

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, 20th July, 2022, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. F. B. R. Williams, Mr. G. S. Court, Messrs' A. R. Beighton, R. D. Cowell, Revd Canon N. D. Greenwood, S. R. Kelly, J. McGuinness, A. J. Oldham, L. Parker, L. I. Singer and W. G. Young.

Miss L. L. Craine attended remotely.

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

Mr. Singer asked if an item, concerning horses on the Mooragh Promenade Footpath, in private could be brought into the public sector and was advised by the Chairman that this would be permitted if members were agreeable.

(2022/23:076) Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 15th June, 2022, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following:-

- Page 7 Clause 55 Sundry Matters:- the date "2013" referring to the TT Consultation was corrected to read "2023".
- Page 9 – Clause 60 Policy Committee – Household Refuse Collection – Mr. Singer requested the word "that" appearing in the second bullet-point of this clause be changed to the word "had".
- Page 11 Clause 62 – Register of Ruinous Buildings Bleak House – Mr. McGuinness indicated that the proposal recorded in the second paragraph on that page 11 was his and not that of Mr. Young.

(2022/23:077) Matters Arising:

Miss Craine asked if there was any report of the meeting held by the Department of Enterprise? Members were informed that it is understood that 5 or 6 businesses attended; that the Department is willing to meeting with the Chamber of Commerce and hold further drop-in sessions. It is also understood that the Department was happy with the level of attendance.



Matters for Information:

(2022/23:078) Action Tracker July, 2022:

Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker” to 14th July, 2022, subject to the following and accepting that some matters may be referred to within other Clauses of these minutes:-

Planning Enforcement Gladstone Park – in response to a query from Mr. Singer the Town Clerk informed members that he had heard nothing recently but he would make further enquiry from the Planning Enforcement Officer.

Bicycle Shelters – the Town Clerk advised members that planning approval has been granted for the bicycle shelters.

Ramsey South Promenade Changing Huts –Mr. Court referred to initial discussion with the Department of Infrastructure. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that following the meeting further discussions would require to be had with interested parties and some new discussions commenced.

(2022/23:079) Action Tracker Budget Approved Projects:

Resolved: To note the Action Tracker of Budget Approved projects at 14th July, 2022, subject to the following:-

Refuse Collection Vehicle and Fleet Vehicle Overhaul - The Town Clerk informed members that the Department of Infrastructure has received Treasury approval for the Commissioners’ petitions. Formal confirmation of the approvals from the Department has not yet been received.

(2022/23:080) Chairman’s Report – July 2022:

Resolved: To note the Chairman’s Report , Chairman, dated 16th July, 2022.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2022/23:081) Finance Officer’s General Report:

Resolved: To note and approved the Finance Officer’s general report dated 13th July, 2022, subject to the following:-

Mr. Singer asked what goods had been purchased from “Clad Safety” and “Top to Toe” and was informed that these companies had provided PPE, primarily clothing.

Mr. Singer also referred to the use of Manx Telecom services and asked if the Commission tendered for such services. Members were informed that it is understood that the existing contract is nearing its termination date and enquiry would be made about the possibility of tendering from Manx Telecom et al.



Works and Development:

(2022/23:082) Town Clerk's Report – Area Plan for the North and West:

Members considered the Town Clerk's Report dated 12th July, 2022, advising of receipt of the consultation for the North and West Area Plan and suggesting responses to various sections of the report. The Town Clerk reminded members that the presentation about the Area plan is on display in the Atrium with officers in attendance until 23rd July, 2022, 2.00 p.m. The Town Clerk indicated that his report outlined some issues he had identified with the plan and of particular concern was that it was a short-term plan.

Mr. Williams agreed broadly with the content of the report and suggested that the Board go away and digest the comments. Mr. Singer asked if the matter would be discussed again as he wished to present a motion.

A proposal was made by Mr. McGuinness that the Commission have a separate meeting to discuss the matter and be mindful of a previous response on this matter. Mr. McGuinness included that consideration of the TT Consultation be held at the same meeting. Mr. Parker seconded the proposal.

