

Town Hall,
Parliament Square,
Ramsey,
Isle of Man.

www.ramsey.gov.im

13th January, 2022.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The monthly **Public Meeting** of the Ramsey Town Commissioners will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday evening next, **19th January, 2022**, in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Ramsey.

BUSINESS:

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** Revd. Canon N. D. Greenwood and Mr. L. I. Singer
- 2. Minutes for Adoption:** page(s): 1 – 17
 - Minutes of Board Meeting held on 15th December, 2021.
 - Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on 21st December, 2021.
- 4. Matters arising not included within the Agenda.**
- 5. Matters for Information:** page(s): 18 - 22
 - Action Tracker – January, 2022.
- 6. Finance and General Purposes:** page(s): 23 - 34
 - Town Clerk's Report(s):
 - Abolition of Wards
 - Sale of Land Mayfield
 - Finance Officer's General Report(s):
 - Accounts
 - Summary of Revenue Income and Expenditure
 - Rates

7. Works and Development:

page(s): 35 - 42

- Town Clerk's Report(s):
 - Ramsey Quay Planning Application
 - Additional Electric Vehicle Charging Points Market Square
- Technical Services Manager's Report(s):
 - Planning Application
 - Appendix

8. Parks and Leisure:

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- Deputy Town Clerk's Report(s):
 - Gran Fondo
 - Mooragh Area Sporting Events
 - Shennaghys Jiu

9. Any other Business:

page(s): 46 - 52

(by permission of Chairman - any will be advised)

- Matters Raised by the Public
 - ❖ Register of Members' Interests
- Representative Report(s):
 - ❖ Ramsey Chamber of Commerce
 - ❖ Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board



T. R. K. Cowin,
Town Clerk & Chief Executive

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
[PUBLIC]

The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 15th December, 2021, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. A. J. Oldham, Ms L. L. Craine, Messrs' A. R. Beighton, G. S. Court, R. D. Cowell, Canon N. D. Greenwood, S. R. Kelly, J. McGuinness, L. Parker and W. G. Young.

Apologies: Messrs F. B. R. Williams and L. I. Singer.

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

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Tim Cowin, as newly appointed Town Clerk to his first public Board Meeting.

(2021/22:232) Bye-Election North Ward:

The Chairman, in his capacity as Returning Officer, referred to the Bye-Election in North Ward held on 25th November 2021, and in welcoming the new members of the Board to their first public board meeting presented Mr. Luke Parker, Ms Lamara Louise Craine and Mr. Adam Robert Beighton with their Certificate of Election for the unexpired term ending 1st May 2025.

(2021/22:233) Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 17th November, 2021, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

(2021/22:234) Matters Arising:

No matters were raised.

Matters for Information:

(2021/22:235) Action Tracker December, 2021:

Resolved: To note the "Action Tracker" to 15th December, 2021, subject to the following and accepting that some matters may be referred to within other Clauses of these minutes:-

Parking – Members were reminded that a special meeting will take place on Tuesday, 21st December, 2021, at which the Minister for Infrastructure will be accompanied by the Director of Highways and it was considered opportune to discuss parking at that meeting.

(2021/22:235) Action Tracker December 2021 Continued:

Toilet Art – the Deputy Town Clerk informed members that the artist was waiting for suitably clement weather to commence the art work.

Ramsey Quayside – noted that a Special meeting with the Minister is to be held on 21st December, 2021.

Planning Enforcement –Mr. Cowell conveyed the dissatisfaction of the party concerned at the actions and decisions taken in the matter. The history of the actions, in that change of use of property in an area of the town zone “Industrial” in the Strategic Plan had been breached were explained for new members, the zoning being in place to ensure that retail trade does not become removed from the town centre.

Empty Pubs – the Deputy Town Clerk advised that the brewery’s proposals are yet to be received.

Public Toilets (Hire for TT) – the Housing and Property Manager informed members that he will submit a report to the January 2022 Board Meeting and in response to a question from Mr. McGuinness confirmed that ordering the units in January would be in sufficient time.

Area Plan for North and West – the Town Clerk informed members that a response had been received from the Cabinet Minister that afternoon advising that the Minister believes the addition of sites is acceptable in view of further consultations, etc., required to be progressed.

Live Streaming of Meetings – Mr. McGuinness informed members that he had provided rough costings to the Deputy Town Clerk.

Bicycle Shelters – the Town Clerk informed members that the shelters, to be provided and installed by the Department have been ordered and should be delivered within the first quarter of 2022.

Cronk Elfin Refurbishment – the Housing and Property Manager informed members that the scheme is scheduled to start in March 2022 after which monthly reports will be provided.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2021/22:236) Town Clerk’s Report – Bye Election North Ward:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk’s report dated 8th December, 2021, detailing the result of the Bye-Election for three members of the Town Commission for North Ward held o 25th November, 2021, and advising that the Elections (Keys and Local Authorities) Act 2020 has an Appointed Day Order, will be laid before Tynwald as a result of which the legislation will come into effect from 1st July 2022.

(2021/22:237) Town Clerk's Report – Isle of Man Local Government Superannuation Scheme:

Resolved: To note and approve the Town Clerk's report dated 1st December, 2021, which details the response from the Douglas Borough Treasurer, on behalf of Administrators of the IOM Local Government Superannuation Scheme with regard to queries raised by the Commission with regard to the investments placed.

A proposal by Miss Craine, seconded by Mr. Court that the Administrators be informed that the actions go against the Climate Change Bill and Environment, Social and Governance issues and they be asked to consider divestment did not receive any further support on being put to the vote.

(2021/22:238) Town Clerk's Report – Municipal Association Meetings:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk's report dated 30th November, 2021, advising of dates of meetings in 2022 of the Isle of Man Municipal Association, and, where arranged the, speakers at such meetings.

(2021/22:239) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – Publication Scheme:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 8th December, 2021, concerning request made by Cabinet Office that the Commission respond to the principle of the introduction of a publication scheme for local authorities. Members noted the information published in a scheme operating in the UK and draft responses to the Cabinet Office's questionnaire.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness seconded by Mr. Parker and agreed that the draft response to the questionnaire be submitted, subject to Section 7 being expanded to reflect that the Commission has a greater number of policies in place beyond that of "Elections and Engagement".

(2021/22:240) Finance Officer's General Report:

Resolved: To note and approved the Finance Officer's general report dated 8th December, 2021.

Works and Development:

(2021/22:241) Town Clerk's Report – Climate Change Duties:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 1st December, 2021, detailing a presentation made by officers from the Cabinet Office with regard to climate change. A response to questions put at presentation, held on 15th November, 2021, were detailed.

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk's report.

(2021/22:241) Town Clerk's Report – Climate Change Duties Continued:

Mr. McGuinness commented that whilst it is important to add consideration of climate change issues to budgetary proposals the Commission must be able to qualify why decisions and actions, that would not appear to have regard to these, have been taken.

(2021/22:242) Town Clerk's Report – National Broadband Strategy:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 30th November, 2021, advising of the request made by Manx Telecom to meet with the Commission to discuss the status of the National Broadband Plan.

Resolved: That a special meeting be arranged no earlier than February 2022.

(2021/22:243) Town Clerk's Report – Riverside Development Proposals:

Resolved: to note the Town Clerk's report dated 1st December, 2021, advising of the developers' "Zoom" questions and answers presentation held on 6th December, 2021, concerning the development of land at Ballachrink Farm, Ramsey. It is understood the presentation will be made available to view on the developers' website.

(2021/22:244) Town Clerk's Report – Section 13 Agreement PA 20/00433/B:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk's report dated 1st December, 2021, advising that the Seton 13 Agreement in respect of the commuted sum in lieu of the provision of affordable housing and public open space has been signed by all parties. The commuted sum will be paid to the Commissioners no later than the habitation of the first dwelling sold.

(2021/22:245) Town Clerk's Report – Town Centre 20 mph Proposals

Members discussed the Town Clerk's report dated 30th November, 2021, concerning the proposal to introduce 20 mph speed limits in certain areas of the town centre and advising of discussions held with the Department of Infrastructure with regard to the practicalities of implementing the proposals. Members noted that the proposals now included West Quay because the Department feel it undesirable to place the number of street signs needed to advise of and detail the zones. The proposals also include the siting of a "tabled" pedestrian crossing point which would result in the loss of 2 parking places from Parliament Street.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk seek more details about the siting of the pedestrian crossing and the matter be discussed at the Special Meeting to be held on 21st December.

Mr. McGuinness asked if the steepness of the traffic calming measures in the vicinity of the Courthouse Grounds could be brought to the attention of the Department.

(2021/22:246) Technical Services Manager's Report - Planning Applications:

Resolved: To note the Technical Services Manager's Report dated 8th December, 2021, detailing planning applications received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, under the planning consultation procedures, be noted and no objections be made to such applications.

Housing and Property:

(2021/22:247) Town Clerk's Report – Public Sector Housing Rents and Allowances:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk's report dated 29th November, 2021, advising of the increases in rent, administration allowance and maintenance allowance for public sector housing for the year commencing 1st April, 2022, as applied by the Department of Infrastructure.

Mr. Parker queried a policy that the Department had mooted some years ago to apply a 5-year fixed rental policy – the Housing and Property Manager informed members that he understood that the matter was still under discussion.

Parks and Leisure:

(2021/22:248) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – Lhergy Frissell Hill Climb:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 8th December, 2021, advising of the request made by the Manx Motor Racing Club Ltd., for the closure of certain roads to facilitate their 2022 Manx Classic Event.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Court seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed that the Commission is supportive of the road closure and suspension of parking on Saturday, 30th April, 2022, in the vicinity of Lhergy Frissell and Lheaney Road, between 9.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m..

Notice of Motion:

(2021/22:249) Amalgamation of South and North Ward:

Mr. Cowell put the Notice of Motion standing in his name 9th November, 2021, namely

“That, in accordance with Part 9 of the Local Government Act, 1985, a scheme is prepared and submitted to the Department of Infrastructure to reduce the number of wards within the Ramsey Town District to a single ward with twelve elected Members.”

(2021/22:249) Amalgamation of South and North Ward:

Attention was drawn to the need, in terms of Standing Order 20(2), to suspend such Standing Orders to allow the matter to be considered within six months of it having been previously presented to the Commission. Mr. McGuinness explained the provision of Standing Orders and proposed their suspension. The proposal was seconded by Mr. Young and agreed.

Discussion ensued during which members expressed the view that irrespective of which ward they are elected to – they represent the town. Mr. Cowell commented that he was expressing the view of the public that they wanted “One Town, One Commission, One Ward” and his view that having one ward would generate greater interest in the Commission and elections. Mr. Parker commented on the cost implications to the Town.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Ms Craine, seconded by Mr. Kelly that the matter be deferred for further reporting, including costings. The proposal was carried by 6 votes to 4 – Messrs Beighton, Cowell, Parker and Young voting against. Members were informed that Departmental approval will be required to the proposals.

The matter will be included within the “Action Tracker” for further report.

Any Other Business:

(2021/22:250) Representative Report – Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board:

Resolved: To note the representative report submitted by Mr. McGuinness in respect of a recent meeting of the Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board.

(2021/22:251) Sundry Matters:

Ms Craine drew attention to the following matters and was advised as detailed:-

Late Opening Public Conveniences – it had been an oversight not to have had the public conveniences open beyond the usual times during the time of the recent Young Farmers’ Tractor Run – it was noted that applicants for events usually make a request for public conveniences to be open this but it will be included in a “check-list” should the event be repeated.

Bathing Huts South Promenade – it was noted that there are no plans at the moment for the provision of bathing huts on the South Promenade.

Close Caarjys Pathways – problems with water ponding on pathways in the vicinity of Close Caarjys will be investigated and if necessary reported to the Department of Infrastructure.

Ms Craine was informed that matters of this nature could be brought directly to the attention of members of staff.

