

GENERAL MEETING

The MINUTES of the GENERAL MEETING held in the Boardroom, Town Hall, Derby Road, Peel on Tuesday 5th August 2014 at 7.00p.m.

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

In attendance Mr. P G Leadley (Town Clerk)
 Mr. R Baker (Curator)

Action

CHAIRMAN'S
WELCOME

14/152

The Chairman welcomed members of the public to the meeting and Captain Bjorn Ahlander and Tora Heide from the Viking Boat Draken Harald Harfrage which was currently berthed in Peel harbour. The Chairman was pleased to present Captain Bjorn with a Commissioners plaque to mark the occasion.

The Chairman also wished to thank Mr. & Mrs. Harding of the Philip Christian Centre for putting up the guests with regard to the recent Traditional Boat Weekend which was a great success. The Town Clerk read out a letter of thanks from Mike Clark, Chairman of the Traditional Boat Festival Organising Committee relating to the Commissioners help and assistance with this annual event.

The Chairman also wished to thank Mr. Ian Baker, Chairman of the Peel Carnival Committee and his fellow Committee members for all their hard work throughout the year to arrange and organise Peel Carnival which was a great success the previous Sunday.

MINUTES

14/153

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2014 were taken as read and

CONFIRMED.

COMMANDER GREEN	14/154	The Chairman referred to the recent removal of the plaque in the Albany Road rose garden which required replacement. <i>AGREED</i>	
LEECE MUSEUM REPORT	14/155	Mr. Baker presented his museum report for July 2014. The numbers were slightly down on this period compared to 2013 but Mr. Baker thought this could have been caused by the TT Races taking place on each day. Mr. Baker also indicated that he would seek to increase volunteer help in running the Museum and the Board had no objection to this. Reference was made to the visit of the Viking Boat and it was <i>AGREED</i> that Mr. Baker arrange a visit for the Viking crew to Tynwald Hill and Tynwald Court in Douglas. It was further <i>AGREED</i> that the crew be offered lunch. Mr. Baker left the meeting at 7.15p.m.	
WARD LIBRARY	14/155	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 14/128 and indicated that the Technical Officer had estimated the cost of improving the upper level of the Ward Library to include rewiring, damp proofing and additional shelving in the region of £15,000. It was <i>AGREED</i> that these improvements be undertaken in due course.	TQ
CASTLE STREET GARDENS	14/156	The Town Clerk referred back to Minute 14/131 and indicated that the cost to provide additional CCTV coverage in the garden area together with street lighting would be in the region of £5,000. Reference was made to the issue of youths gathering at this location and it was <i>AGREED</i> that the seat be relocated to the other side of the garden. It was further <i>AGREED</i> that a shrubbery bed be planted adjacent to the wall bounding Mr. Kermode's property.	TQ
YOUNG PEOPLE	14/157	Miss Felton referred back to Minute 14/140 and indicated that she was due to	KF

liaise with the Police at the next Western Neighbourhood Group meeting and would then report back to the Board at its September meeting. *NOTED*

PEEL RING ROAD	14/158	Reference was made back to Minute 14/145 and it was noted that the Lhergydhoo Quarry had ceased operation. Mrs. Moughtin queried as to why JCK wagons were therefore travelling through Peel. It was <i>AGREED</i> to make suitable enquiries thereof.	PGL
PROMENADE BENCHES	14/159	Reference was made back to Minute 14/150 and the Town Clerk indicated that the Technical Officer had discussed and agreed voluntary help for weeding around the Town together with the whitewashing of the wall at the rear of St. Peter's Church. Through the winter period volunteers would also assist in repainting the promenade benches in pastel colours.	TQ
POST OFFICE LETTERBOX	14/160	The Town Clerk referred to the concerns over the removal of the old style post box outside the Douglas Street Post Office. A letter of response had been received from the Chief Executive dated 1 st August 2014 which indicated that the letterbox had been changed for customer service reasons. It was however noted that the Post Office had not taken fully into account the concerns of the general public. The Chief Executive had indicated the benefit of a meeting to discuss the matter to include Mr. Crookall, MHK and Mr. Andersons, MHK who had also been in contact with the Post Office regarding this matter. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the Town Clerk meet with the Chief Executive and the MHK's accordingly.	PGL
PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR COMMENT	14/161	The following planning applications were considered as follows:- 14/00228/B Revised dwelling orientation and inclusion of an attached single garage, plots 25 and 26 field 311037 Ramsey Road, (re-advertised due to amended plans received), Peel. <i>RECOMMENDED</i>	Letter sent

FOR APPROVAL

14/00838/B

Amendment to approved residential development (PA 02/02106/B) to change orientation of units 1 & 2 and replace units 3 to 8 with eight two storey units, Plots 1 to 8 McLeods Field, Peel. This application was discussed and it was *AGREED* that recommendation for refusal be made on the grounds that an increase in the previously approved size of the estate with attendant concerns over the Town's infrastructure being able to cope. The Chairman also referred to the increase in density of housing at this housing estate on the edge of Town.