Resolved: That a special meeting be arranged to discuss the Area Plan. Miss Craine's vote could not be determined at the time the vote was taken.

It was agreed that the previous response referred to be conveyed to members.

(2022/23:083) Technical Services Manager's Report – Car Park Surfacing:

Members considered the Technical Services Manager's report dated 14th July, 2022, concerning the concerns raised about the condition of the car park surface.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Kelly seconded by Mr. Beighton and agreed that the contractor's offer to meet with the Commission to address their concerns be accepted. Mr. McGuinness voted against. Miss Craine's vote could not be determined at the time of voting.

Members were reminded that the quotation accepted had been done so as part of the budget / rates estimate process. The Technical Services Manager was instructed to see if any other schemes using the same materials had encountered any problems.



(2022/23:084) Town Clerk's Report – "Fill a Fish":

Members considered the Town Clerk's Report dated 11th July, 2022, advising of "Fill a Fish" recycling project. Concern was expressed that the Commission had no suitable bins to facilitate the waste plastic and that the process could be labour intensive. Mr. Kelly proposed that the Commission further investigate the initiative to determine its feasibility.

The Town Clerk advised that since preparation of his report he had been advised that a site in the vicinity of the BMX track has been identified for the preferred location. Members felt that they should be allowed to choose the site and if appropriate move the "fish" around at different times of the year.

Mr. Oldham proposed a site by the Swimming Pool, which was seconded by Mr. Singer. Mr. Kelly suggested a site on the Queen's Promenade in the vicinity of the Lifeboat House. Mr. Williams suggested inviting the public via social media to indicate a preferred location.

Mr. McGuinness queried the logistics of emptying the "fish"; recycling its content and ensuring the vicinity can be kept litter free during inclement weather. The Town Clerk advised that the Commission does not have a recycling route and emptying the tray would prove burdensome.

A proposal was put by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Parker that the Commission accept the fish but decide themselves where to place it. The proposal was carried by 10 votes to 1, Mr. McGuinness voting against. Miss Craine's vote could not be determined at the time of voting.

(2022/23:085) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – Isle of Man Anti-Cancer Association Roadshow:

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Court and agreed by ~~10 votes to 1~~, that the request detailed within the Deputy Town Clerk's Report dated 11th July, 2022, made by the Isle of Man Anti-Cancer Association to site a Cancer Awareness vehicle on Station Road Car Park on 6th September, 2022, be approved. Miss Craine's vote could not be determined at the time of voting.

(2022/23:086) Technical Services Manager's Report - Planning Applications:

Resolved: To note the Technical Services Manager's Report dated 14th July, 2022, detailing planning applications received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, under the planning consultation procedures, be noted subject to the following:-



(2022/23:086) Technical Services Manager's Report - Planning Applications continued:

REF NO: 4001
P.A. NO.: 22/00639/B
PROPOSED: Erection of new four storey apartment building (class 3.4) with ground floor retail space (class 1.1).
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **22 & 24, Parliament Street and 6, West Quay, Ramsey.**

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Williams seconded by Mr. Cowell and agreed by 11 votes to 1, Mr. Young voting against that the Commission indicate their support of the proposals.

REF NO: 4002
P.A. NO.: 22/00679/B
PROPOSED: Combined approval in principle and full approval for a residential development seeking planning permission for the erection of 66 dwelling houses and 12 flats, site access, Spine Road through the site, drainage, car parking and associated landscaping (Phase 1). Outline planning permission for development of up to 127 new residential units in the form of dwelling houses and flats, flexible commercial space, a new public house and new retail space with all matters reserved save for access.
NOTES: Approval in Principle and P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Land at Poyll Dooy Fields and Part Fields 134271, 134253, 134270, 134272, 131273, 131276, 132274 and 134274, Ramsey.**

Members raised various queries with regard to the application including the bin emptying facilities and parking spaces. Members did however recognise the need to work with the developers to achieve the best development for this site.

