

# GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of a GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 7.00p.m.

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

Apologies Mrs. C A Moughtin  
Mr. A G Jones  
Mrs. J O'Halloran

In attendance Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)

## Action

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME	13/502	The Chairman welcomed the press to the second meeting in February and wished to congratulate the pupils at the Clothworkers School for winning the recent chess tournament.	
PEEL DAY	13/503	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 13/483 and advised that under the Highways Act 1986 the Department of Infrastructure was able to close highways for the purpose of entertainment. The Road Races Act 1982 also contained provision applicable to the relevant section of the Highways Act 1986 which enabled charges to be made to attend any entertainment/events. The Town Clerk advised that a meeting would be arranged with the Police to discuss the proposed road closure for Peel Day scheduled for 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2014.	PGL
FIXED TERM TENANCIES	13/504	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 13/490 and indicated that an initial response had been received from Mrs. Deborah Reeves, Director of Housing regarding the various concerns raised over housing issues. The Town Clerk advised that a subsequent email	

from the Housing Policy Manager had been received that afternoon and would be considered in detail at the next Board meeting.

REQUISITION  
MEETING

13/505

Mr. Davison referred back to Minute 13/497 and summarised the outcome of the Requisition Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014. Mr. Davison indicated that there was unanimous support at the meeting in opposition to the proposed toilet tax which was scheduled for discussion at the February sitting of Tynwald.

Letter sent

Mr. Davison was of the view that the Council of Minister had failed in its overriding policy requirement to ensure appropriate public consultation. This had not applied in respect of the proposed toilet tax.

The Chairman wished to convey his thanks to Mr. Geoff Birkett who had instigated the meeting and commented that Government had broken its trust with the public as the democratic process in terms of public consultation had not been applied in this particular case. In conclusion it was *AGREED* that the Commissioners make a formal response to the Water and Sewerage Authority in opposition to the toilet tax.

Members also noted that a press release had been issued by the Chairman of the Municipal Association on this matter also in opposition to this proposed unfair tax.

WATER AND  
SEWERAGE  
AUTHORITY

13/506

Members noted a letter of response from the Director of the Water and Sewerage Authority regarding the further delay in completion of the feasibility study in respect of the town's sewerage. It was noted that in the summer of 2013 the feasibility study had been promised for February 2014. The matter had now been put back until mid-June 2014. The Chairman indicated that rather than awaiting receipt of the finalised report a request be made to the

Letter sent

Water and Sewerage Authority for the Commissioners to be involved in the study itself. It was *AGREED* to make such a request to the Director of the Water and Sewerage Authority.

PLANNING  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
COMMENT

13/507

The following planning applications were considered as follows:- Letter sent

14/00152/B

Erection of acrylic signs, Centenary Centre, Atholl Street, Peel.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

14/00135/B

Replacement of existing polycarbonate conservatory roof with new lightweight roof tiles to match existing roof tiles, 1 Rowan Avenue, Peel.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

14/00109/S

Erection of advertising hoardings (retrospective), either side of entrance to Rearyt ny Cronk adjacent to roundabout, Poortown Road, Peel.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

14/00124/B

Alterations and extension to former boiler room to provide enlarged kitchen, dining area, ancillary staff accommodation, changing rooms and toilets, new satellite plant room additional air handling unit, creation of desk store in courtyard area and extension to existing car park, Queen Elizabeth 11 High School.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

14/00125/B

Installation of replacement front door, 17 Market Street, Peel.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

14/00161

Removal of redundant chimney stack, Carraghyn, Rheast Lane, Peel.  
*RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.*

		14/00172	
		Replacement of existing polycarbonate conservatory roof with new lightweight roof tiles to match existing, 29 Ballellis, Peel. <i>RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.</i>	
PLANNING DECISIONS NOTIED	13/508	The following planning decisions were notified by the Planning Committee:-	
		PA 14/00001/B Extension to rear elevation, 11 Magher Breek Ballawattleworth Estate, Peel for Mr. Ian Charles Moffitt and Mrs. Victoria Ann Moffitt. <i>APPROVED</i>	
		PA 13/01514/B Construction of a lychgate along Derby Road to form new pedestrian entrance to Cathedral grounds which incorporated facilities for a re-located bus shelter at land at St. German's Cathedral, Derby Road, Peel for The Vicar & Wardens of St. German's. <i>APPROVED</i>	
KERROO COAR ROAD SCHEME	13/509	The Town Clerk referred to a formal agreement between the Department of Infrastructure and the Commissioners for the construction and subsequent adoption of a new road at Kerroo Coar. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the document be signed by the Chairman and Town Clerk for onward transmission to the Department.	Completed
ONCHAN CIVIC SERVICE	13/510	Members noted advance notice from Onchan District Commissioners for their Civic Service which would be held on 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2014 at St. Peters Church, Onchan. <i>NOTED</i>	
BALLAUGH CIVIC SERVICE	13/511	Consideration was given to an invitation from the Chairman of Ballaugh Parish Commissioners in respect of its Civic Service to be held on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2014 at 10.30a.m. at Ballaugh Parish Church. As the Chairman was committed to another Civic Service it was <i>AGREED</i> that Mr. Beale attend to represent the Commissioners.	Letter sent