(2021/22:252) Finance Officer's Report – Bank Account Signatories:

Members considered the Finance Officer's report dated 15th December, 2021, concerning the changes necessary to signatories to bank accounts held by the Commissioners.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Oldham and carried without division, that with effect from 1st January, 2022, Mr. T. R. K. Cowin be approved as a signatory to all of the Commission's bank accounts and Mr. T. P. Whiteway and Mr. P. S. Harrison be removed as signatories, also from 1st January, 2022.

The Chairman thanked the public and media for attending and closed the public session at 8.10 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.

(2021/22:253) Minutes:

Resolved: To note, for record purposes, that no minutes from the Board meeting held on 17th November, 2021, were recorded in private and that those of the private budgetary meeting held on 8th December, 2021, will be presented at the January, 2022, Board meeting.

Matters for Information:

(2021/22:254) Housing Committee:

Members were advised that the meeting of the Housing Committee held on 7th December, 2021, subject to the following:-

Clause 73a) Notice to Quit – the Housing and Property Manager explained the circumstances, in that the tenant would not engage with staff members trying to help and thereby avoid the last resort of Court Proceedings now being taken against the tenant. Members were informed that although some tenants had greater rent debts payment plans were in place and, albeit slowly, the debts were being reduced.

Clause 77 – Vacant Properties – Mr. Parker referred to the number of vacant properties and was informed that this was because several tenants had recently been offered transfers to the new Mayfield properties. Mr. Parker asked if members could be advised of the numbers on the housing waiting lists.

Clause 79a) – Purchase 2 Electronic Tablets – it was proposed by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed that the tablets be purchased, subject to them being able to be properly secured.

Clause 79b) – Removal of names from Committee Reports - it was proposed by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Oldham and agreed that future Housing Committee reports do not include names.

(2021/22:255) On-Going Matters “Action Tracker”:

Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker” to 15th December, 2021, subject to the following and accepting that some matters may be referred to within other Clauses of these minutes:-

- **Rates Arrears** – the Town Clerk undertook to determine the current status of discussion with the Government Valuer.
- **Off-Street Parking** – the Deputy Town Clerk informed members that no correspondence has yet been received from the company selling the former Albert Road Site.

Members asked officers to ensure that the tracker was included with the distributed agenda papers in future.

Members also considered the tabled schedule of Ruinous Buildings as presented by the Technical Services Manager, to 15th December, 2021, subject to the following:-

- **10/11 West Quay** – it was confirmed that an application for demolition has been submitted and the owner is now in correspondence with DEFA and the Fire Service.

The Technical Services Manager informed members of her understanding that it was the wish of members that she give a talk to the Board about the Ruinous Buildings – this will be arranged after the budget / rate setting process.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2021/22:256) Town Clerk’s Report – Leave of Absence:

Resolved: That in accordance with the detail of the Town Clerk’s report dated 6th December, 2021, and following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness seconded by Mr. Court and agreed Mr. L. I. Signer be granted leave of absence in terms of Section 12 of the Local Elections Act 1986.

(2021/22:257) Finance Officer’s Report:

Resolved: To note and approved the Finance Officer’s Report dated 8th December, 2021, subject to the following:-

Bank Balances – the Finance Officer explained a query from Mr. Parker with regard to the difference in the heating reserve in 2021 as compared to 2020 – in that a reserve is desirable to keep communal heating costs to tenants as low as possible.

Potential Aged Debt Write-Off – it was proposed by Mr. McGuinness seconded by Mr. Court and agreed to write off, for accounting purposes the aged debt detailed in Appendix 4 to the report. Mr. McGuinness explained the history to this debt and members asked if future leases should include provision for personal or shareholder guarantees.

Works and Development:

(2021/22:258) Town Clerk's Report – Bleak House:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 8th December, 2021, advising of the request made by the owner of leasehold interests at Bleak House, Mooragh Promenade, to meet with the Commission.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Parker and agreed that the company be invited to meet the Commission in February 2022 to present the requirements to repair the property and their views in how to progress their proposals.

The Technical Services Manager asked members to be mindful of how they progressed this matter to avoid any precedents being set.

(2021/22:259) Town Clerk's Report – Queen's Pier Lighting:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 30th November, 2021, concerning the request made by the Queen's Pier Restoration Trust for assistance with the potential provision of lighting on the Queen's Pier. Reference was made to Section 254 of the Local Government Consolidation Act 1916 which refers to this matter.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Court and agreed that the Town Clerk determine whether agreement can be made with a Trust in respect of the provision of electricity only and to an amount to be decided.

(2021/22:260) Technical Services Manager's Report – Christmas Lights:

Resolved: To note the Technical Services Manager's report dated 6th December, 2021, detailing costs and options available to the Commission for the provision of decorative lighting and give the matter further consideration as part of the budgetary process.

Members reported that the public was split as to the desirability or otherwise of the provision of decorative lighting but agreed to consider the provision further during the budget process. The Deputy Town Clerk, in response to a query, undertook to explore the possibility of seeking sponsorship for decorative lighting.

Mr. Kelly queried the playing of music from the Courthouse and was advised of the lack of a suitable licence, other than for part of the grounds and was advised that because the area was partially residential it was occasionally a cause of complaint when music was played at the Courthouse due to the height of the speakers.

Housing and Property:

(2021/22:261) Housing and Property Manager's Report – Toilet Cleaning Contract 2022:

Resolved: That, further to the Housing and Property Manager's report dated 8th December, 2021, and a proposal by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed, expressions of interest and the tender process be commenced in respect of the five-year contract for cleaning the town's public conveniences.

Members noted that the contract will commence on 1st April, 2022. The Housing and Property Manager advised members that he would go through the "tender pack" with any member wishing further information.

Parks and Leisure:

(2021/22:262) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – Radio Caroline Weekend":

Resolved: That, further to the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 8th December, 2021, and a proposal by Mr. Court, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed, the Commission support and offer logistical assistance for the concept of a Radio Caroline weekend being organised in 2022.

(2021/22:263) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – Scenic Car Tours:

Resolved: That, further to the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 8th December, 2021, and a proposal by Mr. Court, seconded by Mr. Cowell and agreed, the Commission provide initial support, including road closures, to facilitate motoring events being staged by Scenic Car Tours during the Festival of Motoring in 2022 and 2023.

(2021/22:264) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – TT Fan Zone:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk's tabled report dated 14th December, 2021, concerning a request received from the Department for Enterprise with regard to the creation of a "TT Fan Zone" style area in Ramsey during TT 2022. Members noted that the proposals could require use of the Town Hall's Atrium and Boardroom. Members were advised that long-standing booking exist with regard to the Boardroom.

Discussion ensued during which a proposal was put by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Oldham that the Commission agreed to support the principle of the Fan Zone area and with regret cancel the existing bookings. An amendment was put by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Beighton that the Fan Zone be supported but the existing bookings be honoured if possible.

(2021/22:264) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – TT Fan Zone Continued:

A further amendment was put by Mr. Beighton, seconded by Mr. Parker and ultimately agreed to support the Fan Zone, honour the existing bookings if possible but should it not be possible ask the organisers make recompense, possibly by way of tickets to attend any events to be held in the Boardroom.

It was noted that further discussions will be held with the Department for Enterprise.

The meeting closed at 9.47 p.m. giving a time of 3 hours for the payment of attendance allowances.

Chairman.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
[PUBLIC]

A Special Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Ramsey, on Tuesday, 21st December, 2021, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. A. J. Oldham, Ms L. L. Craine, Messrs' A. R. Beighton, G. S. Court, S. R. Kelly, J. McGuinness, L. Parker, F. B. R. Williams and W. G. Young.

Apologies: Messrs Rev Canon N. D. Greenwood and L. I. Singer. R. D. Cowell

The Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and Technical Services Manager.

The Chairman welcomed The Hon. T. Crookall, M.H.K., Minister of the Department of Infrastructure (DOI) and Mr Jeffery Robinson Director of Highways, who attended the meeting by invitation.

(2021/22:265) The Quayside Proposal and Planning Application:

The Town Clerk stated that the Commissioners are keen to work with the Department and for there to be a collaborative relationship. The loss of parking is the real issue with the scheme. The Commissioners and Department agree that Ramsey needs to be protected from flooding and that the concrete slabs that make up the roadway are broken and in a poor state of repair and the roadway needs to be reconstructed. The current planning application is disappointing in that there is a significant loss of parking. It was explained that parking is vital for the town and that its loss would put the Commissioners and the DOI at loggerheads. A way to move forward with a shared goal needs to be identified.

Mr. Robinson stated that he was not wanting to force the issue on the people and the town and that he recognised parking as an issue. He then spoke of the purchase and lease of Albert Road school site. The story in relation to this site seemed to be confused, however it was agreed that the DOI purchasing the site and then the commissioners renting the site back for a 10-year period was no longer a viable option. He stated that he could not build anything in the next financial year so there is some time, but he did not want it to go on for another 3 years.

Mr. McGuinness said that there was no point going back over things, flood protection is needed, the roadway needs to be renovated and there needs to be minimal impact on the fishing fleet. What is critical though is that parking is the big issue and a "hard line".

(2021/22:265) The Quayside Proposal and Planning Application Continued:

Mr. Young said that at the last meeting there was considerable interest from the public and the room was full. It was clear that the people of Ramsey did not want the scheme. All that is required is a 2 ft high wall with no projections, no glass wall, and not 2m high.

Ms Craine asked why so many parking spaces had been removed, for no apparent reason and the introduction of the wall and footpath narrowed the roadway.

Mr. Robinson explained that the designers had from a safety perspective introduced the path adjacent to the wall. This being so that people can get out of their car and get onto a pavement without having to directly cross the road.

The Chairman said that there is nothing in legislation requiring this.

Mr. Robinson said that this was true but there is guidance, not legislation and that a designer can deviate from the guidance, but they must justify the reason, a designer could “go to jail” if it was proven not to be safe following an accident.

The Chairman said that the wall could be added to later to increase its height.

Mr. Robinson said that the design was to UK best practice and was for a 1 in 200-year storm for 100 years’ time.

Mr. McGuiness asked with the herringbone car parking what is the height of the wall required? Is it possible for someone to step over the wall?

Mr. Robinson stated that if they were going to make an investment and build the wall that they would do it only once and they would not come back and raise the wall at a later date as it would cost double.

Mr. McGuiness asked that the height of the wall be reduced at the western end as the land rises from Market place up towards the top of the harbour. Mr Robinson said that he would provide level information.

Ms Craine asked if the fishing industry had been consulted?

Mr Robinson said that there had been consultation with the fishing industry, they had wanted it left as it is, following discussions there had been some compromises and the area by the Swing Bridge had removable panels for the unloading of lobster baskets.

Mr. Court asked if there was any mitigation over the loss of parking – and any internal discussions?

Mr. Robinson said things had evolved over time and subsequently RTC has hardened its views

(2021/22:265) The Quayside Proposal and Planning Application Continued:

Mr. McGuinness stated that as a board the Commission definitely want flood defences so made some allowances, but parking has always been a hard red line.

Mr. Robinson said he was unwilling to put resource into the project until there is common ground and a steer from the board- the views of the board are required.

Mr. McGuinness wants more options re parking over 50% loss of parking is too much. Need the DOI to come back with options we are not experts.

Mr. Robinson asked for bullet point priorities.

Mr Parker said parking is the biggest issue, he liked the scheme, but it needs to be reconfigured to maximise parking.

Mr. Court said that it was a red line for parking, and asked had the Department “spit balled” any ideas?

Mr. Robinson said that the flood wall could be moved to the edge of the harbour like in Castletown, this could work and give the extra space for parking.

Mr. Beighton asked if the parking could be moved to the other side of the road?

Mr. Robinson wanted confirmation of the design assumption for the wall and that was that the wall was for a 1 in 200-year storm event in 100 years’ time.

Mr. Mc Guinness said that we would send in bullet points after discussion.

