The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in Town Hall, Parliament Square, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 20th June, 2018, at 6.30 p.m.


A vacancy exists in each ward.

The Town Clerk, Finance Officer, Housing and Property Manager, and Minute Clerk were in attendance.

(2018/19:086) Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 20th June, 2018, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

(2018/19:087) Matters Arising:

Mr. Parker queried the lack of action of the Commission's request to have the sequence of traffic lights put back to that prior to the road works on Lezayre Road. He was advised that the current timing had been set to suit bus operation, but the Deputy Town Clerk will be asked to seek clarification on this matter.

(2018/19:088) Chairman's Report:

Resolved: To note the Chairman's verbal report concerning those occasion at which he has represented the Commission, particularly on Tynwald Day, and conveying congratulations on the success of recent events including the Bubble Rush and Rotaraid Day. The Chairman took the opportunity to remind members of Ramsey Carnival on 21st July.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2018/19:089) Town Clerk's Report – Consultation - Criminal Justice:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report dated 10th July, 2018, advising of the Consultation being undertaken by the Department of Home Affairs with regard to the Criminal Justice Bills, and for which views are required to be submitted by 20th August, 2018.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Hankin, seconded by Mr. Cowie, members inform the Town Clerk of any areas of the Consultation upon which they wish to comment, upon receipt of which a composite report will be submitted to the Board Meeting on 15th August for consideration. Members were reminded that they may also submit individual personal responses to the consultation.
(2018/19:090) Finance Officer’s Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer’s General Report dated 12th July, 2018, subject to the following:

Summary of Revenue Income and Expenditure - the figure “£7,456,783” appearing in the budget figures within Appendix 2, was amended to read £4,456,783” being a typographic error. Mr. McGuinness advised that he was pleased with the consistency of figures reflected within the Finance Officer’s report.

(2018/19:091) Technical Assistant’s Report - Commemoration of Loss:

Resolved: To note and approve the Technical Assistant’s Report dated 14th June, 2018, detailing the losses during the Great War to be commemorated in the next few weeks.

Mr. Oldham took the opportunity to show members the wreath he would be laying on behalf of the Royal British Legion and the Town at the Menin Gate on 8th August 2018 as part of the “Great Pilgrimage”.

Works and Development:

(2018/19:092) Town Clerk’s Report - Consultation Area Plan for the East:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk’s Report dated 10th July, 2018, advising of the Consultation document issued by Government with regard to the Area Plan for the East.

It was further resolved, following a proposal by Mr. Williams, seconded by, Mr. McGuinness and agreed that members advise the Town Clerk of any comments they may wish to make on the consultation, to allow a composite report to be presented for consideration at the Board meeting to be held on 15th August.

Members were reminded that the decisions taken with regard to the area plan for the East could have implications for the Town.

(2018/19:093) Town Clerk’s Report - Lezayre Road Update:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report dated 12th July, 2018, advising of the update statement issued by the Department of Infrastructure with regard to road works at Lezayre Road.

Mr. McGuinness advised that he was disappointed with the statement made by the Department in that he did not consider the residents felt the diversion was working well, there was a general dissatisfaction at the communication between residents and the Department and what communication that was forthcoming could have been more “pro-active”.

\[\text{Signature}\]
(2018/19:093) Town Clerk’s Report - Lezayre Road Update:

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Hankin, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed without division to contact the Department inform them of the Commission’s disappointment that residents feel they are not being kept fully informed and ask them for clearer explanation of when they think the works will be completed.

Mr. Cowie declared an interest and did not vote.

(2018/19:094) Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Planning Applications:

Resolved: That Chief Technical Officer’s Report dated 13th July, 2018, detailing planning applications received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, under the planning consultation procedures, be noted and approved, subject to the following:-

REF NO: 3591
P.A. NO.: 18/00672/B
APPLICANT: Mr. S. R. Tyer
PROPOSED: Use of domestic garage as food preparation area for catering business (retrospective)
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: 1, Cooil Breryk, Ramsey.

