

GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 4th November 2014 at 7.00p.m.

Present Mr. R K Harmer (Chairman)
 Mr. E C Beale
 Mr I G Davison
 Mr. D J Lace
 Mrs. C A Moughtin
 Mr. A G Jones
 Miss K M Felton

Apologies Mrs. J O'Halloran

In attendance Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

Action

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	14/300	The Chairman welcomed the press to the first meeting of November 2014.	
MINUTES	14/301	The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 st October 2014 were taken as read and <i>CONFIRMED</i> .	
CAMPSITE ADVERTISING	14/302	Mr. Davison referred back to Minute 14/281 and indicated that he had recently met with Mr. Tinnion and indicated that further discussion with the Town Clerk and Finance Officer was necessary. It was suggested that Mr. Tinnion's organisation could possibly be given an area of the campsite for the renting of plots during the summer period excluding the busy TT and Manx Grand Prix fortnights. A preliminary discussion took place over the two busy periods when it was suggested that campers could be required to pay for a full weeks rental irrespective of whether they left early or not to ensure the campsite income was maximised. The Chairman suggested that Chris Littler be requested to work on a simplified spread sheet for bookings at these busy times which would ensure the campsite was full. It was <i>AGREED</i> that this matter be	IGD/PGL

discussed in greater detail at the budget estimate meeting scheduled for 11th November 2014.

PUBLIC ART	14/303	<p>The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 14/283 and indicated that the Technical Officer had been in contact with Douglas Corporation over the equipment they used for projecting images at Summer Hill Glen. The necessary equipment could prove expensive and require electrical power twenty four hours per day. The Board were of the view that Collette Davies project regarding the walking guides and historical information on mobile phone apps should be developed further. The Chairman also referred to the consultation exercise undertaken by Mrs. Davies over the half term period and it was <i>AGREED</i> to ascertain any public feedback thereon.</p> <p>Mrs. Moughtin indicated that the owners of the end terrace property at the top of Station Road had indicated, in principle, a degree of receptiveness to the use of their gable wall for the painting of a mural. <i>NOTED</i></p>	PGL
KITCHEN COSTS REVIEW	14/304	<p>Mr. Jones referred back to Minute 14/288 and indicated that the report received from the Department of Health and Social Care had shown that the two schemes were not exactly alike. Mr. Jones stated that a major scheme in Douglas for kitchen refurbishment had given rise to a number of tenant concerns over the quality of the finish. Members acknowledged receipt of the report and were of the view that local authorities had a greater degree of flexibility over quality issues in such schemes.</p>	
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON CEREMONY	14/305	<p>Reference was made back to Minute 14/291 regarding the switching on ceremony for the Christmas lights scheduled for Saturday 29th November 2014. It was noted that the Cathedral Choir would be available to perform up to 4.10p.m. to be followed by music</p>	

from the Crosby Silver Band. The St. Germans bell ringers would also be in attendance and it was noted that the Peel Pantaloons would be available to busk during the afternoon. Arrangements had been made for Mr. Litman to act as Town Crier and a number of traders would seek street trading licences to provide various food. It was confirmed that a chestnut stall would be operated by Mr. Davison and Sergeant Callow and that Santa Claus would be in attendance sponsored by the Glenfaba Lodge.

Discussion ensued over the switch on ceremony for 2015 and after consideration it was *AGREED* to extend an invitation to the moto-cross world champion David Knight to perform the ceremony. Mr. Davison indicated that he had Mr. Knight's contact details and would be in touch with him in due course.

TOWN WARDEN'S REPORT	14/306	Due to the illness of the Town Warden and his inability to attend the meeting it was <i>AGREED</i> that his report for October 2014 be adjourned to the next meeting on 18 th November 2014.	
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT	14/307	The following planning applications were considered as follows:- 14/01206 Proposed front extension and widening driveway along with removal of pebble dash and smooth rendering, 7 Ballaquane Park, Peel. <i>RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</i> 14/01170 Minor amendments to extant application 13/00132/B - the addition of a fourth apartment, 15 Michael Street, Peel. <i>RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL</i>	Letter sent
PLANNING DECISIONS NOTIFIED	14/308	The following planning decisions were notified by the Planning Committee as follows:-	PGL

PA 14/01129/B Installation of replacement windows to rear elevation of dwelling at 3 Christian Street, Peel for Mr. Albert and Mrs. Dorcas Blann. *APPROVED*

PA 14/00977/B Installation of two roof lights at 6 Charles Street, Peel for Miss Amanda Milner. *APPROVED*.