Mr. Young said that the quay suits everyone now apart from the flooding.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk to write to Mr Robinson stating the priority of the design constraints as bullet points.

(2021/22:266) Parking Survey

Mr Robinson stated that a Parking Strategy has been written by the Department. This is still going through its sign of process. In addition, there have been two reports one undertaken by a STEP student and one done by the DOI. He believed that the information was fairly up to date and that there was no shortage of parking in Ramsey. The DOI report can be shared with the board.

Mr. Parker asked about enforcement, and Mr Robinson said that the board have the power to do parking enforcement.

(2021/22:267) Flood Defences for Ramsey Promenades

Mr Robinson said the damage to the Queen's Promenade wall is superficial and the section of wall that was washed away will be replaced. The wall is generally in good condition and there is no damage to the lower section of the wall so the fix will be straight forward. There are no plans to do anything to the wall at this stage, there is overtopping but most of the properties on South Prom are protected by a set back wall. Mr. Young said that the removal of sand and gravel from Queen's Promenade is complete, and he recommended doing more work in March to lower the level on the beach to prevent issues.

Mr. Robinson said that digging down was a bad idea as the maximum wave height is a function of the depth of water so digging down increases the depth of water and the maximum wave height. There are loads of voids under the wall and walkway on the Mooragh Promenade. As the sand bank has been designated an Area of Special Scientific Interest there is nothing that he can do to address issues before they happen, effectively he is waiting for the wall to be undermined and fail before he can take any action.

Mr. Young said that when the old wooden pier was infilled this caused the problem on the North shore and caused the sand to build up.

Mr. McGuinness asked if there was anything that could be done to protect the shelters on the Mooragh Promenade especially the first one.

Ms Craine asked if there was a way to protect the ASSI whilst undertaking work to protect the wall on Mooragh Promenade.

Mr Robinson said that this was not a priority and that they could not determine where the voids were.

(2021/22:268) Local Government Reform

The Minister is due to speak at the Municipal Association, it was asked if he could cover this topic at that meeting.

The Minister responded that this may well move from the DOI but he would cover this item at the Municipal Association if it was still part of his remit.

(2021/22:269) Ramsey Boundary Extension

The Minister stated that he had signed a paper to enable the request for a Public Inquiry to progress to Tynwald (probably February Sitting). This will be at least a 6-month process.

(2021/22:270) Bus Services in the North

Mr McGuinness said that the connection with the west at the weekend was poor and that the last bus to Ramsey was 10.15 p.m. - this being earlier than during the week.

The Minister was keen to get feedback on the new APP and said he would be happy to come back and speak at some time in the future.

(2021/22:271) Heritage Railway Footpath/Cycle Path

The creation of a path is still a priority. The stretch between Ramsey and Sulby is mainly in private ownership. Some owners have welcomed the idea but there are one or two of the landowners who are opposed to the path. Mr. Robinson said that it was hoped that negotiating with the landowners would be sufficient to enable the path to open, but he did add that legislation was being developed and used.

(2021/22:272) The Introduction of urban 20mph speed limits

Mr Robinson had information on the proposed 20mph for the quay and drawings of the two features for Parliament Street, being the change to the zebra crossing by the "Trawlerman" Fish and Chip shop and then a ramp feature at Christian Street. The ACU have been consulted on the zebra crossing as it is a run off area and it will only be raised by 50mm.

Mr Robinson considered the crossing at Christian Street to be a nice to have and he could see no issue in not having it. The drawing showed the removal of two parking spaces.

(2021/22:273) Traffic Calming Regeneration Area:

The raised tables in the regeneration area of the town are too steep and cause issues with cars grounding, damaging the cars and the road. Mr Robinson was asked if he would be addressing the issues. He responded saying that finances were tight and this was not high on his list of priorities.

(2021/22:274) Any other Business

Mr Parker asked if parking enforcement was covered in the Parking Strategy document?

Mr Robinson responded that the Parking Strategy is a high-level document and was not a plan of activities so did not cover items such as this. He said that RTC could train their own officers.

(2021/22:274) Any other Business Continued:

Ms Craine asked if when estates were being planned that Active Travel be considered to ensure that there are footpaths and cycle routes.

Mr Robinson said that Manual for Manx Roads had been updated, was a design guide for developers and that Active Travel was covered in that document.

Ms Craine also asked if there were any numerical targets to reduce travel from Ramsey to Douglas. Mr Robinson said that there are currently no targets, but there is a traffic monitor on the mountain road, his last recollection of the figures was that there was a 70% decrease in vehicles during the first lock down.

The Chairman thanked Minister Crookall and Mr Robinson for their attendance, and they left the meeting at 8.35 p.m.

Further discussion took place on Christian Street speed calming feature Clause 272 refers.

There was seen to be little merit in the traffic calming feature as proposed in the drawings tabled, and the loss of at least two parking spaces being an issue.

A motion that the Christian Street ramp feature should not be installed was proposed by Mr. McGuiness, seconded by Mr. Parker, and carried unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m. giving a time of 3 hours for the payment of attendance allowances.

Chairman.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Last Update	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
	Adoption of Land Traie Twoie	Agreement to adopt subject to Petition.	Report on Agenda November 2019. Developers proposals for parking require planning consent, developer to delineate none adoption areas before completion. Parking would require planning consent. Awaiting developer action.	FGP	Dec-19	TRKC		
	Ramsey North Beach	Options to improve/promote use of beach. DEFA rejected Bathing Beach application sue to lack of water quality data, testing to be undertaken during 2021.	Budget bid for initial improvements of: - beach rafts- <i>officers viewed other on island rafts. DOI consulted over sinking of anchor block. South beach raft installed</i> - distance markers on prom - <i>RTC Sourcing through Signrite</i> - BBQ area, with beach hut, tables in Section 13 land at GI site (should be no cost to RTC) Awaiting developer action Future options: - pods and showers	PL	Jan-22	SB		
	Parking	Officers to report on options to improve parking	STEP student report tabled at September 2019 meeting. Officers to produce an analysis of the recommendations contained in the report. Separate report to be provided on parking enforcement for December 2019. DOI have indicated a parking strategy consultation is to commence and clarity is being sought on this prior to reporting further. Study requested in response to planning application for West Quay. Meeting with the DOI Director of Highways and Minister. Island Parking Strategy still to be approved within DOI. Awaiting DOI Action.	WD	Jan-22	SB		

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Last Update	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
	Shelter Public Art	Call to artists to submit designs prior to IOMAC application	First two shelters now complete. Protective coating was applied 11/1/22. 3rd shelter has been commissioned and weather permitting will commence at the beginning of March, the artwork has been sponsored by a private individuals.	PL	Jan-22	SB		
	Toilet Art	Isle of Man Arts Council Public Toilet Art	This work to be undertaken by artist - date to be agreed. Awaiting Arts Council.	PL	Jan-22	SB		
	Public Open Space	Vollan	Proposal to provide public open space at the Vollan against planning application for apartments on land at Mooragh Promenade. Awaiting draft legal documentation and commencement date for works to be completed prior to transfer. Petition approved and notified to developer. Developer promoting alternative development proposals for Mooragh Promenade which would obviate requirement to provide POS - to which the Board has objected as over intensive.	WD	Jul-20	TRKC		
	Changing Huts Mooragh Promenade	Planning application submission	Further information and scale drawings requested by planning authority and resubmitted. Planning approved. Scheme deferred until status of bathing water known. Testing being undertaken during 2021 season.	HP	Jul-20	MC		

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Last Update	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
	Ramsey Quayside	RTC opposed to overall scheme due to parking loss	DOI considering additional parking and request agreement to hold public display for consultation prior to planning. DOI negotiation acquisition of Albert Road site for parking, further report awaited. Meeting held 28 October 2020. Report on January 2021 Agenda. DOI requested to provide samples and advise on parking proposals. Town Clerk met Director of Highways 24/2/21 confirmatory correspondence awaited in relation to car parking options. Further meeting with Minister held May 2021. Board resolved to defer consideration of support for the submission of a planning application to the new Board. Public display and meeting to be hosted by DOI prior to planning application submission. Objection to application submitted. Following the meeting with Minister on 21st December 2021 the planning application has been withdrawn.	WD	Jan-22	TRKC		
	3 Legs - North Barrule	RTC opposed planning application, application withdrawn, DEFA indicate development under investigation for which RTC interest has been lodged.	Awaiting determination of the Planning Authority.	WD	May-21	TRKC		
	Planning Enforcement	Gladstone Park - 2 units	Reported for investigation update awaited. Town Clerk has provided property ownership details to Planning Authority as occupier has not submitted appropriate application despite request to do so. Meeting with Enforcement Officer sought to be held on date to be advised. Further property report for alleged breach 25/2/21 and update requested. PEO advise regulating application to be submitted. No additional information.	WD	Jul-21	TPW		

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Last Update	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
	Boundary Extension	Commission to make application for revision of Town Boundary under S6 Local Government Act 1985.	Formal submission made by Town Clerk 12/1/21. RTC responded to DOI enquiries re membership and ward boundaries. Request to detail precise boundary mapping received and a special meeting held to clarify. Final boundary large scale plans agreed with DOI. DOI Minister reported that the petition for an Public Inquiry is to go to February 2022 Tynwald. to progress.	FGP	Jan-22	TRKC		
	Empty Pubs	Concern regarding vacant properties and potential for deterioration in condition	Officers met with company on 26/10/21. Company agreed to tidy up Britannia and to write outlining future plans for all three sites. Awaiting details of future plans	WD	Nov-21	SB		
Jul-21	Ramsey Swing Bridge	Request inclusion in Register of Protected Buildings	TC wrote to DEFA 19/7/21 requesting consideration. Reply received 27 July 2021- initial assessment complete and for progression by protected buildings officer.	WD	Aug-21	TRKC		
	Public Toilets	Provision for TT 2022 following closure of Station Road facilities	Consider hire facilities and report on longer term proposals. Report in Jan 2022.	WD/HP	Jan-22	BW/MC		
	Fibre Broadband	Request for easements for service poles	Advice to be sought from Valuer, meeting with MT to be held following Bye-Election, report on December Agenda. Meeting planned with MT 23/2/22.	FGP	Sep-21	TRKC		
	Area Plan for North and West	Addition of sites after the close of the call for sites period	Town Clerk has written to Chief Minister requesting that the matter be referred to HM Attorney General for advice. Acknowledgment received. Response received Dec 21, and tabled at Dec Board meeting- item to be removed Feb 2022.	WD	Nov-21	TPW		

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Last Update	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
Oct-21	Live Streaming of Meetings	To be introduced prior to 2022 AGM	Initial meetings held with advisors as to the most suitable way of live streaming. Currently in budget discussions.	FGP	Nov-21	SB	01/05/2022	
Nov-21	Bicycle Shelters	DOI seeking to provide 3 shelters within the town as part of Active Travel initiative. Siting will be subject to planning consents.	Locations proposed to DOI and subject to confirmation. Have been ordered by the DOI and are waiting delivery to the Isle of Man.	WD	Nov-21	BW		
Nov-21	Cronk Elfin Refurbishment	Contracts signed	Monthly update reports to be provided following commencement on site	HP	Nov-21	MC		
Dec-21	Adoption of land at Auldryn Walk, Ramsey	Developer seeking to transfer public amenity spaces to RTC for adoption.	Petition submitted. To be consideration after 17/12/21.	FGP				

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**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
ABOLITION OF TOWN WARDS
JANUARY, 2022 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Following the decision taken in December, 2021, to defer consideration of this matter to enable further information to be provided to members.