Mrs. Quayle queried of all Health and Safety requirements would be met. The Town Clerk advised that checks could be made with DEFA with regard to Food Hygiene matters. It was noted that neighbours had previously made objection to this business being conducted in a residential area.

Resolved: Following a proposal by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Young that the Commission submit an observation with regard to the proposals being un-neighbourly. The proposal was carried by 8 votes to 2, Mr. Cowie and Mr. Parker voting against.

REF NO: 3592
P.A. NO.: 18/00684/GB & 18/00685/CON
APPLICANT: Queen’s Pier Restoration Trust
PROPOSED: Structural works to the underside of the pier, and various restoration works to the entrance/gatehouse
NOTES: Registered Building
SITE: Queen’s Pier, Queen’s Promenade, Ramsey.

Discussion ensued with regard to the range of six colours proposed with regard to exterior painting and the impractically of painting pebble-dashing. Mr. Young advised that power washing was the best way to clean pebble-dash and commented that in carrying out works to the “gatehouse” funding was being diverted from the pier itself.
(2018/19:094) Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Planning Applications cont:

A proposal put by Mr. Oldham, seconded by Mrs. Wedgwood that the Commission object to the painting resulted in a 5 all vote. Mr. Cowie’s casting vote resulted in the proposal failing. A proposal by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cowie that the paint colours be anything but the pastel blue and yellow (within the colour range suggested) also resulted in a 5 all vote. Mr. Cowie’s casting vote sided with Mr. Williams’s proposal.

A proposal by Mr. Oldham that none of the six colours suggested be used did not receive a seconder and was withdrawn.

It was finally agreed to submit an observation conveying the Commission’s concern that painting of the pebble-dash will fail with plastic paint may cause future problems.

REF NO: 3593
P.A. NO.: 18/00693/B
APPLICANT:
PROPOSED: Erection of a two storey side extension to provide garage and additional living accommodation
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: 84, Greenlands Avenue, Ramsey.

The applicant was noted as being Mr. Steven White.

It was agreed, following a proposal by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Cowie that an observation be submitted that the proposed extension should be contained within the site boundary and not encroach over the common boundary.

Appendices:

No comments were made on the appendices.


Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 12th July, 2018, advising of the application of the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture for a Building Preservation Notice on the warehouse formerly in the ownership of Farmers Combine, at 33, West Quay, Ramsey, in terms of Section 17 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1999.

It was noted that the Notice came into force on 11th July and will remain in force for 4 months.
(2018/19:096) Proposed Dog Day Care Planning:

The Town Clerk verbally reported that the planning application to provide a dog day care facility at Concorde House has been approved, and queried whether the Commission wished an appeal to be submitted, the Commission having objected thereto.

Resolved: that following a proposal by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed by 9 votes to 1, Mr. Hankin voting against, that no appeal be made against the approval.

Housing and Property:


Resolved: To note the Housing and Property Manager’s report dated 11th July, 2018, to which was appended the housing performance and statistics for the 4th Quarter ended 31st March, 2018.

It was further resolved, following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mrs. Quayle that the property inspections be phased over 3 years, rather than the current 2. This was agreed.

Mr. Cowie queried if the shared housing waiting list for the North of the Island was having any impact. The Housing and Property Manager responded that it seemed to be working well.

Any Other Business:

(2018/19:098) Bye-Elections:

Mr. Hankin asked if a breakdown of costs can be provided with regard to the Bye-Elections, to be held on 18th July. The Town Clerk undertook to provide a report to the August Board Meeting.

(2018/19:099) National Week:

Mr. McGuinness raised the matter of National Week stating that he had been approached by members of the public querying if it had happened at all and that there didn't seem to be a national week event, a view with which he concurred.

Mr. McGuinness queried the events that took place in National Week and asked that the Deputy Town Clerk submit a report detailing the events for review at the August meeting.
(2018/19:100) Ramsey Youth Centre and Old Boys AFC:

Mr. McGuinness raised concerns about the arrangement between the "Department of Education" and Ramsey Youth Centre and Old Boys AFC and asked if the Commission is aware of the arrangements with regard to the letting of the pitch and hut. The Town Clerk advised that he understood that leasing arrangements may be undertaken by the Department of Infrastructure, and that the Commission is not aware of the arrangements.

