

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

[PUBLIC]

The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in Town Hall, Parliament Square, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 17th March, 2010, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mrs. S. P. Beattie and E. M. Bruce and Messrs. Dr. A. J. Allinson, B. Beattie, K. A. Crowe, N. H. Malpass, K. B. Mayne, G. K. Quayle, R. Radcliffe, L. I. Singer and W. G. Young.

An apology for absence was received from Mrs. E. Carlile.

The Town Clerk, Finance Officer, Chief Technical Officer and Minute Clerk were in attendance.

(2010/411) Minutes – Board Meeting:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Board held on 17th February, 2010, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following:

(2011/412) Administration Officer's Report - Freedom of Entry to HMS Ramsey:

It was proposed by Mr. R. Radcliffe, seconded by Mr. L. I. Singer and agreed that the Administration Officer's Report, dated 10th March, 2010, be considered at this point in the meeting.

Following a proposition by Mr. R. Radcliffe, seconded by Mrs. E.M. Bruce and agreed unanimously that the Ramsey Town Commissioners grant Freedom of Entry to HMS Ramsey, the Administration Officer introduced Mrs. Coleen Corlett, Members of the Royal Naval Associates, Affiliates of HMS Ramsey and Members of the Sub-Committee formed to progress the Freedom of Entry.

The Administration Officer advised that Mrs. Corlett had been commissioned to produce an Illuminated Script, to be presented to HMS Ramsey and it was with the greatest pleasure that the Chairman received this. Members were informed that the Board will also retain a printed copy of the script.

Members resolved also to formally record their thanks and appreciation to Mrs. Corlett, and the members of the Sub-Committee.



(2010/413) Ramsey in Bloom:

Mrs. E. M. Bruce presented a Friendship Cup to be awarded at Ramsey in Bloom competition, in memory of the late Mrs. M Ball, and will be known as the Maureen Ball Wildlife Trophy.

Members conveyed their thanks to Mrs. Bruce and Mrs. Ball's close friends for their kindness in presenting this trophy.

(2011/414) Chairman's Report:

Resolved: To note the Chairman's Report dated 12th March, 2010, subject to the following:

Manx Transport – Opening of Jurby Transport Museum – The Chairman asked if members could advise if they wished to attend.

(2010/415) Town Clerk's Report – Children Bill:

Members considered the Town Clerk's Report dated 1st March, 2010, advising that the Department of Education is seeking views of the draft Children Bill 2010. Comments made by Mr. R. Radcliffe had been circulated for members' information. The Chairman indicated that she would permit discussion to be on the wider topic of children and young people, rather than being restricted to the Children's Bill. Discussion ensued including reference to the following:

- Concern at records pertaining to Children being maintained on a Database;
- Lack of enforceable discipline;
- Lack of respect for authority
- The desirability of independent school inspectors;
- Membership of the Safeguarding Children's Board;
- Parental responsibility;
- Collapse of Social standards
- Lack of family values
- Promotion of social care;
- The fear that children are becoming "feral"
- Education of parents, provision of parental support and parenting classes
- Sensible Censure
- Definition of the rights of children
- Recognition that the majority of children and families are not problematic
- Children are not demonised
- Departmental intercommunication and sharing of information
- Children in need or at risk being urgently removed to staple foster care
- Child benefits being used to benefit of children and being withdrawn if this is not so;
- The Bill needs to be more encompassing and protecting;

Resolved: That the Town Clerk frame a suitable response.

SPB

(2010/416) Town Clerk's Report – Draft Pedal Cycle Regulations:

Members considered the Town Clerk's Report dated 2nd March, 2010, referring to the Draft Pedal Cycle Regulations, a copy of which had been circulated for Members' information.

Resolved: that Mr. B. W. Hannay, Department of Transport, be informed that the Commissioners consider the Bill to be un-enforceable and that it should be the responsibility of parents and all cycle users to ensure that bicycle are roadworthy and have adequate tyres, breaking systems, bells, etc.

Members also felt that should any regulations be progressed they should include provision to deter irresponsible cycling including cycling on pavements and against traffic flow.

(2010/417) Town Clerk's Report – PA 10/00131/C Change of Use from Swimming Pool Café to Leisure Centre...

Resolved: To note and approve the Town Clerk's Report dated 5th March, 2010, advising of the submission made to the Director of Planning and Building Control with regard to the requirement that application for Change of Use was necessary in this instance.

The Town Clerk verbally reported that the application is to be heard by the Planning Committee on 19th March. The Chief Technical Officer read a letter, in support of the proposals, received from King's Court Management Committee. Cpt. Malpass conveyed the Management Committee upset in that one of the residents had opposed the application despite being non-residents.

(2010/418) Town Clerk's Report – Review of Business Taxation System:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk's Report dated 1st March, 2010, advising of receipt of the consultation document issued by The Treasury with regard to the review of the Business Taxation System, a copy of which had been provided to members.

It was further resolved that full consideration be given to the consultation document at the meeting of the Board to be held on 21st April.

(2010/419) Town Clerk's Report – Website Usage 2009/10:

Resolved: To note and approve the Town Clerk's Report dated 1st March, 2010, detailing the statistics with regard to visits to the Commissioners' website during its first full year of operation.