History of Elections:

The current system of Local Authority General Election, whereby all local authority members stand for election at the same time came into force in 2004. At the same time the term of office was extended from 3 years to 4 years. Prior to that date local authority elections were held on a rotational basis; the term of office was only 3 years and one third of the elected members stood for election each year. Below is a précis of “activity” of elections in each ward since the introduction of Local Authority General Elections:-

Date	North Ward	%age Poll	South Ward	%age Poll
Nov 2021 Bye Election	10 for 3	23.36%	n/a	---
July 2021 – General	3 for 6	No Poll	6 for 6	No Poll
2020 – General	Deferred	---	Deferred	---
July 2018 – Bye Elections	2 for 1	15.70%	2 for 1	16.5%
Oct 2016 – Bye Election	2 for 1	14.03%	n/a	---
May 2016 – Bye Election	n/a	---	2 for 2	No Poll
April 2016 – General	6 for 6	No Poll	5 for 6	No Poll
Aug 2015 – Bye Election	1 for 1	No Poll	1 for 1	No Poll
April 2012 – General	7 for 6	34.45%	7 for 6	27.90%
Nov 2011 – Bye Election	n/a	---	2 for 1	19.99%
April 2008 – General	11 for 6	47.54%	8 for 6	41.20%
Aug 2005 – Bye Election	1 for 1	No Poll	n/a	---
April 2004 – General	6 for 6	No Poll	8 for 6	33.81%

The reasons for Bye-elections vary and include insufficient candidates having been forthcoming at General Elections, elevation of members to the House of Keys, casual retirements, health grounds and death and members being disqualified.

The question of abolition of the Town Wards has been brought forward for consideration of numerous occasions in recent years but has never been progressed.

**Town Clerk's Report –Abolition of Town Wards –
January, 2022 – Private Continued:**

Election Costs:

An important factor in the abolition of wards will be costs. Costs from the recent Bye-Election are compared with those that might be expected in a combined Town Ward are detailed below and also reflected are costs for an un-contested election:-

Actions	Actual Bye- Election 2021 One Ward Contested	Combined Ward Future Contested	Combined Ward Future Un- contested	Comments
Advertising	£ 1,278.80	£ 2,400.00	£ 2,400.00	Inflationary rise guessed and based on the RTC giving Notice of the Election - Sections of Legislation require us to insert notices in the Newspaper(s) and these costs cannot be avoided.
Supply of Polling Cards	£ 520.00	£1,000.00	£ 0.00	Costs approximately doubled
Polling Cards - Postage	£ 2,408.65	£ 4,190.85	£ 0.00	Based on current voters' list numbers and postage @ 67p
Ballot Papers	£ 467.00	£800	£ 0.00	Costs approximately doubles
Election Fees – Staff	£ 1,808.81	£ 3,000.00	£ 194.00	The 2021 Bye-election staff at the 1 Polling Station was based at similar levels as used for the House of Keys Election, i.e. 1 Presiding Officer and 2 Poll Clerks at any one time. For Keys [which has Ramsey as a single constituency i.e. no wards] the Town was split into 4 polling areas albeit at 2 venues (based on ward boundaries). The staffing and time for one ward will be greater because at least 2 Polling Stations will be required, the count will take longer because of the

				hopefully increased number of voters and additional counting staff will probably be required. Fees for one ward are based on those in force at the time of this report (Local Election (Fees) Order 2020, and allowing for a counting time of 3 hours or under (fees increase if the count extends beyond 3 hours) but allowing an increase in the number of Presiding Officers Poll Clerks and Counting Clerks.
Polling Station – Hall hire	£ 0.00	£ 150.00	£ 0.00	Included in case St. Paul's Church Hall is hired (needs a full day plus set up and take down).
Direct Labour (moving booths etc,)	£ 65.00	£ 350.00	£ 0.00	We may have to borrow equipment from Cabinet Office which will require collection and return from Douglas and a fee for their staff being in attendance.
In house – clerical	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	This refers to general clerical duties and photocopying immediately pre-and post-election – this volume of work will undoubtedly increase but it is not possible to calculate the actual costs.
In House – Postage	£ 12.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	Self-explanatory includes pre and post-election correspondence including sending out Standing-Orders; Code of Conduct notes, etc.
Postal Voters Postage	£ 0.00	£ 67.00	£ 0.00	New legislation will provide for Postal Voting, rather than absent voting and this is an estimate based on 50 applicants and pre-paid postage requirements therefore 100 @.67p based on current postal rates.
	£6,093.26	£11,992.85	£2,629.00	

**Town Clerk's Report –of Town Wards –
January, 2022 – Private Continued:**

Therefore for each Election or Bye-Election the costs are doubled.

The fees for the Uncontested Local Authority General Elections held in July 2021 totalled £650 – but it should be noted that the Department published the Notice calling the Elections which for a usual insertion for vacancies (per the Notice of Election for the Bye-Election) is approximately £1,000.

In terms of the Local Government Act 1985, a scheme will require to be submitted to the Department and a Public Inquiry will follow in the process of abolishing the wards but the cost of this to the Town is not known but a budget in excess of £5,000 would not seem unreasonable. It is possible that the Department will ask the Commission to give consideration to reducing the number of Commissioners as part of the Scheme. The Department may then make an Order which shall not have effect unless it is approved by Tynwald. It is possible that a general election may require to be held upon abolition of the wards.

Should the Boundary Extension be progressed Election(s) will require to be held.

There may be additional costs to candidates in the number of manifestos they may wish to produce but this is at the discretion of individual candidates.

There are options available to the Commission:

- a) to delay progressing the matter to ensure that all Board members are full acquainted with the work of the Commission;
- b) to delay progressing the matter until such time as the Boundary Extension has been finalised;
- c) to progress the matter having regard to requirement for a Public Inquiry, Tynwald approval and thereafter a General Election;
- d) to maintain the status quo.

Recommendation: For discussion.

T. R. K. Cowin,
Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

6th January, 2022.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
SALE OF LAND - MAYFIELD
JANUARY 2022 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

In 2018 the Ramsey Town Commissioners transferred land at Mayfield to the Ramsey and Northern Districts Housing Committee [RNDHC] for nominal consideration of 25p to enable the development of the new Mayfield Elderly Persons Complex.

The transfer included covenants to the effect that –

1. should the RNDHC not complete the development to the satisfaction of the Commission within a period of 5 years from the date of conveyance, 31 August 2018, the site would revert to the Commission for consideration of 25p.
2. the RNDHC should operate the sheltered complex for the useful life of the building ;and
3. any buildings or alterations to the external appearance thereof require the Commission's written consent such not to be unreasonably withheld or arbitrarily withheld if planning consent has been obtained.

The development having been completed the Commission is invited to formally note that the covenant requiring substantial completion has now been met and is therefore no longer enforceable.

Recommendation: to be noted.

6th January, 2022.

Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
FINANCE OFFICER'S GENERAL REPORT
JANUARY 2022 - PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The following documents are appended for review and / or information:

1. A summary of accounts paid and suppliers used in December 2021 – Appendix 1.
2. Tabulated and graphical summaries of the Income and Expenditure for the period to 31st December 2021 – Appendix 2.

Accounts

Accounts of £1,215,731.45 were paid via the General Revenue Account and accounts of £19,004.57 were paid via the Northern Civic Amenity Site Account in December 2021. Details of the accounts paid and the suppliers utilised are attached at Appendix 1.

Recommendation : To be noted.

Summary of Revenue Income and Expenditure

A summary of the 2021-22 Income and Expenditure from 1st April to 31st December 2021 together with associated graphical depiction is attached at Appendix 2. The graphical disclosures are both month-by-month and cumulative figures.

Certain elements of capital expenditure incurred have been paid through the Revenue account and are to be financed by way of capital loans. They are not disclosed as part of Appendix 2 - the 2021-22 Income and Expenditure figures and graphs and they are:

Cronk Elfin – refurbishment scheme professional fees	£6,146.
Upper QPR – final refurbishment costs	£10,344.
Close Woirrey – design professional fees	£3,060.

Recommendation: To be noted.

Rates

During December 2021 £115,126 was received from the Treasury being the fourth instalment of rate income for the 2021-22 financial year (December 2020: £52,000 received re 2020-21 rate income).

At 31st December 2021 the total 2021-22 rate income receipts were £2,464,360 (at 31st December 2020 the 2020-21 rate receipts were £2,348,464).

Further rates income is expected in March 2022.

Recommendation: To be noted.

12th January 2022

N.Q. Cannell, FCCA
Finance Officer

Ramsey Town Commissioners

Accounts paid to the 31 December 2021

Appendix 1

Payee	Description	Amount (incl. VAT)
General Account		£
Bank	Bank loan repayments - capital element	439,237.56
Bank	Bank loan repayments - interest element	374,247.69
Staff	Wages, salaries, ITIP, NI & superannuation	189,531.62
IOM Government	Waste disposal charges	68,831.29
Various	New vehicle purchases	55,281.60
Various	Housing property repairs, maint. & safety checks	34,462.03
Manx Utilities	Electricity supply	8,748.55
Various	Commission property repairs, maint. & safety checks	6,538.13
Various	Vehicle maintenance, repairs & licences	5,711.33
Various	Refuse materials & equipment	3,981.92
Various	IT costs	3,909.61
Various	Office expenses - post, printing, stationery etc.	3,402.68
Banks	Bank & debit card charges	2,775.36
Various	Town events	2,621.58
Various	Legal & prof. : housing	2,312.84
Manx Utilities	Street lighting	2,217.60
Various	Park materials	2,106.64
Various	Contract cleaning	2,013.26
Ellan Vannin Fuels Ltd.	Fuel & heating oil	1,839.00
Account transfers	Rent refunds and R & N DHC rents collected by card	1,434.50
Various	Media & advertising	1,385.70
Manx Telecom	Phones	1,366.72
Various	Library books & materials	626.95
Various	Security & safety costs	562.29
Various	Staff training	330.00
Various	Gift vouchers	255.00
		<u>1,215,731.45</u>
Northern Civic Amenity Site		
IOM Govt.	Waste disposal costs	11,519.24
Various	Recycling charges	4,352.31
Various	Site maintenance	1,217.02
Various	Plant & equipment repair & maintenance	966.45
Various	Staff training	480.00
Manx Utilities	Heat & light	217.46
Various	Office & general expenses	168.24
Worldpay (UK) Ltd.	Debit card reader charge	59.30
Bank	Charges	24.55
		<u>19,004.57</u>

Ramsey Town Commissioners

Suppliers utilised during December 2021

Appendix 1

AB Photography Ltd.	IOM	MacOwan Collett Consulting Engineers Ltd.	IOM
ACE Hire & Sales Ltd.	IOM	Mac's Builders Merchants Ltd.	IOM
Allan C Swales Ltd.	IOM	Magnet IOM Ltd.	IOM
Argon Business Systems Ltd.	IOM	Mannin Media Group Ltd.	IOM
Argon Office Systems Ltd.	IOM	Mannin Retail Ltd.	IOM
Ashcrofts 1997 Ltd.	IOM	Manx Business Solutions Ltd.	IOM
Askews & Holts Library Services Ltd.	UK	Manx Control Systems Ltd.	IOM
Ballaneven Compost & Horticulture	IOM	Manx Telecom Ltd.	IOM
BHGS Horticulture Suppliers Ltd.	UK	Manx Utilities	IOM
Bloomling	UK	Marksman Locksmith	IOM
Buffalo Bowling & Leisure Ltd.	IOM	Marown TV	IOM
Callow Building Services Ltd.	IOM	Martin & Watson Ltd.	IOM
CE Richmond Ltd.	IOM	North Point Plastics Ltd.	IOM
City Electrical Factors IOM Ltd.	IOM	Oakland Gardens	UK
Colas IOM Ltd.	IOM	Outdoor Power & Plant Ltd.	IOM
Cuplas Callow IOM Ltd.	IOM	Paul Wheeler Ltd.	IOM
David Perry Electrical Contractors Ltd.	IOM	Phoenix Windows Ltd.	IOM
DQ Advocates Ltd.	IOM	P & M Window Cleaners Ltd.	IOM
Ellan Vannin Fuels Ltd.	IOM	PSM Lines	IOM
Farmers Combine Ltd.	IOM	Ramsey Automotive Centre Ltd.	IOM
Feltons Ironmongers	IOM	Ramsey Skips	IOM
Ferncroft Environmental IOM Ltd.	IOM	Ramsey Warehouse	IOM
Gareth Kinrade Electrical Contractors Ltd.	IOM	Suez Recycling & Recovery IOM Ltd.	IOM
G4S Secure Solutions (IOM) Ltd.	IOM	3FM Ltd.	IOM
Gough Electrical Ltd.	IOM	2 Clean	IOM
Haldane Fisher (IOM) Ltd.	IOM	The Garage Door & Gate Co.	IOM
Hersham Electrical Engineers Ltd.	IOM	TLC Business Solutions Ltd.	IOM
Investec Asset Finance Ltd.	IOM	Ulverscroft Ltd.	UK
IOM Government	IOM	Unique Fire Protection Ltd.	IOM
IOM Newspapers Ltd.	IOM	Vannin Office Point	IOM
Island IT Services Ltd.	IOM	Watsons Nurseries Ltd.	IOM
J P Corry (formerly Jewsons)	IOM	W.D.S. Ltd.	IOM
J Parker Dutch Bulbs (W'sale) Ltd.	UK	Whittaker Trading Ltd.	IOM
K & R Parts Ltd.	IOM	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd.	IOM
Keenan Construction Services Ltd.	IOM	Worldpay (UK) Ltd.	UK
Kirby Park Garden Centre	IOM	Yesss IOM Electrical Ltd.	IOM