STREET TRADERS LICENCE	13/512	Consideration was given to a request from the organisers of the Peel Secret Gardens on behalf of Peel Heritage Trust which sought a street trader's licence to set up a stall on the Market Place to sell plants and programmes. It was noted the event would take place on 12 <sup>th</sup> and 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2014 and it was <i>AGREED</i> that a street trader's licence be issued accordingly.	Letter sent
REGENERATION SCHEME	13/513	The Chairman referred to the public art aspect of the Peel Regeneration Scheme and indicated that the two favoured proposals involving the bronze seal by Stephanie Quayle and the interactive display by Colette Davies needed to be progressed. It was <i>AGREED</i> that both artists be invited to the Board meeting on 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2014 to discuss the way forward. The Chairman commented that as the public art would be regarded as the Commissioners schemes then funding would need to be secured. In this respect he suggested that contact be made with Chris Littler who edited the peelonline Commissioners website to place an appropriate news item seeking public donations together with a link to the Manx Wildlife Trust in respect of this matter. Following the meeting proposed for 18 <sup>th</sup> March the Commissioners would need to make contact with the Regeneration Committee, the Arts Council and the Heritage Council seeking appropriate funding. It was also suggested that contact be made with Mr. Andrew Bridson, Managing Director at Sure plc with regard to possible sponsorship in relation to Colette Davies heritage trails art scheme.	
ST GERMANS CATHEDRAL	13/514	Consideration was given to a request from St. Germans Cathedral for permission to hold two processions from Peel Castle to the Cathedral on Palm Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> April and on 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2014 marking the feast of St German. <i>AGREED</i>	

FREEDOM OF  
INFORMATION BILL

13/515

The Chairman referred to the consultation document with regard to the proposed Freedom of Information Act. It was *AGREED* that this matter be deferred to the next meeting for further consideration. The Town Clerk advised that an extended revised date for submission of views had been made to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

Mr. Davison referred to the introduction to the draft Bill by the Chief Minister which commented upon open government being part of an effective democracy. Mr. Davison queried how such remarks could be made when the Chief Minister and his Council were not prepared to consider open public consultation with regard to the toilet tax.

MAPLE AVENUE

13/516

Consideration was given to a flooding problem in the farmer's lane behind Maple Avenue. The Town Clerk advised that an issue had arisen with water gathering at the low point of the lane then flooding through the garden of 7 Maple Avenue owned by Mrs. Cope. It was noted that the estate developer had previously provided a concrete gulley to take the water but there was still a problem with water spreading across the pavement prior to disappearing down the roadside drain. The Town Clerk advised that he had been in contact with Mr. Bill Corlett at the Department of Infrastructure to arrange a meeting to discuss the problem. Mr. Lace suggested that the depth of water that might accumulate in the rear lane (which was in the Parish of German) could give rise to a health and safety issue.

MEMORIAL SEAT

13/517

Consideration was given to a letter from Christine Losh who wished to erect a memorial bench seat in memory of her late sister Roslyn Losh on Peel Hill overlooking Fenella Beach. It was noted that there was insufficient space for a further memorial bench at this location and discussion ensued over whether

applicants could attach memorial plaques onto existing memorial benches already in situ. As an alternative it was suggested that Mrs. Losh be offered the possibility of planting a memorial tree at a suitable location.

Mr. Davison referred to the proposed bronze seal to be commissioned and placed on the harbour rock adjacent to the entrance to Fenella Beach. He wondered whether a memorial plaque could be placed on the Fenella Beach wall with appropriate messages included subject to an agreed donation towards the commissioning of the bronze seal. It was *AGREED* that this suggestion merited further investigation.

ST GERMANS  
PLACE

13/518

The Chairman referred to contact he had had with Doctor Redfearn regarding the scout hut area in which a number of potholes had appeared. It was proposed that the parking area in front of the building be re-laid with tarmac or concrete. *AGREED*

The Chairman indicated that Doctor Redfearn still wished to see a scheme for widening the road at St. Germans Place to enable easier emergency access. Despite the emergency services indicating there was no specific problem as access could be gained by the fire engine the Chairman agreed that this could be possibly considered at some future date.

POTHLES

13/519

Mr. Beale referred to a number of potholes on Queens Drive and Rheast Lane. The Town Clerk undertook to make contact with the Department of Infrastructure for the necessary repairs.

PGL

REGENERATION  
SCHEME

13/520

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Steve Prescott and Mr. Alistair Lynne to the meeting to discuss the initial proposals for the regeneration of Market Place.

Letter sent

A drawing was tabled which provided for a revamped town square. Mr. Prescott indicated that his draft

proposals included rationalisation of the parking, opening up of the entrance into St. Peter's Church grounds and the screening of the Market Place car park. A new paved surface would be provided and access would be maintained one way through the Market Place and up Douglas Street. It was noted that the granite kerb sets previously removed from Atholl Street would be utilised within the scheme. The scheme would also include revised lighting and information signs together the possibility of a new town clock.

A further plan was tabled for the lower end of Douglas Street and the first portion of Michael Street up to Orry Lane. The plans provided for a layby outside Lloyds Bank. Michael Street would include a pedestrian and vehicle route without raised kerbs. A central gutter channel would be provided. This was the first phase of the Michael Street scheme and would hopefully follow with completion under the second stage.

Mr. Prescott sought the Commissioners views on his initial design proposals to enable progression of the matter with completion of the detailed design and submission of a planning application. It was noted that the scheme would enable the Market Place to be used for farmers markets and other events. After discussion the Board indicated its support for the proposals and it was *AGREED* that an appropriate letter be sent to Mr. T M Crookall, MHK Chairman of the Western Regeneration Committee.

This part of the meeting ended at 8.25p.m.