Resolved: that following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed that the Department be asked what the arrangements are and to clarify their policy in this regard.

(2018/19:101) Sunday Trading:

Mr. Hankin referred to the disinclination of traders in Ramsey to open on Sundays and Bank holidays and to comments made by the Deputy Town Clerk and contained within the Chamber of Commerce’s minutes of a recent meeting with regard to coaches visiting Ramsey.

Mr. Hankin was advised that the Commission had no influence over the Chamber’s minutes and that the Deputy Town Clerk had responded to a request that he contact the coach operators to attempt to determine their preferred times to visit the Town. Mrs. Wedgwood emphasised that there is more to Ramsey than its shops. Mr. McGuinness reminded members that the Chamber of Commerce’s minutes were “slanted” towards shops.

(2018/19:102) Representative Report:

Resolved: To note the Representative Report concerning the Chamber of Commerce submitted by Mr. McGuinness, subject to the following:-

"Slow Down in Our Town" - members were pleased to learn of the Chamber’s general support. Mr. Young advised that he had mentioned the matter at a recent meeting of the Northern Traffic Management Committee and advised that the Department of Infrastructure was not in favour of the Slow Down campaign and had inferred that a lack of signs was an important factor.

It was proposed by Mr. McGuinness and agreed without division that “Slow Down in Our Town” be progressed with publicity, banners and an awareness campaign.

The Chairman thanked the public and media representatives for attending and closed the public session at 7.40 p.m.
The following items were considered in private the detail of which, having regard to data protection, matters affecting persons who cannot be named, etc., is not as extensive as that contained in minutes of matters discussed in public.

(2018/19:103) Minutes:

Resolved: To note that no minutes from the Board Meetings held on 20th June, 2018, were recorded in Private.

It was further resolved to approve the Minute of the Special Board Meeting held on 3rd July, 2018, subject to it being noted that the wording in the paragraph immediately prior to the “Resolution” had been changed to read “voting in favour”.

It was noted that the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on 12th July, 2018, will be included within the August 2018 agenda papers.

Matters for Information:

(2018/19:104) Housing Committee:

Resolved: To note and approve the Minutes of the Housing Committee held on 10th July, 2018.


Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker”, to 18th July, 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:-

- **Strategic Review Library Services** - noted the matter has yet to be concluded and a date for the next meeting of the Policy Committee requires to be decided;
- **Shoprite Group Station Road** - members asked for an update on the condition of the former Laundry Building could be made to this matter. The Town Clerk undertook to raise the matter when he was next in discussion with the Group;
- **Queen’s Pier Restoration Trust** - to be remove from the action tracker;
- **iPad for Members** - noted that problems are being encountered with e mails;
- **Mannin Art Group** - have expressed their appreciation.
Finance and General Purposes:

(2018/19:106) Town Clerk’s Report - Lease Coroner’s Office:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report dated 29th June, 2018, concerning the lease agreement between the Commission and the Coroner for Ayre and Garff in respect of office facilities at the Town Hall.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Parker and agreed a new 3 year lease be entered into.

(2018/19:107) Town Clerk’s Report – Lease Former Swimming Pool:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s Report dated 12th July, 2018, advising of the review due at September, 2018, with regard to the lease of the former Swimming Pool.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed without division, and subject to approval of the necessary Petition, in terms of Section 51 of the Local Government Act, 1985, Buffalo Bowling and Leisure Limited be offered an extension of their lease for a further period of 5 years on the existing terms and conditions.

Mr. Parker declared an interest and did not vote.

(2018/19:108) Town Clerk’s Report – Media Services:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk’s report dated 12th July, 2018, advising that a quotation is awaited for the provision of media services on an ad hoc basis from 1st October, 2018.

(2018/19:109) Finance Officer’s General Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer’s Report dated 12th July, 2018, subject to the following:

Rent Arrears - queries with regard to tenants listed as being in arrears were answered.