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 2021 - Appendix 2

	2021-22 to date			Estimate for 2021-22		
Social Housing	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Housing Schemes	3,160,344	3,320,036	(159,692)	4,311,316	4,356,149	(44,833)
Cl. Woirrey/ Cl. y C Ghlass	5,153	1,449	3,704	5,500	2,130	3,370
Brookfield Court	6,986	7,548	(562)	15,050	13,420	1,630
Close ny Mooragh	15,600	15,251	349	28,800	31,300	(2,500)
New vans	0	0	0	83,100	83,100	0
Sub Total	£3,188,083	£3,344,284	(£156,201)	£ 4,443,766	£ 4,486,099	£ (42,333)

Property and Assets	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Town Hall	165,524	23,481	142,043	219,800	23,250	196,550
Workshops	70,271	0	70,271	95,110	0	95,110
Public Conveniences	31,084	0	31,084	58,850	0	58,850
Courthouse - loan repayment	14,800	0	14,800	14,800	0	14,800
Courthouse - maint., H & L etc.	9,150	2,755	6,395	12,200	2,650	9,550
Mansail Lease	2,346	6,937	(4,591)	6,020	10,275	(4,255)
Lakeside Centre	2,757	7,773	(5,016)	5,130	11,550	(6,420)
Parklands Day Nursery	1,939	11,387	(9,448)	2,620	17,900	(15,280)
Bowling Alley	504	10,625	(10,121)	2,000	15,000	(13,000)
Non-Lease Properties	1,507	0	1,507	6,150	0	6,150
Prom Shelters, etc	20,011	0	20,011	11,100	0	11,100
Private Property Repairs	5,182	813	4,369	10,500	0	10,500
CCTV town centre	801	0	801	4,350	0	4,350
Apprentices	4,611	0	4,611	0	0	0
R.N.D.H.C.	28,322	34,887	(6,565)	38,900	42,790	(3,890)
Park assets	42,402	0	42,402	63,825	0	63,825
Sub Total	£401,211	£98,658	£302,553	£551,355	£123,415	£427,940

Works & Development	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Foreshores & Flags	2,014	0	2,014	2,100	0	2,100
Car Parks	13,027	21,951	(8,924)	14,450	16,480	(2,030)
Refuse Removal	565,599	93,835	471,764	777,473	104,000	673,473
Civic Amenity contribution	169,260	0	169,260	225,685	0	225,685
Sewers & Pumps	78,394	78,394	0	104,500	104,500	0
Street lighting & maint.	69,314	0	69,314	79,000	0	79,000
Decorative lighting & maint.	2,421	0	2,421	11,150	0	11,150
Local Services	107,666	0	107,666	92,700	0	92,700
Govt Department Agencies	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub Total	£1,007,695	£194,180	£813,515	£1,307,058	£224,980	£1,082,078

Parks & Leisure	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Advertising & Entertaining	50,915	15,421	35,494	55,950	4,000	51,950
Parks & Gardens	150,881	3	150,878	253,391	600	252,791
Games Concessions	1,730	1,000	730	12,000	0	12,000
Public Library	97,007	6,214	90,793	140,395	8,000	132,395
Sub Total	£300,533	£22,638	£277,895	£461,736	£12,600	£449,136

Finance & General Purposes	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Administration	26,648	0	26,648	67,050	0	67,050
Office Expenses	727,222	86,703	640,519	977,386	88,250	889,136
Sundry Expenses	8,253	0	8,253	12,100	0	12,100
Miscellaneous	13,620	39,832	(26,212)	31,850	24,500	7,350
Swimming Pool	16,795	0	16,795	17,000	0	17,000
Town Band	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
Town Centre Management	(30)	0	(30)	4,000	0	4,000
Sub Total	£794,508	£126,535	£667,973	£1,111,386	£112,750	£998,636

TOTAL	£5,692,030	£3,786,295	£2,004,393	£ 7,875,301	£ 4,959,844	£ 2,915,457
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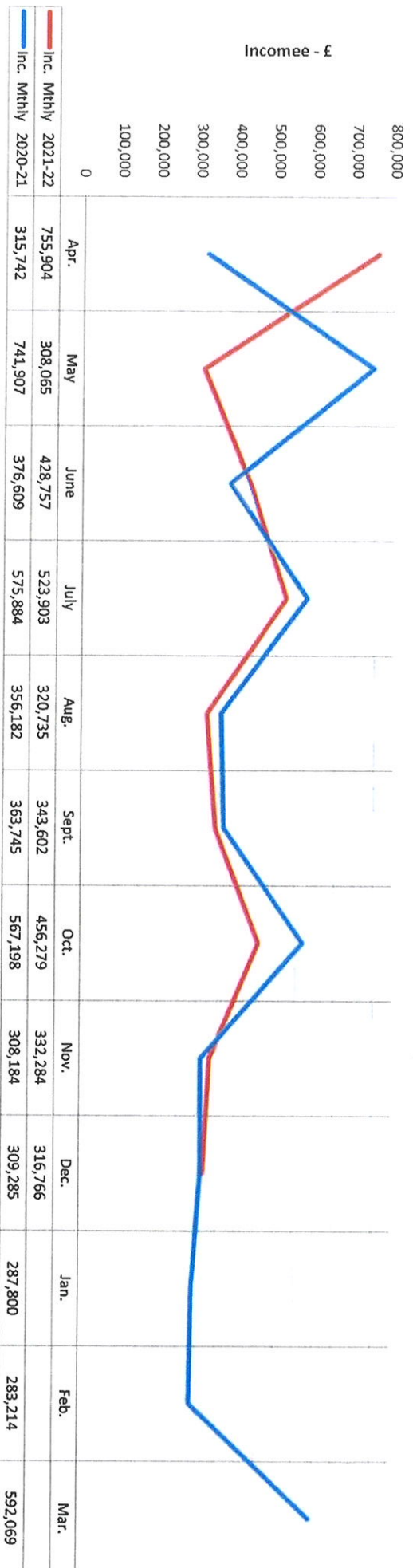
Town rates	£ -	£ 2,515,060	(£2,515,060)	£ -	£ 2,776,672	(£2,776,672)
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RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

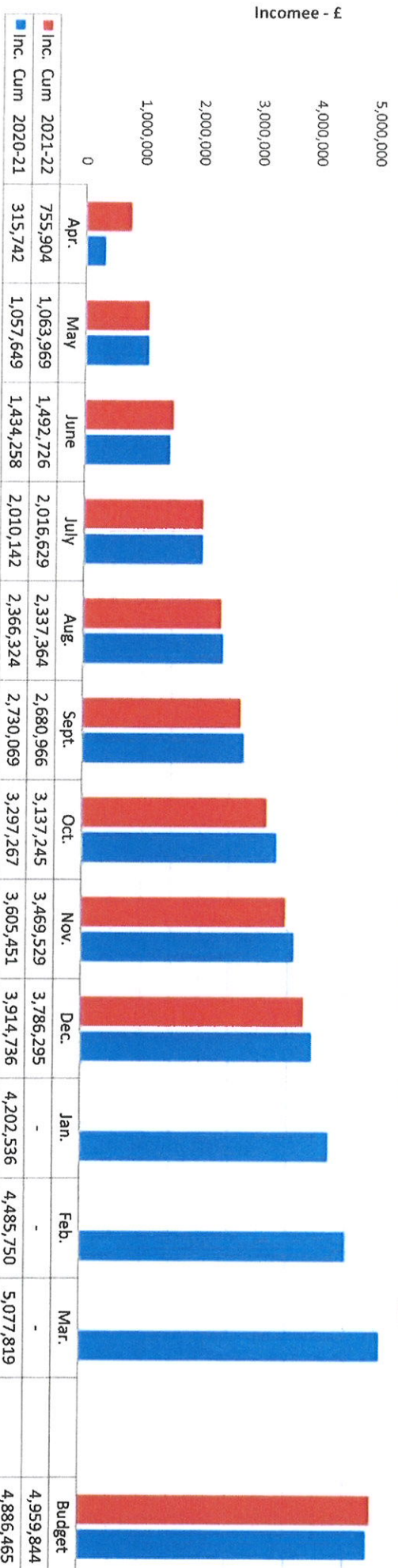
SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

Appendix 2

Ramsey Town Commissioners
Month-on-month income summary 2021-22 & 2020-21 comparative



Ramsey Town Commissioners
Comparing income to budget 2021-22 (with 2020-21 comparative)