14/00875

Change of use of hairdressers to take away and delicatessen, 3 Atholl Place, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*

14/00881

Proposed kitchen extension and alterations to rear of property, 3 Ballaquane Road, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*

14/00848

Replacement windows to front & side elevation, 19 Stanley Road, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*

14/00819

Removal of garden wall to improve vehicular access, 29 & 29a Albany Road, Peel. *RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL*

14/00814

Proposed extension over garage to provide ancillary living accommodation, Murtagh House, Battery Road, Peel. This matter was discussed at length and the majority of Members recommended refusal. It was *AGREED* that an objection be lodged on the grounds that the applications was not in keeping with the landscape or visual aspect of the

headlands. It was also *AGREED* to refer to difficult access issues along the Battery Road.

PLANNING DECISIONS
NOTIFIED

14/162

The following planning decisions were noted as follows:-

14/00707/B Erection of a timber lean-to shed (retrospective) at 6 Rheast Bridson, Peel for Mrs. Constance Brenda Crompton. *APPROVED*

14/00626/B Installation of replacement windows to side and rear elevations at Whitehouse Hotel, Tynwald Road, Peel for Mr. Neil Keig. *APPROVED*

14/00733/B Erection of extensions to front and rear elevations at 21 Close Quane, peel for Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Perry. *APPROVED*

14/00613/B Replace existing large window with two smaller windows to front elevation at 9 Christian Street, Peel for Mr. Paul Capelen. *APPROVED*

CATHEDRAL ISLE OF
MAN

14/163

Members noted receipt of a letter from Mrs. J Turner regarding the ongoing progress of building works at the Cathedral. *NOTED* Arising therefrom the Chairman indicated that the proposal to meet Vicar Ian Faulds had not materialised and it was *AGREED* to rearrange at a future meeting.

RKH

PEEL BEACH

14/164

Consideration was given to a letter from PSS Services Limited of 13 Drinkwater Street, Douglas. The company wished to propose a long/short term beach entertainment plan for Peel. The company would run a carnival funfair on the beach with outdoor games and activities for children and adults. In addition it was proposed that a candy shack would be on site to sell popcorn and candy floss. The proposal included a £1 fee for those taking part.

PGL

Mr. Lace voiced his objections to such an arrangement on the beach which could impact upon general use by visitors and

residents alike. Reference was made to whether such a proposal could take place on the former swimming pool site at the end of the promenade. Mr. Davison enquired whether a tender arrangement should apply inviting other companies to submit proposals. At this stage it was felt that it would be too late for the current summer season. However it was *AGREED* to arrange to meet with representatives of the company to discuss the proposal further.

Arising therefrom Mr. Lace indicated that he had been approached by a Peel Carnival Committee member to consider the retention of the flags on the promenade for Carnival Day to be left in-situ through the season. After discussion it was *AGREED* that the flags could remain in place until the end of August providing there was no liability on the Commissioners.

FOOD PARK – MILL
ROAD

14/165

Consideration was given to an email from Mr. John Griffiths regarding the seagull problem at the Food Park. It was Mr. Griffiths view that the large seagull population was now reaching plague proportions with significant numbers at the food park. Mrs. O’Halloran indicated that the problem in the Town was partly attributable to property owners not being prepared to remove nests from their own properties. After discussion it was *AGREED* to write to the fish yard processors at the food park to address the issue. Mr. Jones referred to a byelaw in Douglas whereby there were restricted areas where feeding of seagulls was not allowed. Mrs. Moughtin referred to a builder who had indicated that on looking over the roofs of Michael Street the area was inundated with seagull nests. It was *AGREED* that the Town Clerk look to prepare a draft byelaw for Michael Street and the promenade whereby feeding of seagulls would be prohibited and a licence be sought to deal with seagulls on Commissioners property.

