The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in Town Hall, Parliament Square, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 28th March, 2018, at 7.00 p.m.


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


Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker”, to 16th March, 2018, included within the agenda and the following comments made thereon, and accepting that some matters may be referred to in other sections of these minutes:-

- **Bleak House** - the Town Clerk advised that a letter has been received from the structural engineers and it should now be possible to progress the Time and Place Meeting. Members queried the owners’ request that a letter-box be provided and were informed that this would not be done as it is understand that the postal authority is not prepared to deliver to the premises.
- **Decorative and Festive Lighting** - the Deputy Town Clerk advised that he has met with another further supplier and will report further in due course;
- **Scaffolding on Public Highway** - the meeting with Department of Infrastructure’s officers is yet to take place;
- **Amenity Byelaws** - the byelaws are again with the Attorney General’s Department as the Department of Infrastructure wish the wording to be “modernised”. The Town Clerk advised that he has indicated his dissatisfaction that the matter has been so protracted. It was proposed by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. McGuinness that upon receipt the Amenity Byelaws be circulated to members, for response within 48 hours, and thereafter they be Sealed and Signed on behalf of the Commission subject to members being happy with such content. Members asked that the Commission’s original draft be also supplied for comparison purposes.
- **Water Street Boundary Wall** - the Chief Technical Officer advised of discussions that have taken place with the owner. It was noted that any proposals to reduce the height of the wall will require planning permission. Members were informed that our Advocates cannot identify the owner of the wall where it abuts the Commission’s car park but advise that in all probability it is a party wall.
- **Street Lighting Jurby Road** - remove from list.

- Rate Arrears - Remove from list;
- Queen’s Pier Restoration Trust - it has not yet been possible to arrange a mutually convenient meeting;
- The Living Wage - remove from list;
- Policing - the Deputy Town Clerk advised that a new Sergeant will commence duty in Ramsey on 2nd April, the Inspector and Sergeant will be invited to a future meeting of the Board;
- Website - members were requested to submit a biography of approximately 200 words;
- Courthouse - the Deputy Town Clerk advised that inspections by tradesmen is on-going and that the reports of those already carried out are favourable, having regard to the age of the building. The Town Clerk explained the financial arrangements that will be in place with regard to payment for the Courthouse in relation to leasing of the Town Hall; The Chairman was authorised to sign the Deeds and Lease Agreement when it is received;
- Plaza Car Park Sign - the Chief Technical Officer advised that the missing sign will be investigated - it was suggested it may have been removed because it had been damaged.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2017/18:360) Finance Officer’s General Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer’s Report dated 15th March, 2018, subject to the following:

Rent Arrears - members discussed the list of tenant in arrears with their rental payments, and circumstances concerning the tenant listed at No. 19 were explained.
Aged Debtors - circumstances of three specific debts, one of which has now been cleared, were explained.
Budget Projects Update - members were advised that the appendix would be followed up by a fuller quarterly reply and that any items included that have been discarded or completed will be removed from the listings. The Finance Officer indicated orders have been placed for some of the items of machinery listed.

Works and Development:

(2017/18:357) Town Clerk’s Report - Harbours Strategy:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report dated 14th March, 2018, advising of the Harbours Strategy published by the Department of Infrastructure and to be presented to the March Tynwald Sitting.

Debated in private (Clause number consistent with meeting held 21st March, 2018.)
Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Town Warden Contract:

Members considered the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 15th March, 2018, concerning the information provided by two firms with regard to the provision of Town Warden services and listing the pros and cons of a contracted out service as compared to an in-house service.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed without division, the two companies who have provided information be invited to tender subject to inclusion of the standard clause that the Commission does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender nor will it reimburse any costs incurred in the submission of a tender.

Housing and Property:

Housing and Property Manager’s Report - Site Adjacent to St. Olaves, Jurby Road:

Resolved: To note the Housing and Property Manager’s report dated 14th March, 2018, advising of the response made by the owner of the site in this matter.

Parks and Leisure:

Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Town Warden Contract:

This matter had been brought into public and considered on 21st March, 2018, Clause 354 refers.

Chief Technical Officer’s Report - ...Works Mooragh Park:

Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 15th March, 2018, advising of discussions held with the Arboriculture Officer from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture following works undertaken in the Mooragh Park.

Any Other Business:

Bowling Green and Mooragh Park:

Mr. Corkish referred to social media comments being posted about the bowling green and Mooragh Park. Members referred to their earlier discussions held on 21st March and reminded that it was hoped to have part of the bowling green playable by 1st May and then for the season and that works be undertaken during the Winter months, in accordance with professional advice received.

It was proposed by Mrs. Quayle seconded by Mr. Hankin and agreed that the matter be further considered in approximately one month’s time.
(2017/18:366) Changing Rooms Boathouse Café:

Mr. Williams referred to unfinished works to the changing rooms abutting the Boathouse Café in the Mooragh Park. It was agreed that the matter be investigated.

(2017/18:367) Traffic Gardeners’ Lane:

Mr. Parker drew attention to opposition raised by residents of Gardeners’ Lane to the proposals of the Department of Infrastructure in respect of the central reservation and laying of double yellow lines.

Members were informed that it is understood that the Department will now site no waiting traffic cones along Gardeners’ Lane, trim the central reservation and allow two-way traffic during the course of the Lezayre Road works.

Mr. Corkish withdrew from the meeting at 9.45 p.m.

Matters of Establishment:

(2017/18:368) Minutes Establishment Committee Meeting:

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 27th February, 2018.

It was proposed by Mr. Cowie seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed without division that the Policy on Support for Training be approved and adopted by the Board.

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m. giving a time of 3 hours for payment of attendance allowances.

Chairman.