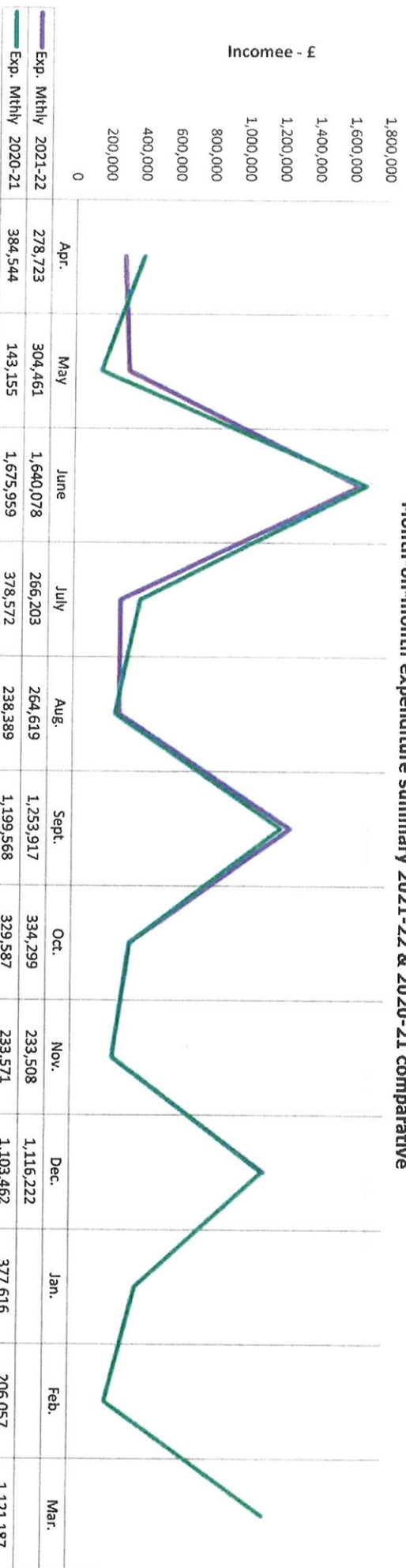


RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

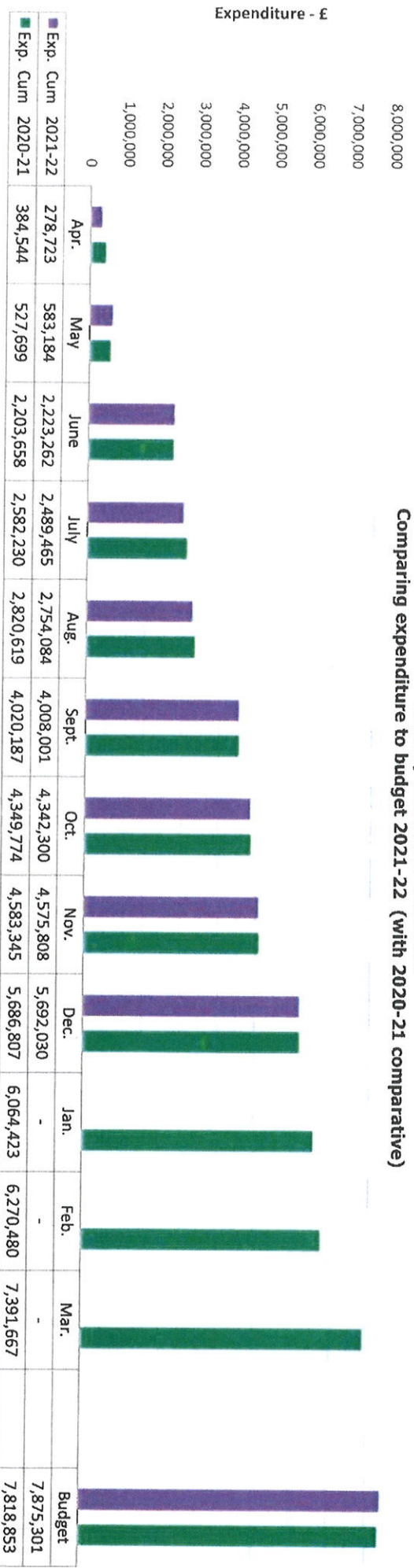
SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

Appendix 2

Ramsey Town Commissioners Month-on-month expenditure summary 2021-22 & 2020-21 comparative



Ramsey Town Commissioners Comparing expenditure to budget 2021-22 (with 2020-21 comparative)

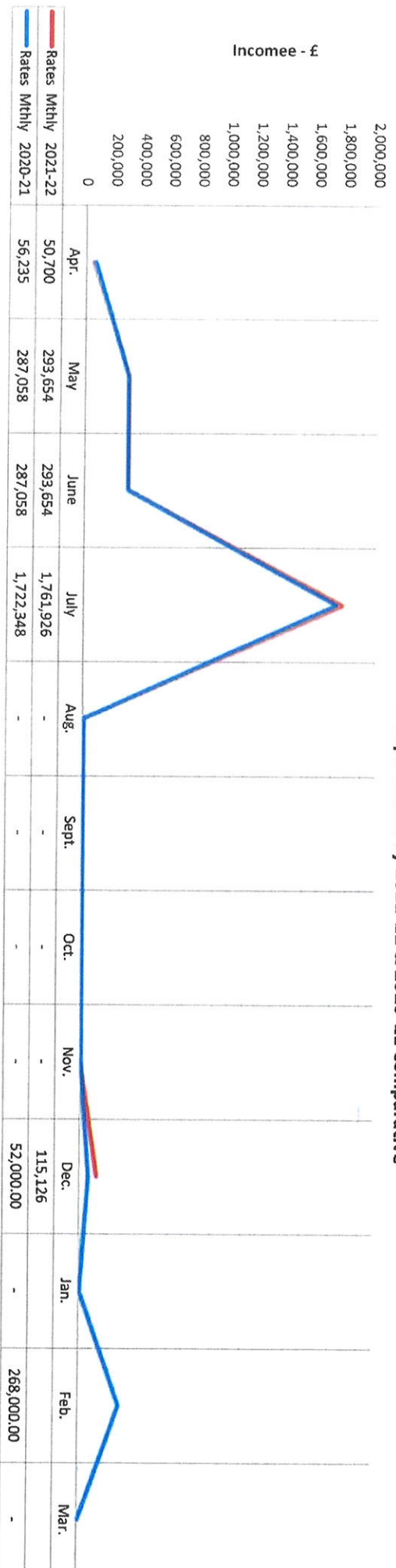


RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

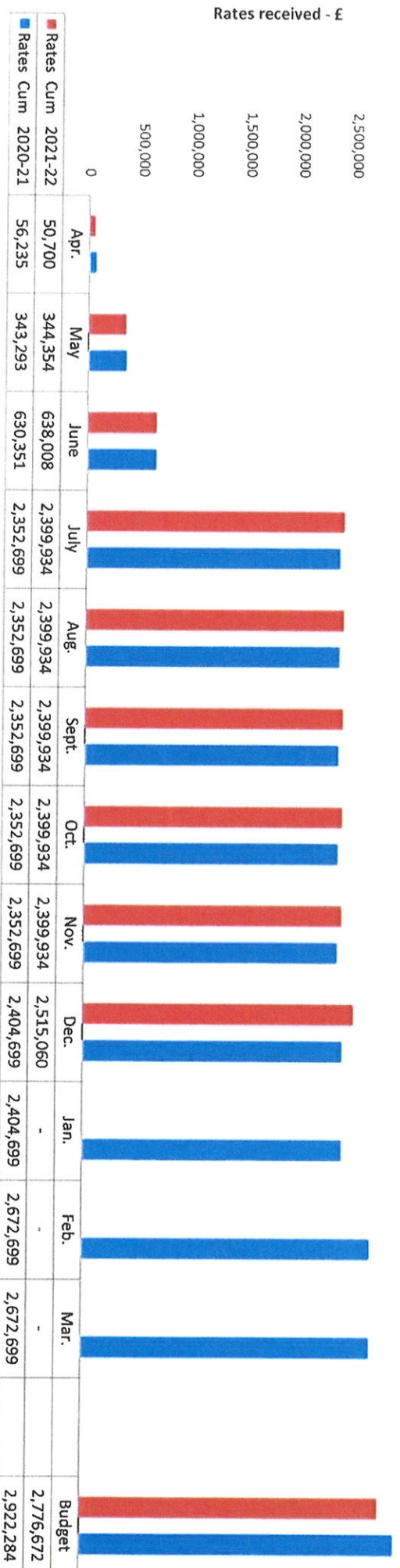
SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

Appendix 2

Ramsey Town Commissioners
Month-on-month rate receipts summary 2021-22 & 2020-21 comparative



Ramsey Town Commissioners
Town rates received 2021-22 (with 2020-21 comparative)



**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
ADDITIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS MARKET
SQUARE
JANUARY 2022 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Currently there are two Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points in Market Square. The MUA are installing new public EV charging points on Island in direct proportion to the number of EVs being registered on the Isle of Man.

The MUA would like to install a further two EV charging points in the Market Square and put in place infrastructure for a further two charging points.

The format of the parking spaces has been revised and the area that they require has been increased. This is to ensure that they are inclusive and can be used by people with disabilities, to allow good access for cables for all configuration of EV (they have front, side and rear mounted sockets), and to ensure that when manoeuvring one vehicle does not run over the cable of the neighbouring vehicle.

The impact of this is that 2 car parking spaces would be lost, currently there are 11 parking spaces in this run of Market Square (this is inclusive of the 2 EV charging spaces). With the proposed re vamp of the current EV charging spaces and the additional 2 EV charging spaces there would be 4 EV spaces and 5 normal parking spaces giving 9 in total.

The proposal is to put infrastructure in for 6 EV charging spaces (only 4 will be operational in the first phase). With 6 EV charging spaces operational the remaining space would accommodate 2 normal parking spaces giving a total of 8 spaces in this run.

The Waiting times would be as per current, 2 hours 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., these spaces are often used over night to fully charge vehicles.

The electricity is paid for by the user using a mobile phone App.

If agreed the MUA would be able to undertake the works in February 2022.

Advantages

- No cost to RTC.
- 2 x additional EV charging spaces in the town centre (phase 1).
- No oncost to RTC
- The decorative paving will not be disturbed.

**Town Clerk's Report – Additional Electric Vehicle Charing Points –
Market Square, January, 2022 Public Continued:**

Disadvantages

- The loss of 2 car parking spaces with the initial phase of 4 EV charging spaces
- The loss of a further space (3 total) when 6 EV charging spaces are created
- Market Square is used for events, EV charging would not be possible whilst the space is being used for events and the EV charging pillars may limit the space available for the events.

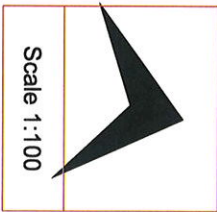
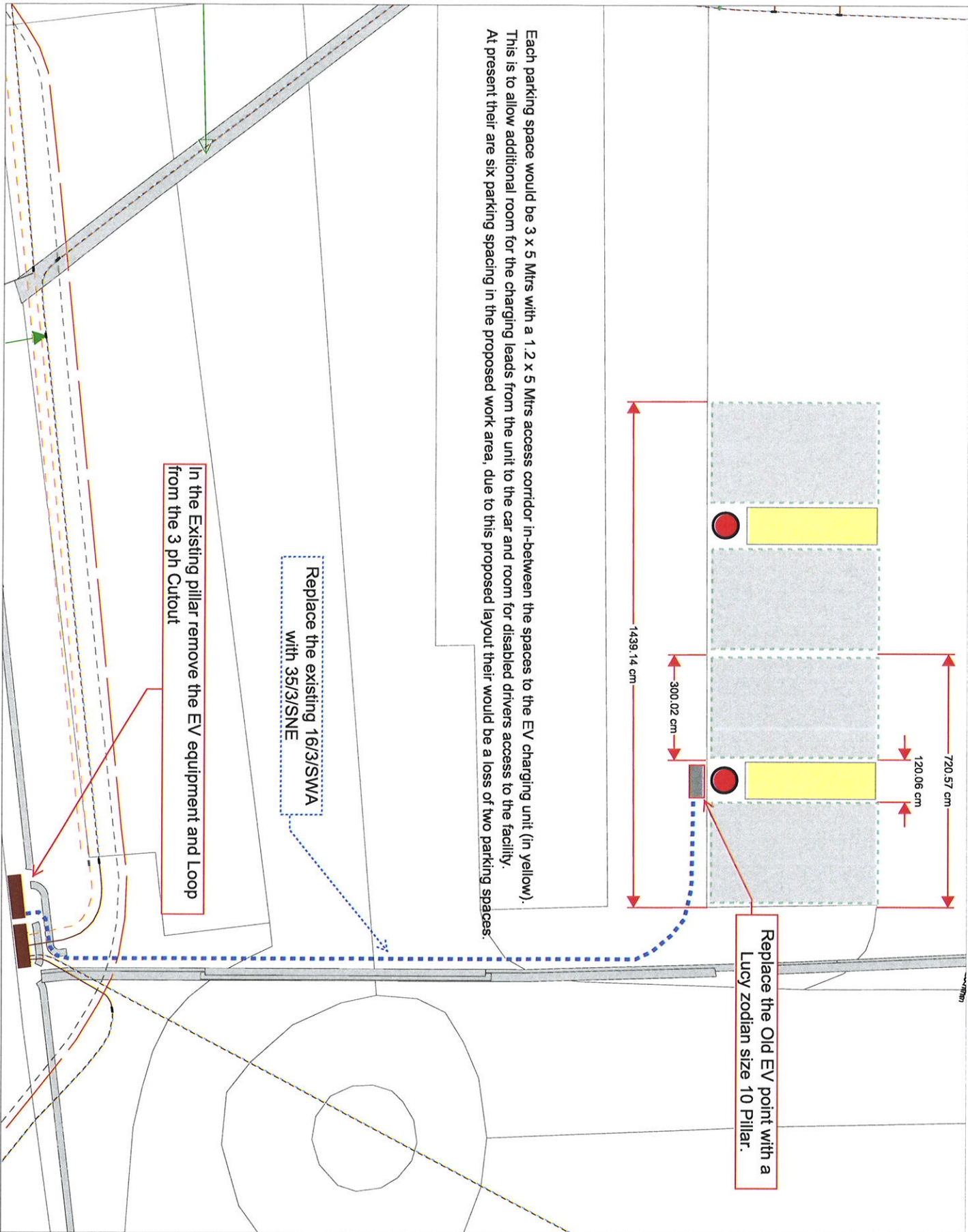
Two drawings for the scheme are appended showing 4 and 6 EV charging points.

