The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in Town Hall, Parliament Square, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 17th October, 2018, at 7.00 p.m.


Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Mr. J. McGuinness.

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

(2018/19:283) Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 19th September, 2018, continued on 20th September, 2018, and the Special Board Meeting held on 3rd October, 2018, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, subject to minor typographical corrections.

(2018/19:284) Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising that were not included elsewhere within the meeting’s agenda.

(2018/19:285) Chairman’s Report:

Resolved: To note the Chairman’s report dated 11th October, 2018.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2018/19:286) Town Clerk’s Report – Leave of Absence:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report dated 1st October, 2018, advising of a request made by Canon Greenwood for leave of absence owing to work commitments.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Young and agreed unanimously that Canon Greenwood be granted leave of absence. Canon Greenwood did not vote.
(2018/19:287) Finance Officer’s Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer’s General Report dated 11th October, 2018, subject to the following:

Audit and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March, 2018: It was proposed by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mrs. Quayle and agreed that Statements be approved and the Chairman, and Finance Officer, as Responsible Finance Officer, be authorised to sign the Financial Statements and associated Letter of Representation.

Members were informed that the audit work pertaining to the statements was not quite complete and it is envisaged the statements will be ready for signature later this week or early next week.

(2018/19:288) Technical Assistant’s Report - Commemoration of Loss:

Resolved: To note and approve the Technical Assistant’s Report dated 11th October, 2018, detailing losses during the Great War to be commemorated in the next few weeks.

Works and Development:

(2018/19:289) Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Planning Applications:

Resolved: That Chief Technical Officer’s Report dated 12th October, 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: 3581
P.A. NO.: 18/00528/B
APPLICANT: Wardsley Limited
PROPOSED: Demolition of existing building yard and structures and erection of 6 two storey and 6 three storey residential dwellings with associated car parking, gardens and communal refuse store
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: Workshop, Office and Yard, Templar Terrace, Gibson Street, Ramsey.

Amended Plans

Members were advised that the revised plans addressed some of the concerns raised by the Commission when the application was first considered. Members expressed concern at the space available to facilitate the refuse wagon turning and problems that will occur on Shipyard Road due to increased traffic.

It was proposed by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed by 8 votes to 3 that an observation be submitted with regard to traffic management and the size of the turning area. Mrs. Wedgwood and Messrs’ Hankin and Oldham voted against.
(2018/19:289) Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Planning Applications:

REF NO: 3614
P.A. NO.: 18/01031/B
APPLICANT: Ramsey Town Commissioners
PROPOSED: Installation of insulated render cladding system to external walls, replacement roof tiles and works to existing retaining walls
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57 & 59, Queen’s Pier Road, Ramsey.

The Lead Member drew attention to this application, which has been submitted in the Commission’s name.

No comments were made on the Appendices.

(2018/19:290) Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Sewer Works Mooragh Park:

Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 11th October, 2108, advising of the commencement of works to the sewer line in the Mooragh Park, from Parklands Day Nursery. Members were informed that it is envisaged that the overall cost will be below that budgeted.


Members considered the Town Clerk’s tabled report dated 16th October, 2018, advising of amendments proposed to the Town and Country Planning Act 1999 following a consultation held in 2017/18. The Town Clerk drew attention to an apparent lack of necessity within the draft Bill to obtain Tynwald approval to a National Policy Directive contrary to the preamble to the consultation.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed, the Town Clerk be requested to seek clarification on this matter thereby checking whether Tynwald approval is needed, in terms of the 1999 Act.

Housing and Property:

(2018/19:292) Housing and Property Manager Report - Auldyn Meadows Apartments:

Members considered the Housing and Property Manager’s report dated 10th October, 2018, advising of the action required to progress the acquisition of for two bedroomed apartments at Auldyn Meadows, in terms of the Section 13 (affordable housing) agreement in respect of the development.

Resolved: That, following a proposition by Mrs. Wedgwood, seconded by Mr. Oldham, and agreed by 9 votes to 2, the Business Case and petition for borrowing powers be progressed. Mrs. Quayle and Mr. Parker voted against.
(2018/19:293) Housing and Property Manager’s Report - Close Woirrey - Contractors’ Temporary Occupation:

Members considered the Housing and Property Manager’s report dated 9th October, 2018, advising of an agreed reduction in the contract preliminaries due to the use of empty properties at Close Woirrey and confirming the closure of the footpath along Queen’s Pier Road.

Members were advised that the reduced fees would not affect the Commission’s rate account as the sum would be offset from housing deficiency grant. The Town Clerk advised that there would need to be an Architect’s Instruction with regard to the reduction.

Discussion ensued with regard to the closure of the footpath. It was confirmed that the schools had been advised, diversions are in place and the areas lit. The Housing and Property Manager was requested to check that the diversion signs and lighting are adequate.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr Hankin and agreed by 10 votes to 1, Canon Greenwood voting against, that the Project Team be informed of the Commission’s concerns at the duration of the closure of the footpath and they be asked to do all they can to ensure such closure is kept to a minimum.

(2018/19:294) Housing and Property Manager’s Report - Kitchen Replacements:

Members considered the Housing and Property Manager’s report dated 10th October, 2018, advising of proposals to replace kitchens in 27 properties as a conclusion to the Kitchen Framework Agreement, insofar as properties in Ramsey are concerned.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mrs. Wedgwood, seconded by Mr. Oldham and agreed, that the replacements be progressed and the necessary petition for borrowing powers be submitted.