It was proposed by Mr. Beighton seconded by Mr. Kelly that a special meeting be held with the developer. The proposal was carried by 11 votes to 1, Miss Craine voting against.

REF NO: 4003
P.A. NO.: 22/00686/A
PROPOSED: Approval in principle for the erection of a dwelling addressing means of access and parking
NOTES: Approval in Principle
SITE: **Land adjacent to 40, Greenlands Avenue, Ramsey.**



(2022/23:086) Technical Services Manager’s Report - Planning Applications continued:

Members queried if any objections had been submitted with regard to the application and were informed that it is understood 1 objection had been made by an adjoining property owner who considered the proposals over-intensive.

It was proposed by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Cowell that the Commission object to the application as they consider a detached property would better suit the location. The proposal was carried by 7 votes to 5 Messrs. Beighton, Court, McGuinness, Parker and Williams voting against.

(2022/23:087) Public Correspondence:

Resolved: To note those items of Public Correspondence at 11th July, 2022, brought to members’ attention as hereunder and subject to any included comments:

- Swimming Pool Order – Mr. McGuinness informed members that the Order had been passed in Tynwald by 31 votes to 2. He expressed concern at the vote because of the number of local authorities understood to have submitted objections to the Order and also expressed concern about the inclusion of “discretionary powers” granted to the Swimming Pool Boards.
- Bus Vannin Ramsey Peel Service – Mr. McGuinness asked that the Commission liaise with Bus Vannin and obtain leaflets to promote this bus service and attempt to get Bus Vannin to also promote the service; he suggested the poor service is the cause of the service being under-used.
- Waste Recycling Meeting – the Town Clerk advised members that he got the impression that it is possible that they would like local authorities to take over recycling.

(2022/23:088) Deputy Town Clerk’s Report – Mooragh Promenade Footpath:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk’s report dated 12th July, 2022, concerning use of the Mooragh Promenade footpath by horses, following his discussions with the Department of Infrastructure. It was noted that as the area is a footpath it is illegal for horses and cycles to be using it although it is used by cyclists, as well as pedestrians, at the moment.

Mr. Singer did not wish to change the status for cyclists. Mr. McGuinness was conscious of the need to expand the Mooragh Estate as free open space and did not want to see no cyclists utilising the footpath but was happy to proceed with “shared use” or “keep things as they are” and commented that whilst horse faeces was unpleasant fouling by horses was a rare occurrence.

Mr. Singer queried if the Commission were going to get signs, but stated he was accepting of bicycles.



(2022/23:088) Deputy Town Clerk’s Report – Mooragh Promenade Footpath:

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that if signs were decided upon they need to be for all illegal users and incidents of fouling by horses should be brought to the attention of the police.

Members were in general concurrence with the comments made by Mr. McGuinness

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Cowell and agreed by 10 votes to 1, to maintain the status quo in respect of this footpath.

Mr. Singer voted against, and Mr. Williams did not vote, having declared an interest.

Any Other Business:

(2022/23:089) Sundry Matters Raised by Members:

089a) Working as a Team – Mr. Kelly advised that he had been stopped by residents concerning the lack of “team work” by members of the Commission. He again emphasised the need for members to work together to make Ramsey a better place.

089b) “Dress Code” – Mr. Kelly again advised that he had been asked why members no longer followed a “dress code”?

Mr. Singer referred to an unwritten-code whereby members wore less casual clothing; the Chairman wore the Chain of Office and would be the last person to attend the Board Meeting at which time members would stand as a token of respect. He also asked, “how is the Commission not working together”?

The Chairman commented that even if members do not agree they should accept the Board’s decisions.

089c) Hospital Access – Mr. Young queried how people could access the Cottage Hospital during the recent cycle races which had road closures in the vicinity of the hospital. The Deputy Town Clerk informed members that the organisers have authority to allow vehicles on closed roads in emergency situations, and that the footpaths were open at all times of the road closures.

089d) Buffalo Bowling– Mr. Young suggested that the bowling facilities were not open enough. Enquiry would be made from the company.