(2018/19:110) Technical Assistant’s Report - Mitigation Against Fixed Penalty Notice:

Members considered the Technical Assistant’s report dated 11th July, 2018, advising of an appeal submitted in mitigation of a fixed penalty notice issued under the provision of the Dogs Act 1990.

Mr. McGuinness outlined the history of previous fines paid by the appellant and stated a desire to formalize the Commission’s approach to witness statements. The Town Clerk advised that all witnesses are advised that in providing statements they may be required to appear in court.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed by 6 votes to 4, the appeal be accepted. Mesdames’ Quayle and Wedgwood and Messrs’ Oldham and Young voted against.

Members asked if further proof could be sought from complainants and asked that the general policy be reviewed and a framework policy produced.

Works and Development:

(2018/19:111) Town Clerk’s Report - Public Open Space PA17/00870/B:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report dated 10\textsuperscript{th} July, 2018, advising of the offer received with regard to the provision of landscaped public open space in terms of that required with regard to development of two 6 storey apartment buildings at land off Premier Road and Mooragh Promenade, Ramsey.

A proposal was put by Mr. Cowie and seconded by Mr. Hankin that the offer be accepted. An amendment was put by Mr. Williams that the offer be accepted but that the Commission ask if they can suggest additions or substitutions to the proposals. The amendment was seconded by Mrs. Quayle and carried without division.

Members queried if the proposal could be considered in conjunction with any proposals that the Commission might have for the Mooragh Promenade. The Town Clerk undertook to discuss the proposals with the Deputy Town Clerk and the Head Gardener.


Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 12\textsuperscript{th} July, 2018, advising of a meeting held on 22\textsuperscript{nd} June, 2018, in an attempt to determine a way forward with regard to the property Bleak House.

The Town Clerk verbally report that he had recently met with the Government Valuer and is awaiting a written opinion from him, and advised that a further report would be presented to the August 2018 meeting of the Board Meeting on this matter.

Members commented that in progressing any solution responsibility for such must be accepted by the property freehold and leasehold owners.

(2018/19:113) Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Water Street Car Park:

Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 10\textsuperscript{th} July, 2018, advising of on-going discussions with Mr. W. G. Young and Mr. S. Young with regard to the proposals to reduce the height of the wall bounding the western side of Water Street car park.
Housing and Property:

(2018/19:114) Housing and Property Manager’s Report - Pet Policy:

Members discussed the Housing and Property Manager’s report with appended draft Pet Policy. Members were reminded that the existing pet policy had been in place since 2007 and whilst it is difficult to “police” it was somewhat effective.

Various proposals were put as follows:-
- Proposed by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Quayle that the policy as presented of 2 dogs or 2 cats be accepted;
- Proposed by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mrs. Quayle, that the policy be accepted but have no facility for appeal;
- Proposed by Mr. Oldham seconded by Mr. Hankin that the matter be deferred:

Votes were taken resulting as follows:
- To Defer - resulted in an equality of voting the proposal failing on the casting vote of the Chairman;
- To have no right of Appeal - again resulted in an equality of voting the proposal failing on the casting vote of the Chairman;
- To accept the policy - carried by 7 votes to 3 - Messrs’ Hankin, McGuinness and Oldham voting against.

Parks and Leisure:

(2018/19:115) Town Clerk’s Report - TT 2019 Events:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk’s report dated 20th June, 2018, advising of on-going discussions with regard to events it is hoped can be held in Ramsey as part of the 2019 T.T.


Resolved: That consideration of the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 12th July, 2018, and tabled Addendum Report dated 17th July, concerning approaches made with regard to seeking advice on the Mooragh Park Bowling Green and a report of a meeting held on 17th July, 2018, with representatives of North Ramsey Bowling Club be deferred to the August, 2018, meeting of the Commission.

Any Other Business:

There were no matters raised.
Matters of Establishment:

(2018/19:117) Minutes Establishment Committee Meetings:

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 10th July, 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m. giving a time of 2 ¼ hours for payment of attendance allowances.

[Signature]

Chairman.