PA 14/00930/B Erection of a block of four storage/distribution units and refurbishment of existing office building together with associated parking and service compound at Former Peel Gas Works, Mill Road, Peel for I & W Properties Limited. *APPROVED*

PA 14/00928/B Demolition of existing building and erection of two terrace dwellings with associated parking at part former Peel Gas Works Site and adjacent Showroom, 15 Mill Road, Peel for I & W Properties Limited *APPROVED*. Mrs. Moughtin referred to this approval and indicated that with the access onto a main road between two traffic lights and the fact that this area of Peel was marked for predominantly industrial development that it was inappropriate for two residential units to be built. Mr. Davison indicated that Peel needed commercial units not more residential properties and after discussion the Board was unanimous in submitting an appeal against this approval.

CONTRACTOR
PERFORMANCE
GUARANTEE BONDS

14/309

Members noted receipt of a letter from the Treasury regarding the requirement for contractor performance guarantee bonds in respect of future capital projects.

PEEL ACHIEVERS
PRESENTATION

14/310

Consideration was given to possible nominations for the T A Kelly Award at the Peel Achievers presentation scheduled for 21st November 2014. Three nominations were considered namely the Viking Longboats Committee, the Western Vikings Rugby

Club and the Fishermen's Mission. After discussion the Board *AGREED* that the Viking Longboat Committee be awarded the T A Kelly shield for 2014.

MARINE PARADE	14/311	The Town Clerk updated Members on plans for a consultation exercise with regard to the Commissioners proposals for Marine Parade. It was noted that a set of proposals would be on display at the Town Hall Boardroom from Monday 1 st December 2014. The design proposals would be open to comment from members of the public for consideration.	
LEGAL AID	14/312	Consideration was given to a letter from the Legal Aid Committee which had undertaken a review of how legal representation was provided and the means to pay thereof on the Island. Mr. Jones indicated that provision of legal aid on the Island was expensive to administer and Members were supportive of any method in which the costs could be reduced. It was also suggested that the circumstances in which applications could be made for legal aid should be limited. Comment was made over the significant number of advocates on the Island and a reduction thereof may assist the situation. One proposal with regard to summary cases was the requirement for legal representation to be dispensed with and allow representation by para-legals.	PGL
PROPOSED PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT ORDER	14/313	The Board gave consideration to a consultation document on the proposed permitted development order for temporary use or development of land. Members had no specific concerns over the proposed order and were supportive of its aims.	
ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCES	14/314	The Town Clerk referred to a letter from the Head of the Local Government Unit at the Department of Infrastructure dated 21 st October 2014. The Department was seeking views and comments from local authorities on	Letter sent

implementation of the 2013 Order. As the Board had *AGREED* to continue with the earlier attendance allowance arrangement which was less costly it was *AGREED* to advise the Department that the Board was happy with the continuation of the previous Order.

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL VALATION LIST	14/315	Members noted receipt of the third supplemental valuation list for 2014.	
PEEL YOUTH CENTRE	14/316	Consideration was given to a letter from Mrs. Val Goldie of the Peel Youth Team regarding the youth centre's proposal for a new project to assist youths. The project would require funding to provide forms of transport and contributions by the service to outings to various locations. Mrs. Goldie indicated that the development of youths to learn the necessities of social etiquette in public would be of value in the long term. The Board was in principle supportive of increasing youth social skills which were felt to be an important part of life. At this stage it was <i>AGREED</i> that the project be supported in principle and that the Town Clerk request more detail and costings prior to the matter being given consideration as a budget item for 2015/16.	PGL
LOCAL SERVICES	14/317	Members noted the response forwarded to Minister Gawne, MHK regarding his invitation to all local authorities to consider taking on additional local services provided at a local level. It was noted that a meeting would be held with Minister Gawne on 17 th November 2014 at 7.00p.m. The Chairman indicated that other Western local authorities also wished to meet with Mr. Gawne but were awaiting a response.	
GERMAN CIVIC SERVICE	14/318	Consideration was given to an invitation from Mr. Matthew Wadsworth, Chairman of German Parish Commissioners to attend his Civic Service at St. Johns Methodist Church on 16 th November 2014 at 11.00p.m.	Letter sent

The Chairman and Miss Felton *AGREED* to attend the service.