Recommendation: to agree the proposal.

T. R.K. Cowin

Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

16th December, 2021.



SC453943

Proposed EV upgrade
Market Square,
Ramsey

MS190622

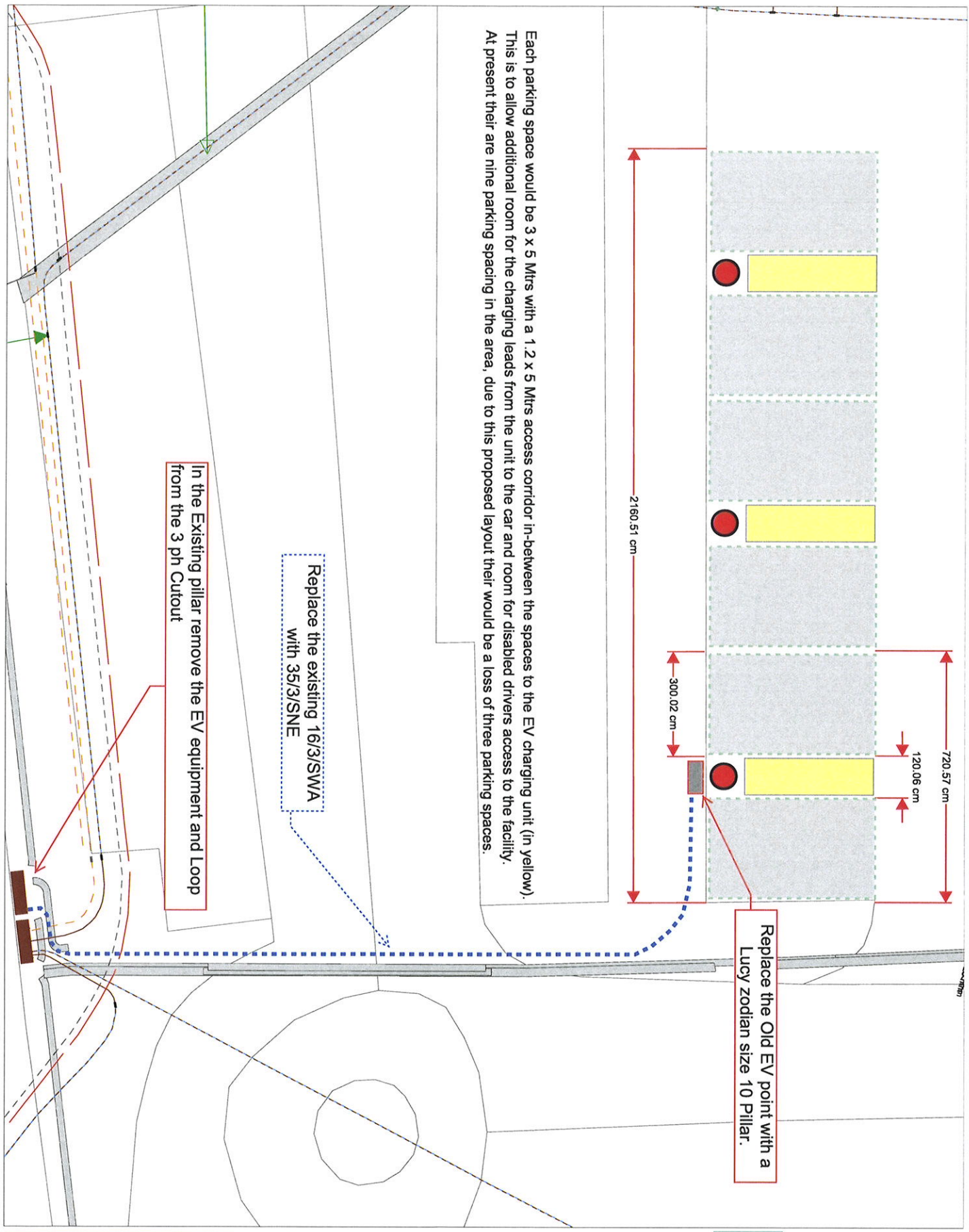


Scale 1:100

SC453943

**Proposed EV
upgrade**
Market Square,
Ramsey

MS190622



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**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
RAMSEY QUAY PLANNING APPLICATION –
JANUARY, 2022 - PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

At the Special Board Meeting on the 21st December 2021 with the Minister for Infrastructure and Jeff Robinson Director of Highway Services the main topic of discussion was Ramsey Quay side.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Department, this was done, and the Department has responded.

The Department has confirmed that the planning application for the scheme will be withdrawn and that high level options will be developed.

Recommendation: for information.

T. R. K. Cowin,
Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

10th January, 2022.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT
PLANNING APPLICATIONS – JANUARY, 2022**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Copies of the following applications have been received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, Planning and Building Control Division under the planning consultation procedures. The applications are listed for consideration subject to comments where appended. Hyperlinks are provided on the P.A. No. to link to the plans which are available on the IOM Government website.

REF NO:	3944
P.A. NO.:	<u>21/01465/B</u>
PROPOSED:	Variation of condition 4 of PA 16/00232/B to change the approved landscaping to create a public open space which includes a Micro forest, formation of an earth bank and seating area
NOTES:	P.A. in Detail
SITE:	Phase 2, Royal Park, Ramsey
REF NO:	3945
P.A. NO.:	<u>21/01505/B</u>
PROPOSED:	Creation of 1st floor extension above existing garage and creation of single storey rear extension and extension of driveway and access
NOTES:	P.A. in Detail
SITE:	12, Auldyn Walk, Ramsey
REF NO:	3946
P.A. NO.:	<u>21/01561/B</u>
PROPOSED:	Installation of awning, disabled ramp access and new shop front
NOTES:	P.A. in Detail
SITE:	1, Dale Street & 2, Market Place, Ramsey
REF NO:	3947
P.A. NO.:	<u>21/01571/B</u>
PROPOSED:	Erection of a detached garage and storage building (part retrospective)
NOTES:	P.A. in Detail
SITE:	1, Kneale Court, Cloughbane Drive, Ramsey

TSM's Report - Planning Applications – January, 2022 – Public Continued
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REF NO: 3948
P.A. NO.: 21/01546/B
PROPOSED: Raising of patio at rear of property
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Lytchett, Mount Auldyn, Ramsey**

REF NO: 3949
P.A. NO.: 21/01577/C
PROPOSED: Additional use of residential property as tourist accommodation
NOTES: P.A. - Change of Use
SITE: **8, Traie Twoaie, North Shore Road, Ramsey**

REF NO: 3950
P.A. NO.: 21/01578/B
PROPOSED: Erection of a replacement storage building with assoicated roller shutter door
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **69, Parliament Street, Ramsey**

REF NO: 3951
P.A. NO.: 21/01581/B
PROPOSED: Alterations and erection of an extension to side elevation
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Burleigh, Richmond Road, Ramsey**

B. Wallace
Technical Services Manager

12th January, 2022.

R.T.C. – TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT
APPENDIX I - SUMMARY OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS – JANUARY, 2022

<i>P.A. No.</i>	<i>Proposed Work(s)</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>R.T.C. Recommendation</i>	<i>D.o.I. Correspondence</i>
21/01169/B	Construction of a flood wall, reconstruction of highway and drainage system	West Quay	Meeting held: 17/11/21	10/01/2022 Application Withdrawn
R.T.C. 3931				

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
GRAN FONDO
JANUARY 2022 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Officers have been contacted by the organisers of Gran Fondo to seek permission to stage the 2022 Gran Fondo again in the Mooragh Park over the weekend of 16th July 2021 and 17th July 2022.

Gran Fondo attracts entrants from the Isle of Man as well as from further afield and has become a popular event in the sporting calendar.

The Commission has previously supported this event by allowing use of the Mooragh Park and providing the organisers with use of our crash barriers.

The organisers make all arrangements for road closures and associated consultations themselves.

Members are therefore asked to consider if they would wish to allow the Gran Fondo to take place in the Mooragh Park over the weekend of 16th and 17th July 2022 and provide the logistical support requested.

Recommendation:

1 – Grant permission to Gran Fondo to take place in the Mooragh Park on the weekend of 16th and 17th July 2022 and associated logistical support

H S Bevan
Deputy Town Clerk

11th January 2022

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
MOORAGH AREA SPORTING EVENTS
JANUARY 2022 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Officers have been contacted by Manx Tri Club who for a number of years have staged a series of events each year within the Mooragh Park. Previously the Commission has supported these events by allowing use of the Mooragh Park and also providing logistical support (with the provision of barriers and signage).

These well organised and attended events are well supported within the sporting community and in addition to the competitors they are attended by supporters and members of the public.

The organisers are again seeking logistical support and permission from the Commission to stage events within the Mooragh Park and use of the Mooragh Lake as required on the following dates in 2022:

Date	Event Name
7th & 8th May 2022	Sprint Triathlon Weekend
31 st July 2022	Manx Middle Distance
14th August 2022	Aquathon
4th September 2022	Triathlon Championships

Manx Tri Club will liaise with Mansail regarding the use of the Mooragh Lake.

The Sprint Triathlon Weekend will be subject to a request to close a section of Mooragh Park on both 7th and 8th May 2022. Manx Tri Club will undertake their own road closure application and associated consultation.

Members are therefore asked to consider if they wish to support the request from Manx Tri Club to support these events.

Recommendation:

- 1 – Grant permission to Manx Tri Club to allow the events to take place within the Mooragh Park and provide logistical support
- 2 – Support the road closure application in respect of the Sprint Triathlon Weekend on 7th and 8th May 2022

H S Bevan
Deputy Town Clerk

11th January 2022

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
SHENNAGHYS JIU
JANUARY 2022 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Shennaghys Jiu is a music and performing arts festival organised by a community committee which first took place in 1997. It features performances from local and visiting artists in a variety of settings.

The event did not take place in 2020 and 2021 because of the Coronavirus Pandemic and organisers have advised that it is their intention to stage the event over the weekend of 1st – 3rd April 2022 with an opening event on 31st March 2022.

The Commission has previously supported the event by providing use of the Town Hall Board Room for the opening event, hosting exhibitions in the Town Hall Atrium and support with a road closure around the Courthouse (similar to that for the Christmas Light event) to allow public displays from participants.

Organizers have asked if the Commission would be able to provide similar support for the Shennaghys Jiu festival in 2022.

Members are therefore asked to consider if they wish to support this request.

Recommendation:

1 – To support Shennaghys Jiu festival in 2022 by providing support requested.

H S Bevan
Deputy Town Clerk

11th January 2022

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS **MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC** **REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS** **JANUARY, 2022 - PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The Commission has received a request for debate on the subject matter of Declarations of Interest.

The request is as follows:-

"I would like to raise a question as a "matter arising from a member of the public" as per section 13 (1) (i) of Ramsey Town Commissioners Standing Orders.

I would like to ask the Board if they would consider implementing a Register of Members' Interests akin to those that exist for Tynwald Members upon election (shown below).

