

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAUGHOLD PARISH COMMISSIONERS HELD ON MONDAY
FEBRUARY 2ND 2015, 7.30 PM AT DHOON CHURCH HALL**

7.30 pm Meeting of Maughold Parish Commissioners

Present: Mr Cowley (Chairman), Mr Moughtin, Mrs Perks. John Quayle.

The meeting was opened at 7.32 pm.

15.15. Apologies: **Mrs Fargher**.

15.16. Declarations of any Interests in the business of the Agenda. **None Declared**.

15.17. Consideration of the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of 12th January 2015. **Mr Moughtin** proposed that these were an accurate record. Seconded **Mr Cowley**. **Resolved**.

15.18. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 12th of January 2015.

15.19. **Matters for Discussion.**

a. **to discuss transfer of services from DoI to the Commissioners.**

Mr Moughtin advised that discussions had taken place and that prices were being prepared by Mr Donnelly from the Corporation. **Mr Cowley** asked Members if they felt that Douglas might become overstretched, particularly if other authorities engaged them for the new services. It was agreed that this question must be put to Douglas should they be engaged. **Mrs Perks** noted the short time scale that had been allowed by government as the new arrangements should be in place by April 1st 2015. This gave the impression that the process was being rushed through. **Mr Cowley** and **Mr Quayle** felt that the tender process should be undertaken to ensure that the best value service provider was engaged.

Action: Mr Moughtin to take this request to the next Garff meeting scheduled for Wednesday 11th February.

b. **to discuss Mobile Family Library & request for financial contributions.**

A letter from the Library had been circulated following the January meeting. Mr Cowley summarised the contents of the letter which was requesting donations from local authorities to maintain the service. Mrs Perks advised that the mobile library stopped at the Corony and Glen Mona and was quite well used by locals. There followed discussion. The consensus being that the matter should be raised at the next Municipal Association meeting with a view to establishing if there was an appetite amongst other authorities for a coordinated approach.

Action: Mr Moughtin to raise at the February Municipal Meeting.

a. **To discuss Crossags Campsite invoice from Ramsey Commissioners and their intention to take court action.**

The on-going situation was discussed. Several written requests for a meeting to discuss the scale of charges had been rejected by Ramsey. **Mrs Perks** referred to the difference between the rate being imposed by Ramsey and the much cheaper rate being charged by the current contractor; Ramsey's charge was in excess of four times for the same service. The Commissioners had immediately questioned the charges and requested a meeting. The proposal for a meeting had been denied and then subsequently denied on several further occasions. **Mr Quayle** suggested that the Commissioners could pay and write a strong letter to Ramsey. **Mr Cowley** expressed great disappointment at the lack of communication and seemingly dismissive attitude displayed by Ramsey Commissioners. He believed that Maughold deserved an opportunity to discuss the matter with a political representative of Ramsey Commissioners and that the unwillingness to discuss the matter effectively would be a factor in any court action that ensued. **Mr Moughtin** noted that Maughold was prepared to pay a fair charge to cover the tipping costs and labour, however the much lower charge being levied by the current contractor suggested that Ramsey's charge was excessive and needed to be properly justified. **Mr Cowley** added that it was a poor advert for the sharing of services by local authorities. The general consensus was that a letter should be sent to Ramsey stating that even at this late stage there was still opportunity to talk about the scale of the charges, in order that they were reviewed at a political level prior to settlement being made.

Action: The clerk was given instruction in the content of the letter.

b. Meeting of clerk with Bill Dale from Beach Buddies.

The clerk reported that he had contacted Mr Dale as requested at the January meeting. Mr Dale had outlined a proposal to have beach cleaning bins and bag dispenser facilities in place at Port Lewaigue, Port e Vullen, & Port Mooar. These would encourage users of the beach to participate in keeping them clean. The clerk outlined that under the proposals and for a fee the organisation would supply new specially adapted bins & collection bags and service the bins on a regular basis. **Mr Cowley** requested the clerk to find out if there would be any organised beach cleans as part of the scheme. Members also asked for clarification of insurance protection maintained by the organisation. A decision on the proposed scheme would be made at the March meeting once the requested information had been gathered.

Action: *clerk to contact Mr Dale with the queries outlined.*

15.20. Current Consultations for consideration: (List of current consultations circulated & in CF). **Noted.**

DoI - Regarding opportunity to comment on the Draft Isle of Man Strategic Plan 2015.

It was noted that the revisions to the plan would mean minimal change to how the Strategic Plan impacted Maughold. References to Glen Mona remained the same as in the 2007 edition of the document. Information in regard to this document had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

Mr Quayle referred to the comments made at the January meeting as reported in the minutes in relation to the consultation on the Countryside Care Scheme. He questioned the usefulness and value of the comments of the Commissioners to the consultation, and of the way farmers had been presented by the press in recent weeks. **Mr Cowley** and **Mr Moughtin** explained that the current scheme did not appear structured to encourage farmers to produce. Mr Quayle stated that agriculture does not pay and requires a subsidy, and that if we wanted farmers some method of subsidy was necessary. This was due to the circumstances and competition presented by the global market. Manx, and EU farmers could not compete in the wider market without subsidy. **Mr Quayle** continued by stating that under the current scheme small scale producers were the most favoured. There followed further discussion of the viability of various sizes of farm and whether there should be more emphasis on production rather than landscaping. **Mr Quayle** stated that in effect that farmers were being paid to mothball the countryside and that a condition of payments under the scheme was that land had to be kept in a condition in which it could be used for production the following year.