HSBC BANK	14/319	The Town Clerk indicated that with the Treasury agreeing to offer its contract for loans for capital housing schemes to the HSBC Bank a subsequent bank account had been established in the name of Peel Town Commissioners with the Town Clerk, Finance Officer and Technical Officer being the three designated signatories. The Board approved this arrangement.
COMMISSIONERS ACCOUNTS	14/320	The Commissioners accounts had been held over pending resolution of an issue concerning the valuation of properties following on from an interim valuation the previous year. It was noted that the accounts had initially been submitted to the auditor in early May and concern had been expressed over the lengthy period that this matter had remained unresolved. It was noted that the accounts were shortly due for submission to enable them to be signed off by the Chairman and Town Clerk. <i>NOTED</i>
REARYT NY CRONK	14/321	The Town Clerk referred to a draft transfer document received from Callin Wild regarding the adoption of public open spaces at Rearyt ny Cronk. The Town Clerk referred to one particular area of scrub woodland containing a number of mature trees. The Technical Officer had recommended to the developers that this area should have been fenced off when the estate was developed but this had not happened. A tree had recently fallen onto a parked car in the rear car park and the Town Clerk advised that the area held no merit as an amenity area. After discussion the Board <i>AGREED</i> that this area be excluded from any transfer document and that it should remain with the developers. PGL
3 MOURNE VIEW, PEEL	14/322	The Town Clerk referred to a letter received from the General Registry dated 31 st October 2014 concerning an

application by Mr. & Mrs. Wright of 3 Mourne View, Peel to register the freehold estate with a possessory title of a small parcel of land between their property and the Commissioners field. It was noted that the land did not belong to the Commissioners and it was therefore *AGREED* not to submit any objection to the application.

MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION	14/323	Mr. Jones updated Members of a recent meeting of the Municipal Association. Discussions included Mr. Buttery's proposals regarding a reform of the rating system. Discussion had also ensued over local authority reform referring to the previous proposal for four area authorities plus Douglas. It was also noted that Whitley Council had proposed a 2% increase in salaries for its staff with grade 2 staff moving to grade 3. This had yet to be ratified. Mr. Jones also referred to legal advice received from Long and Humphreys over the position regarding petitions of dolance.	
PEEL CASTLE	14/324	Miss Felton suggested that the castle floodlights be adjusted to throw out a red light for Remembrance Sunday. It was <i>AGREED</i> to make a request to Manx National Heritage accordingly.	Completed
WARD LIBRARY	14/325	Miss Felton had liaised with Miss Quilliam the Ward Librarian over the positioning of the old style phone box for use as an outdoor free library. It was <i>AGREED</i> that it be placed at the gable end of the library and provision of a seat be included. It was further <i>AGREED</i> that the Technical Officer liaise accordingly with Miss Felton and Miss Quilliam.	TQ
FACTORY LANE	14/326	Mrs. Moughtin referred to the previous investigations by the Technical Officer over the condition of the rear yard in Factory Lane owned by Mr. O'Hanlon. Mrs. Moughtin indicated that Mr. O'Hanlon had recently bought the garage next to the Factory Lane toilets and was transferring various items to	TQ

this location. It was *AGREED* that the Technical Officer investigate the matter further.

IMMIGRATION ISSUE 14/327

Mrs. Moughtin referred to the recent arrest of four UK residents who had travelled to the Island with the intent of removing a resident back to the UK. Following their subsequent arrest and remand at Jurby Prison Mrs. Moughtin voiced her concern at the cost to the Manx tax payer. It was alleged that the incident related to a drug debt and that the Island could no longer be considered a safe haven. Mrs. Moughtin strongly stated that she now felt unsafe on the Island and that the Government needed to take appropriate steps in reinstating the police budget and the border control agency budgets to counteract such incidents.

POLICE COMPLAINT 14/328

Miss Felton referred to a recent petty crime concerning the removal of her mobility scooter from outside her flat on the Market Place. The scooter had been returned but on registering the matter with the police control switchboard she was concerned at the manner in which she was spoken to. She subsequently submitted a letter of complaint to Inspector Pearson and the Chief Constable and was of the view that people would not report crime if they were treated in this manner. It was *AGREED* that an appropriate letter be sent to Inspector Pearson with Miss Felton's concerns.

PGL

SEAGULL BYELAWS 14/329

The Chairman indicated that German Parish Commissioners were also plagued with problems relating to seagulls and wished to liaise with the Commissioners over the draft byelaw to be prepared for this matter.

PGL

This part of the meeting ended at 8.05p.m.