.12, 7.00 pm Jurby Health and Community Centre. Mrs Fargher, Mr Cowley, Mr Quayle, Mr Moughtin and the clerk to attend.
- e. Removal of payphones at Corony Bridge and Dreemskerry (Notification from Manx Telecom 13.11.12) Noted.
- f. Installation of hand dryers in Maughold Village Toilets.  
The cost and possible savings that these facilities could provide were discussed in detail. It was agreed that the potential savings were insignificant and that towels were more effective. No further action.
- g. To discuss the donation to the Parish from the Matsuda family of Japan.  
The clerk was instructed to report back to Members on the cost of a replacement bench in Maughold Village.
- h. Setting of Rate for YE 14.  
A spreadsheet indicating the Commissioners' current financial position was circulated and considered. **Mr Moughtin** proposed continuing with a rate of 108p in the £ plus the separate charge per property to cover waste disposal costs at the efw. This was seconded by **Mrs Fargher** and unanimously **resolved**. It was noted that government had not advised the level of charges for YE 14 at the time of the meeting.

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

- a. **Office of Fair Trading** – Consultation on proposals for changes to the legal quantities for sales of intoxicating liquor. No comment to be submitted.
- b. **DSC** – Consultation on proposed smoke free legislation (by 07.12.12).  
Members discussed the proposals, in particular the intention to stop people smoking in cars when children are present. The general consensus was that this would be difficult to police, but would act to deter the majority. **Mrs Perks** referred to the nuisance caused by some smokers outside entrances to shops, businesses, etc. stop in entrances. The clerk was instructed to reply.

DHA –Consultation on the Introduction of Motor Vehicle Testing

Members expressed some concerns with the proposals in this consultation. It was felt that increasing the number of spot checks carried out at the roadside would be more effective in identifying vehicles with problems. Members asked that the clerk investigate accident statistics on the island to establish the number of accidents where a faulty vehicle had been a contributory factor.

List of further current consultations attached for information.

#### 12.185. **Correspondence**

- a. **Resident** – Regarding extent of road closures in Maughold and damage caused by the Manx Rally. This correspondence was noted with interest. **Mr Quayle** reported that the organisers do attempt to 'tidy up' after the events. **Mr Moughtin** reported that repairs were not always carried out satisfactorily. Several incidents where hedges and walls had been damaged and not repaired in past years were discussed. The duration of closures and their impact on residents was discussed.  
The clerk was instructed to write to the Rally organisers summarising the concerns of residents and requesting that road closures are kept to a minimum in future.
- b. **Ramsey Town Commissioners** – regarding proposals for a meeting of the northern local authorities as indicated in the letter to Mr Moughtin from Mr Malpass. This matter was dealt with at item 12/183.d above.
- c. **Tynwald Office** – Request for information on energy bills generated by the Commissioners.  
Noted.

- d. **DEFA** – Regarding Ash Dieback disease.  
Noted.
- e. **DoI** – Response from the Department regarding withdrawal of induction training.  
This was noted.
- f. **Department of Home Affairs** - response to the concerns raised by Maughold Parish Commissioners in response to the consultation on the Criminal Justice, Police Powers and Other Amendments Bill 2012.  
Noted.

12.186. **Parish Maintenance and Health & Safety Matters:**

It was agreed that details of arrangements for the Christmas refuse collection should be posted on the website and noticeboards once information received from Allan Kinrade.

12.187. **PLANNING.**

a. **Decisions from DLGE:** The following matter was noted.

12/01174/B Port e Vullen House, alterations and extensions to dwelling – Approved 15.11.12

**b. Planning to Consider:**

12/01316/B Sarah’s Cottage, Ballasloe, retrospective permission sought for new access. Members noted this retrospective application. They noted the intention to increase the visibility splays.

12/011538/B Fish Hatchery, Installation of replacement bridge.

No objection.

b.i. **Appeal Matters: None.**

c. **Building Control Certificates, etc** The following matter was noted:

99/07497/DEX Inchcape Lodge, Ballagorrey Drive, flat roof over kitchen. 13.09.12

12.188. **Finance**

A spreadsheet indicating all financial transactions made during November and the status of the Commissioners’ accounts was circulated. Cheques were signed accordingly.

November 12

DD	25-Nov-12	Manx Telecom Nov			DD
90	12-Nov-12	Kinrade Bros AV Oct	184.80	30.80	2937
		MSC Bonfire Event	300.00		2938
	03-Dec-12	Spotless Nov	200.00		2939
		MEA	26.45	1.26	2940

Rate income £5,500.00

12.189. **Any other Business**

**Mrs Fargher** referred to the works being undertaken on the Glen Mona Sewage plant at Ballagorrey. The DoI had been contacted to make them aware that the Water Authority had installed drainage pipes that were causing water to issue onto the path that runs from opposite the Glen Mona Hotel down to Rhenab Ford. This was exacerbating erosion problems on the path. The clerk reported that the Public Rights of Way Officer was aware of the problem and had advised that remedial works were scheduled.

**Mrs Fargher** referred Members to the condition of the milestone close to Maynrys on the Glen Mona Loop Road. It was agreed that the clerk should contact a contractor with a view to obtaining a quotation to renovate and preserve the stone.

12.190. **General Correspondence/Information File** The following matters were noted.  
**Port St Mary Commissioners** – invitation to their annual Celebration of Christmas on Friday 7 December 2012 in the Town Hall, The Promenade, Port St Mary at 7.30pm. (Via e-mail)  
**Silver Line** (Helpline for older people) – Invitation to the launch of the Silver Line Pilot at 1.15pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1.15 pm, Barrool suite, Legislative Buildings. (Via e-mail).

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**Meeting closed at 10.20 pm**

**Maughold Parish Commissioners Contact Details:**

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**Next Meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013, 7.30 pm**