PGL

AUDIT COSTS

14/166

Members noted receipt of a news release

from the Treasury regarding audit costs for local authorities. The revised changes were appropriate to smaller local authorities. *NOTED*

MCLEODS FIELDS	14/167	The Town Clerk referred to a letter from Callin Wild, Advocates acting on behalf of the owners of McLeods Field. A request had been made for the Commissioners to adopt the grassed frontage area onto the Ramsey Road in front of the McLeods Field development. The matter was discussed and it was <i>AGREED</i> that the proposal required a larger scale clearly defined plan and the proper Deed of Conveyance transferring the area to the Commissioners. The Town Clerk undertook to progress the matter accordingly.	Letter sent
SAILORS SHELTER	14/168	The Town Clerk read out a letter from Mr. Stephen Moore who indicated that the Committee in respect of the restoration of the Sailors Shelter on East Quay had wished to convey to the Chairman, Members and Clerk their thanks for the help received during the recent renovations of the shelter. <i>NOTED</i>	
MUNICIPAL MEETING	14/169	Mr. Jones reported on his attendance at the recent meeting of the Municipal Association the previous week. The letter sent by the Commissioners to the Chief Minister regarding concerns over the reductions in the Isle of Man Constabulary had been circulated to all other Members of the Association who were taking the matter back to their Boards for discussion and hopefully wider support in reversing the reductions imposed on the Chief Constable. <i>NOTED</i>	
		Reference was made to the Government's reduction in impetus over local authority reform. Reference was made to the housing reforms which had not been progressed by the Department of Social Care. It was suggested that this matter had now been given to Mr. Turner, MHK to deal with. It was indicated that whilst	

Central Government were vociferous in indicating how they were making significant budget savings the public were not so aware that much of these costs and services were being moved from the tax payer to the ratepayer.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – SWITCH ON CEREMONY	14/170	It was confirmed that the switching on of the Christmas lights would take place on Saturday 29 th November 2014 at 4.30pm.	
PEEL IN BLOOM	14/171	Mr. Davison referred to this year’s Peel in Bloom competition and indicated that 24 entries had been received. The judging had taken place and would be shortly available.	IGD
PROMENADE RAILINGS	14/172	Mr. Davison referred to the damaged railings on the promenade adjacent to the Bowling Green Café. It was <i>AGREED</i> to contact the Department of Infrastructure with a request that repairs be carried out to the damaged railings.	Letter sent
BMX TRACK	14/173	Mr. Davison indicated that improvements had now been carried out to the BMX track on the Headlands Field. <i>NOTED</i>	
PEEL BOXING CLUB	14/174	Miss Felton indicated that she had been contacted with a proposal to revive the boxing club in Peel. It was her opinion that organised boxing would be of benefit to youths and she was keen to progress this matter subject to finding suitable premises. Mrs. O’Halloran indicated that as a former boxing trainer she would be pleased to assist in training the youths if this matter progressed.	
PEEL BAY	14/175	Further discussion ensued over the continued discharge of sewage into Peel Bay. It was the Chairman’s opinion that a campaign to bring the matter to greater public awareness and attention of the Manx Utilities Authority was needed and it was suggested that the matter could be given further comment on the peelonline website with a request for the general public to submit comments thereof.	PGL
PEEL TO ST JOHNS ROAD	14/176	Mrs. Moughtin wished to place on record her thanks to the Department of	

Infrastructure for cutting back the overgrown hedgerow between Peel and St. Johns. *NOTED*

BLOCKED GULLIES	14/177	Mrs. Moughtin referred to a number of locations in Peel where properties were subject to building works. Her particular concern related to builders cleaning their implements and depositing cement down the drains. This would create a problem in the winter with blocked drains when the rain was more prevalent. It was <i>AGREED</i> that the Technical Officer look into the matter with a view to appropriate action against the builders concerned.	TQ
FESTOON LIGHTING	14/178	Mr. Lace referred to the possibility of providing festoon lighting on the promenade. It was <i>AGREED</i> that this matter be considered as a budget item for the rate year 2015/16.	
STREET CLEANING	14/179	The Chairman indicated that a volunteer group were looking to provide additional help to clean the streets of Peel on Sunday 10 th August 2014. It was noted that the Commissioners would supply bin bags for the collection of litter. <i>AGREED</i>	
FIRST WORLD WAR COMMEMORATION	14/180	The Chairman reported that along with Mr. Jones and Miss Felton he attended the centenary commemoration service at St. Germans Cathedral at 10.00p.m. on the 4 th August 2014.	

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