Mr. Monk declared a non-pecuniary interest and was able to vote.

Any Other Business:

(2018/19:295) Representative Reports:

Resolved: To note the representative reports:-
- Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board submitted by Mr. McGuinness
- Municipal Association Seminar - submitted by Mr. Cowie

The Chairman thanked the public and media representatives for attending and closed the public session at 8.06 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.

(2018/19:296) Minutes:

Resolved: To note that no matters from the Board meeting held on 19th September, reconvened on 20th September, and the special Board meeting held on 3rd October, 2018, had been recorded in private.

Matters for Information:

(2018/19:297) Housing Committee:

Resolved: To note and approve the minutes of the Housing Committee held on 2nd October, 2018, subject to the following:-

Clause 42b Correspondence - the Housing and Property Manager was asked to provide further information, with regard to possible over-crowding and to request a “settlement statement” from the tenant, concerning the sale of property.

Clause 46 - the Housing and Property Manager up-dated members on the trials being undertaken with regard to Air Source heating at Close Caarjys.


Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker”, to 17th October, 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:-

- **Decorative and Festive Lighting** - agreed that a presentation be made to a special meeting to be scheduled as soon as possible.
- **Unsightly Shop Premises** - some success has been noted and works are progressing on other properties.
- **War Memorial** - the War Memorial Committee has advised, verbally, that no grants are available but the Commission may undertake works to the Ramsey Memorial, for which the Chief Technical Officer was authorised to prepare a specification and seek tenders.
- **Slow Down in Our Town** - the Deputy Town Clerk advised that a media release will be made on 18th October. Members requested that the campaign be given as much prominence as possible.
- **Former Mart Site** - the Town Clerk verbally reported on receipt of a draft agreement, which reflected the of the Section 13 commuted sum over a 5 year period. It was resolved following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. Williams that the draft agreement be rejected as the Commission require the sum to be paid in full in advance.
- **Public Open Space** - noted this matter has been agreed in principle.
Finance and General Purposes:

(2018/19:299) **Town Clerk’s Report - Rate Arrears:**

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk’s report dated 11\textsuperscript{th} October, 2018, to which was appended a list of rate defaulters, provided by Treasury. The Town Clerk was instructed to raise concerns about the list with Treasury, not least rate debt shown as being in the name of various Government departments.

Members were informed that current year rates being paid by instalment are not included in the list of defaults. The Town Clerk was requested to include rate debt within the “Action Tracker” for future reference.

(2018/19:300) **Finance Officer’s General Report:**

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer’s Report dated 12\textsuperscript{th} September, 2018, subject to the following:

*Financial Accounts for the year ended 31\textsuperscript{st} March, 2018* - the Finance Officer reminded members that they could be provided with full copies of the accounts on request and that he would be only too willing to answer any questions they may have.

Works and Development:

(2018/19:301) **Chief Technical Officer’s Report - Boundary Wall Water Street:**

Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer’s report dated 29\textsuperscript{th} September, 2018, advising of on-going discussions with regard to the boundary wall at Water Street.

Mr. W. Young informed Members that he would discuss the matter with his son.

(2018/19:302) **Town Clerk’s Report - Ramsey Tram Station Draft Proposals:**

The Town Clerk’s report dated 17\textsuperscript{th} October, 2018, to which was attached draft concept documents for the Ramsey Tram Station, was tabled.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Hankin and agreed that the matter be deferred to a special meeting of the Commission.
Parks and Leisure:


Resolved: To note the Deputy Town Clerk’s report dated 12th October, 2018, advising of the change of format to the 2019 CycleFest Isle of Man.

It was further resolved, following a proposal by Mr. Cowie, seconded by Mr. Hankin and agreed that the Commission support the new proposals and permit the Gran Fondo event to be held on Sunday, 21st July, for which logistical support will be given. Members were informed there should be no conflict with Ramsey Carnival which will be held on 20th July.


Resolved: To note the Chief Technical Officer’s Report dated 11th October, 2018, to which was appended a response from North Ramsey Bowling Club for on-going options being considered for the future operation of the bowling green.

It was noted that fees due to 31st March, 2019, had been paid.

(2018/19:304) Deputy Town Clerk’s Report - Ramsey Courthouse Management Committee:

Resolved: To note the Deputy Town Clerk’s report dated 12th October, 2018, to which was appended minutes of a meeting of the Courthouse Sub-Committee held on 24th September, 2018.

The Town Clerk was directed to seek an early meeting with an interested party to further discuss the matter.

Any Other Business:

(2018/19:305) Walk Way - Victoria Mall:

Members referred to the closure of the Walk-way leading between the Parliament Street and the car park of the Co-op in Christian Street. The Town Clerk advised members that the walk-way forms part of the lease agreement between the owner of the Victoria Mall and the Co-op and is not a public right of way. Members felt that the loss of the walk-way, as would appear to be the case in view of recent development work would be to the detriment of shoppers.

The Town Clerk was instructed to make enquiries about its closure.
Matters of Establishment:

(2018/19:306) Minutes Establishment Committee:

Resolved: To note and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 1st October, 2018. Members were informed that an offer of employment with regard to the Technical Services Manager has been made and they will be informed if and when the offer is accepted.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m. giving a time of 3.00 hours for payment of attendance allowances.

[Signature]

Chairman.