A screen shot of Tynwald Members' Interests

Members	Data of Interest	Date interest arose	Date interest notified to Registrar	Date interest ceased	Date ceased on notified to Registrar
at Title : Allison, Alexander (19)					
at Title : Ashford, David (8)					
David John ASHFORD MHK	Shareholder: Lloyds Banking Group (224 ordinary shares)	26/09/2016			
David John ASHFORD MHK	Owner: Ashford Property	26/09/2016			
David John ASHFORD MHK	Member: Douglas Freemasons	26/09/2016			
David John ASHFORD MHK	Governor: Ballyhennessy High School	26/09/2016			
David John ASHFORD MHK	Vice-Chairman: Douglas Line at Home Scheme	26/09/2016			
David John ASHFORD MHK	Treasurer: Isle of Man Neighbourhood Watch	20/09/2016			
David John ASHFORD MHK	Director: Gresty Holdings	10/10/2017			
David John ASHFORD MHK	Director: Walkabout Limited	10/10/2017	11/05/2018	14/06/2018	
at Title : August-Hanson, Tanya (15)					
at Title : Barber, Clare (nee Bettison) (23)					

The reason I suggest this is that as we are moving to a more open and transparent society where the Freedom of Information sets the principle that all information regarding the actions and decisions of those holding public office are to be freely available, we must also ensure that personal interests are freely registered so that public scrutiny can be upheld in the same way. This is as much to protect the individual members and the Board as anything else and will ensure that the register can be referred to by the Chair of the Board to check any conflict of interests are fully declared.

**Matters raised by Members of the Public – Register of Members' Interests –
January, 2022 – Public Continued:**

I would like to ask if a Member of the Board would take this request up and propose a motion to introduce a register which would require all existing serving members to register their interests and anyone elected in the future. The register must be updated on a regular basis as and when new interests arise and will be the responsibility of each and every elected member.

Please could I ask for this to be put on the next agenda as an anonymous submission."

This matter is covered in terms of the Local Government Act 1985 and a Register is maintained and updated at least on a quarterly basis, if not more frequently.

Upon election the attention of Members is routinely drawn to the need to make declarations of interest, particularly in pecuniary matters and contracts as recommended in the Code of Conduct for Local Authority Members, extracts from the Code of Conduct are provided to all members. An extract from the 1985 Act is appended. Also appended is an extract from the Commission's Standing Orders referring to declaration of interest, copies of which are also provided to members upon their election.

Ramsey Town Commissioners, comply with the legislation and maintain a register of members interests. Additionally, the interests declared are recorded within the minutes of the relevant meeting and published on the Commission's website, so all declarations of interest are made public and are in the public domain.

Recommendation: as declarations of interest are recorded and in the public domain, this item is noted, recorded in the minutes and the enquirer be informed accordingly.

T. R. K. Cowin

Town Clerk and Chief Executive.

12th January, 2022.

An Extract from the Local Government Act 1985.

11 Disability of members of authorities for voting on account of interest in contracts, etc [P1972/70/94]

- (1) Subject to section 14, if a member of a local authority has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any contract, proposed contract or other matter, and is present at a meeting of the local authority at which the contract or other matter is the subject of consideration, he shall at the meeting and as soon as practicable after its commencement disclose the fact and shall not take part in the consideration or discussion of the contract or other matter or vote on any question with respect to it.
- (2) If any person fails to comply with the provisions of subsection (1) he shall for each offence be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £2,500 unless he proves that he did not know that the contract, proposed contract or other matter in which he had a pecuniary interest was the subject of consideration at that meeting.
- (3) A prosecution for an offence under this section shall not be instituted except by or on behalf of the Attorney General.
- (4) The following, that is to say —
 - (a) the receipt by the mayor of remuneration or his right to receive, or the possibility of his receiving, such remuneration;
 - (b) the receipt by a member of a local authority of an allowance or other payment under Schedule 2 or his right to receive, or the possibility of his receiving, any such payment;shall not be treated as a pecuniary interest for the purposes of this section.

12 Pecuniary interests for purposes of section 11 [P1972/70/95]

- (1) For the purposes of section 11 a person shall be treated, subject to subsections (2) and (3) and to section 14, as having indirectly a pecuniary interest in a contract, proposed contract or other matter, if —
 - (a) he or any nominee of his is a member of a company or other body with which the contract was made or is proposed to be made or which has a direct pecuniary interest in the other matter under consideration; or
 - (b) he is a partner, or is in the employment, of a person with whom the contract was made or is proposed to be made or who has a direct pecuniary interest in the other matter under consideration.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to membership of or employment under any public body, and a member of a company or other body shall not by reason only of his membership be treated as having an interest in any contract, Section 13 Local Government Act 1985 Page 18 AT 24 of 1985 c proposed contract or other matter if he has no beneficial interest in any securities of that company or other body.
- (3) In the case of married persons living together the interest of one spouse shall, if known to the other, be deemed for the purpose of section 11 to be also an interest of the other.
- (4) In the case of civil partners living together the interest of one civil partner, shall, if known to the other, be deemed for the purpose of section 11 to be also an interest of the other.⁴⁵

13 General notices and recording of disclosures for purposes of section 11 [P1972/70/96]

- (1) A general notice given in writing to the clerk of the authority by a member thereof to the effect that he or his spouse or civil partner is a member or in the employment of a specified company or other body, or that he or his spouse or civil partner is a partner or in the employment of a specified person, or that he or his spouse or civil partner is the tenant of any premises owned by the authority, shall, unless and until the notice is withdrawn, be deemed to be a sufficient disclosure of his interest in any contract, proposed contract or other matter relating to that company or other body or to that person or to those premises which may be the subject of consideration after the date of the notice.⁴⁶
- (2) The authority shall cause to be recorded in a book to be kept for the purpose particulars of any disclosure made under section 11 and of any notice given under this section, and the book shall be open at all reasonable hours to the inspection of any member of the local authority.

Extract Standing Orders:

29. INTEREST OF MEMBERS IN CONTRACTS AND OTHER MATTERS

If any member of the Board has any pecuniary interest direct or indirect within the meaning of Sections 11 and 12 of The Local Government Act, 1985, (other than an indirect interest described in sub-section 14 (4) - (6) thereof), in any contract, proposed contract, or other matter, that members shall withdraw from the meeting while the contract, proposed contract, or other matter, is under consideration by the Board unless -

- (i) the disability to discuss that matter imposed upon him by the section has been removed by the Isle of Man Local Government Board under Section 14 (1) thereof; or
- (ii) the contract, proposed contract, or other matter is under consideration by the Board as part of the report of a Special Committee and is not itself the subject of debate; or
- (iii) the Board invites him to remain.

A member shall be guided by the National Code of Local Government Conduct as issued by the Department of Local Government and the Environment in all matters of interest of either a pecuniary or non-pecuniary nature.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
REPRESENTATIVE REPORT(S)
JANUARY, 2022 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The following Reports have been submitted by Mr. McGuinness:-

“Representatives Report Ramsey Chamber of Commerce

Attended the AGM of the Ramsey Chamber of Commerce on 7th January 2022.

The meeting was ostensibly to elect the committee for the forthcoming year, with the incumbent committee wishing to step down after many years involved. It should be acknowledged that the outgoing committee had individuals who have served the Chamber for over 20 years and put a lot of effort into making the Chamber the organization it is.

The new committee elected was;

Chair - Karen Jones

Vice Chair – James Evans

Treasurer – Andrea Howroyd

Secretary – Sally Huxham

The meeting consisted mainly of discussion regarding the administrative technicalities involved in the changing over of the committee and a brief outline of the aims of the new committee and a change to a more relaxed meeting format in an attempt to increase membership and engagement. The first meeting will be in the next month or so and will likely move to a 2 monthly cycle of meetings.

Look forward to seeing how the new board brings fresh ideas to the table and wish them good fortune for the future.”

“Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board:

On 10th January 2022 the NLASPB met in order to discuss the budget situation for the forthcoming year following correspondence with the DESC & DOI (attached).

This was the first meeting for the representatives of Lezayre and Ballaugh a summary of the position that caused the meeting to be required was relayed;

That, following the large increase in the cost of Gas as well as other inflationary rises of operational costs (despite price rises in a number of areas of the pool) the budget estimates proposed to the DESC had a negative balance of approximately £46,000 at the current subvention payment level provided by DESC. Subsequent to the submission of the budget request the Department responded suggesting that the Pool could look to raise the shortfall by requesting a raise to the Swimming Pool Rate through the DOI and advised that Southern and Western regional pools were looking into this possibility. The NLASPB were advised of this the week before Christmas by the DOI that a decision would need to be relayed to the DOI by 15th January 2022 at the latest in order to be considered by Tynwald in time for April's rates.

“Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board Continued:

The rate raising legislation was explained as originating from the Northern Swimming Pool Board Order 2000 which states;

"5. Expenses of Board

(1) After consultation with each of the constituent authorities and with the Department, the Board shall before the 31st August in each year prepare an estimate of the expenses of the Board in performing its functions in the following year, and shall send a copy of the estimate to each constituent authority and to the Department.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), each constituent authority shall in each year raise the appropriate proportion of the expenses of the Board, as so estimated, less any contribution to those expenses to be made by the Department, by a rate levied on the district of the authority, and shall not later than the 30th June pay the amount thereof to the Board.

(3) A rate levied under paragraph (2) shall not exceed 2.5p in the pound.

(4) In this article "year" means a year commencing on 1st April."

It was noted that this rate had not increased since 1978 from the previous Order.

The NLASPB discussed this matter at length, noting the responsibility each member had as a Board member of the facility. The general feeling was that the DESC had placed the board into a position where the choice appeared to be to go forward with the process of seeking an alteration to the legislation in order to raise sufficient funds to maintain the running of the facility or seek to reduce costs by reducing the operating hours or days of the facility due to the unwillingness to increase subvention payment. Members also expressed disappointment at the timescales involved making a consultation with their respective boards almost impossible prior to the deadline. It was also discussed that this years rise in costs could be a temporary one caused by extreme market forces on Manx Gas or equally be a situation that will be repeated next year with inflation costs from other suppliers, whichever turns out to be the case it makes raising funds through legislation changes in this manner a time consuming and impractical process.

A question was asked from a member regarding the funding of the NSC and contribution from Local Authorities rates and was advised that the NSC is an entirely centrally funded facility and not subject to Local Authority involvement.

Board members asked if there had been communication with the other Regional Pools, it was advised that there had not been any official correspondence between the facilities in relation to this matter.

“Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board Continued:

With the options available considered and agreement from all members that the Pool should not reduce its hours and services to the community the Board resolved to write to the departments involved advising that the Board would request an amendment of the Northern Swimming Pool Board Order 2000 to increase the rate able to be raised from 2.5p to 6p in order to meet current operating costs but to express our dissatisfaction at the manner in which the Board feel they have been forced to take this choice without opportunity to consult with the affected Local Authorities. The Board members also resolved to revert to their respective authorities and obtain a response on this position to be communicated to the Pool and directly to the Departments.

My NLASPB duties having been discharged, as a Commissioner I find this situation to be very disappointing. To my mind the Northern Swimming Pool Board Order 2000 in wording and in action since being put in place shows that funding for the pool has been met by central government and that raising operational costs by rate increases through this order is not appropriate on a short term year on year basis.

It is worth stating that this shortfall is not due to any frivolous or irresponsible expenditure by the facility. Investment in recent years on pool coverings and LED lighting have reduced operational costs and this situation has only arisen due to extreme and unforeseen cost rises from third party suppliers with a background of a global pandemic.

In addition I am disappointed that following an investment of millions of pounds in building and running the pool for over a decade that central government funding has been restricted and the increase in rate has been suggested to be borne by the Northern ratepayers. It is hard to not draw comparisons with the amount of money having been spent at the NSC on the lengthy renovation of the pool and flumes.

If rate reform was to be considered this is not the way to go about it and the approach taken by the DESC feels disingenuous and against the departments own strategies for provision of services Island wide and encouraging health and fitness in the community. I welcome the boards thoughts on this matter and to form a response to the parties involved and relevant MHK's ahead of debate in Tynwald.”

11th January, 2022.