15.21. Correspondence

- a. **DoI** - Re-assessment of CA Site contribution YE 16 £16,550 (YE 15 £15,487). Invitation to future meeting. It was agreed that the chairman and clerk should attend as requested in the correspondence; date to be announced.
- b. **DHA** - Regarding siting of TETRA equipment at Bulgham Field. The Commissioners resolved that they would not give permission for the erection of a second mast at Bulgham. It was felt that this would be an undesirable visual intrusion. Members are to advise DHA to negotiate with MT to have equipment installed on their mast.
Action: *clerk instructed to advise DHA of this decision.*
- c. **Nigel Cretney** - Regarding WWI Commemoration. The clerk outlined Mr Cretney's plans for ongoing commemoration of the fallen in WW 1 in the coming year and beyond. His idea is to commemorate the fallen and the wider effect the war had on Maughold and its families. The Commissioners agreed to assist where possible and appropriate. Mr Cretney had invited the Commissioners to contribute a display to the flower festival and to be involved in other activities. A service would take place in April to mark the anniversary of the loss of the American Airmen on Barrule during the second world war. The clerk is to meet with Mrs Fargher and report back to the March meeting.
- d. **DEFA** - Complaint via Environmental Health Directorate regarding materials close to the MER Line and Dhoon School. The clerk advised that a resident in Glen Mona had complained to DEFA regarding waste materials at a farm. The school had also raised safety concerns about the condition of a barn at the same farm. Both matters were being dealt with by Environmental Health Officers. The Commissioners would be kept updated by DEFA as the matter was investigated and resolved.

- e. **DoI Planning** - Notification that Planning Applications will not be sent to relevant local authorities and will only be available digitally.

Mrs Perks noted these changes and asserted that they would discourage local authorities from participating effectively in the planning process. The Commissioners are to monitor the situation. **Mr Moughtin** advised that he had raised the matter at the January meeting of the Municipal Association, but other Members had not seen the correspondence. He anticipated that it would be discussed at the February meeting of the Association, after which he would report to the Commissioners. Members agreed to monitor the situation.

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

15.23. **PLANNING.**

a. **Decisions from DoI:** None.

b. **Planning to Consider:**

15/00088/B Alterations, creation of a raised patio area and erection of extension with roof terrace above to rear elevation of dwelling, **This Varrey The Colony Port Lewaigue**
There were no objections to these proposals.

c.i. **Appeal Matters:** - none.

c.ii. **Enforcement Matters** – none discussed.

c.iii. **Completion Certificates** - the following were noted:

14/07150/DEX Chinook, Ballagorry Drive, Two storey conservatory extension.

04/07467/DEX Crofton, Hibernia, Alterations and Extensions.

15.24. **General Correspondence/Information File**

The following documents in Circulation File were noted:

MT - Copy of specimen agreement for telephone kiosk agreement.

Lezayre Parish Commissioners - Re. loan interest charges.

DoI - List of contractors who had responded to the Department's request for expressions of interest regarding the transfer of services to local authorities.

RHCC Report December 14.

DOH - Mental Health Newsletter.

15.25. **Searches** – Dreemskerry Quarry Site; Thie Cassan Yack. **Both noted.**

15.26. **Finances** January - The following payments were noted and approved.

SO	MT			DD	SO
SO	31-Jan-15	Kinrades RC Jan 15	3,275.40	545.90	SO
115	02-Feb-15	Spotless Cleaners Jan	230.00		3247
116		Dhoon Church PCC Hall Hire	100.00		3248
117		IOM Government NI & ITIP	431.07		3249
118		Feltons Dec	12.13	2.02	3250
119		MUA Public Lighting	123.25	5.87	3251
120		MUA Maint Contr	194.40		3252
121		Clerk Bal Salary Jan 15	60.51		3253

15.27. **Committees, etc.**

1. **Municipal Association** – Documents relating to Meeting with Mr Gawne & January 29th Meeting in CF. **Mr Moughtin** reported that the Association had discussed the meeting with Mr Gawne regarding transfer of services. Future means of funding swimming pools across the Island had also been discussed.

2. **Housing** - ntr
3. **Swimming Pool** - ntr
4. **Northern Traffic Management Liaison Group** – ntr
5. **Garff Joint Initiative** – Next meeting 11th February 2015, 7.00 pm, LVC Offices.
6. **Northern Neighbourhood Policing Team**. Next Meeting Tuesday 10th February 2015, 9.30 Ramsey Town Hall. No matters to raise.

15.28. **Any Other Business.**

Mrs Fargher - Dark Skies Project & Maughold. The clerk advised that **Mrs Fargher** had attended Maughold Social Club's 'Dark Skies' event led by Howard Parkin. It was noted that the Commissioners requested that LED lamps were now fitted by the MUA when street lights were replaced in Maughold; these are less intrusive into the night sky. Dhoon School had also been approached in regard to the use of its exterior lighting. They were currently timed to be lit for one hour after the last member of staff left the building.

Mr Cowley advised that he had been approached by a resident of Glen Mona in regard to a proposal for a community produce outlet. The resident was in consultation with the planning department with a view to obtaining planning permission; full details would be announced in due course.

Mrs Perks asked if the clerk could contact Highways and request that road markings were set out to stop parents parking beside the railings at the entrance to the school. Cars parked in this location compromised the safety of pedestrians crossing the road to access the school.

Meeting closed 10.00 pm.

Next Meeting Monday March 2nd 2015