SPO

(2010/420) Finance Officer's Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer's Report dated 12th March, 2010.

(2010/421) Chief Technical Officer's Report – Planning Applications:

Resolved: That Report prepared on behalf of the Chief Technical Officer dated 11th March, 2010, detailing planning applications received from the Department of Local Government and the Environment under the planning consultation procedures, be noted and approved, and that submissions of "no objection" be made, subject to the following:

REF NO: 2702
P.A. NO.: 10/00135/B
APPLICANT: Tudorshore Limited
PROPOSED: Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of an apartment building of eleven apartments with associated parking and site works
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Ballure, The Glen, Ballure Promenade, Ramsey.**

The Chief Technical Officer reported receipt of 7 letters of objection, of similar content, and read one. Grounds for opposition were noted as including visual impact, over intensity, loss of privacy and problematic access. The Chief Technical Officer answered queries with regard to sewerage disposal arrangement for the proposal, which they were advised would necessitate a stand-alone pumping station.

Mr. Singer queried whether the ^{Lead Member SPB,} ~~Board~~ would be inclined to support an application for a lesser number of flats on the site and were advised not.

It was resolved that the Board submit their objection to the application in that they consider the proposals to be wholly inappropriate in this area of scenic beauty.

Members were reminded that an application to provide 15 apartments was refused, on appeal in 2006.

REF NO: 2705
P.A. NO.: 10/00186/B
APPLICANT: Sheila Lowe
PROPOSED: Repair works to existing harbour walls
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Ramsey Shipyard, Ramsey Harbour, Ramsey.**

Members were informed that this work has already been carried out. The Lead Member indicated his understanding that the works had been carried out as they were considered as being "emergency" and that the application should have been described as being retrospective.

SPB

(2010/422) Chief Technical Officer's General Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Chief Technical Officer's General Report dated 10th March, 2010, subject to the following:

Proposed Development Order – Cooil Road Braddan: - the Chief Technical Officer advised members that his report presented the opposing view from that presented to the Board last month. Members felt that re-zoning at Cooil Road should not take place whilst there are other areas around the Island already suitably zoned for the proposed purposes.

Proposed Northern Sewage Treatment Works & Civic Amenity Site Project... Cpt. Malpass enquired what percentage of raw waste becomes thickened sludge. The Chief Technical Officer undertook to discuss this with the Department of Transport.

Mooragh Park Drainage – the Chief Technical Officer advised that the contract had been completed ahead of schedule and the Mooragh Lake has now been filled. Mr. K. B. Mayne, Lead Member, asked that the Board's congratulations to the contractor be recorded and also appreciation for the courtesy afforded to Parklands Nursery and the Lakeside Centre during the work.

(2010/423) Administration Officer's Report – Enforcement Actions:

Resolved: To note and approve the Administration Officer's Report dated 8th March, 2010, advising of successful prosecutions against persons parking illegally on disabled spaces.

(2010/424) Administration Officer's Report – Freedom of Entry to HMS Ramsey

This item was considered at the commencement of the meeting.

(2010/425) Public Sector Rents 2010/11:

Resolved: To note that the Department of Local Government and the Environment has notified local authorities of a decision of Council of Ministers in relation to public sector rents for the forthcoming rent year, primarily as follows:-

- i) Public Sector rents increased with effect from 5th April 2010 by 5%.
The rent point value therefore increases from 0.9633 to 1.0115
- ii) The maintenance allowance should remain at 33.3%.
- iii) The administration allowance in 2010/11 remains as agreed by Council in 2006 at 7.5% but subject to the Authority delivering on common performance standards to demonstrate effective management and service delivery.

Mr. K. A. Crowe expressed his view that it would not have been possible for Government to introduce any greater increase.

(2010/426) Public Sector Rents:

Resolved: To note and approve correspondence addressed by Mrs. E. M. Bruce to a ratepayer with regard to public sector rent levels.

(2010/427) Winter Heating Bonus:

Resolved: To note receipt of correspondence from the Department of Health and Social Security explaining payment of the Winter Heating Bonus.

(2010/428) Band Concert – August Bank Holiday:

Resolved: That Mr. K. Price, Independent Methodist Church, be informed that the Commissioners are pleased to permit the group “Icthus” to play in the Mooragh Park on the afternoon of Monday, 2nd August.

(2010/429) Tynwald Advisory Council For Disabilities:

Resolved: To note receipt of the Tynwald Advisory Council for Disabilities’ Annual Report for the year ended December, 2009.

Any Other Business:

(2010/430) De-Registration of Flats Bleak House, Mooragh Promenade:

The Town Clerk verbally advised members that the appeal against the de-registration of Flats at Bleak House (formerly Peveril Court) Mooragh Promenade, Ramsey, has been dismissed at a Sitting of the High Bailiff’s Court held on 15th March, 2010, as a result of which the property cannot be occupied.

The Town Clerk further advised members that the Court Hearing in respect of the Repair Notice will take place on 23rd March.

Resolved: To be noted.

The Chairman thanked the public for their interest and attendance and closed the public session at 8.25 p.m.

Chairman.