089e) Minutes – Miss Craine started to query the accuracy of the minutes and in so doing suggested they be sent to members in advance of the Board papers.

The Chairman stopped discussion at this point, as it was more appropriate to discuss the matter in private.



(2022/23:089) Sundry Matters Raised by Members Continued:

089e) Bay Swim – Mr. Young referred to the Bay Swim held for many years. Mr. Oldham suggested that insurance costs had made running the event prohibitive. Members were informed that it is understood the event, which has not been held for very many years, used to be organised by Ramseian Swimming Club with assistance from the Commission.

It was agreed that the Lead Member discuss the matter with the Deputy Town Clerk.

089f) TT Consultation – Mr. Parker implored business owners and individuals to respond to the TT Consultation as the proposed changes to the schedule of racing would have drastic consequences on the Sprint Days and other TT associated events with resulting loss of business in the town. Mr. Parker also suggested that the new boat arrangements should be trialled before any permanent changes are made to the travel schedules. Mr. Young expressed concern that Sunday Racing would result in the loss of the enjoyment of “Mad Sunday”.

089g) Ramsey in Bloom – Mr. Court took the opportunity to thank the entrants, sponsors, judges and all staff involved with the very successful 2022 Ramsey in Bloom competition.

089h) Goal Posts Coronation Park – Mr. Court referred to goal posts in the Coronation Park and was informed that there had been no budgetary inclusion for this matter. The Technical Services Manager was requested to provide an update on this matter.

(2022/23:090) Sundry Matters Brought to Members’ Attention:

090a) Members’ Interests – the Town Clerk took the opportunity to again remind members of the need to submit their Declarations of Interest by the end of July so that the information can be included on the Commission’s website as agreed. Members were reminded that the declaration could reflect no areas to declare but were advised that a “No Return Submitted” would be recorded if no declaration is received.

090b) Vaccination Bus – the Town Clerk informed members that permission has been given to the Ramsey Group Practice Centre to site a “Vaccination Bus” in the Commissioners’ Town Hall car park on 11th August 2022, to facilitate a convenient location for vaccinations to be given.

(2022/23:091) Representative Report – Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board:

Mr. McGuinness verbally reported that, as Chairman of the Swimming Pool Board, he had attended a valuable 4-hour meeting with a Swimming Pool External Reviewer and was sure the reviewer’s report would reflect favourably on Ramsey’s pool.



The Chairman thanked the public and media for attending and closed the public session at 8.20 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.

(2022/23:092) Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Special Board Meetings held on 22nd June, and 11th July, 2022, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters for Information:

(2022/23:093) Housing Committee:

Resolved: To note the minutes of the meeting of the Housing Committee held on 12th July, 2022, subject to the following:-

Clause 14b) The Lead Member clarified the clause to reflect that a former tenant had left the property.

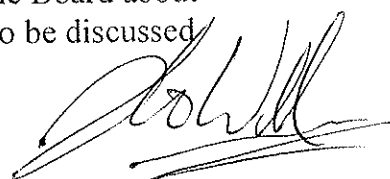
Clause 19b) Shared Housing Waiting List – Mr. McGuinness asked if the list could be split to reflect applicants for the respective areas, i.e. “All Island”; “All North” or just “Ramsey”.

(2022/23:094) On-Going Matters “Action Tracker” :

Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker” to 14th July, 2022, subject to the following and accepting that some matters may be referred to within other Clauses of these minutes:-

Abated Sums Section 13 Agreements – Members were informed that costs previously reported for the provision of play equipment had increased by approximately £12,000. Member queried if additional lottery funding could be applied for and was advised that this was unlikely unless a new scheme could be identified; and lottery funding could not be used to pay for labour costs. The Housing and Property Manager advised that he is looking at further options.

Kerbside Recycling – the Town Clerk sought and was granted authority to undertake preparatory and investigatory work including identifying options and obtaining budgetary approvals. Miss Craine informed members that 2 members of Douglas Corporation had indicated a willingness to make a presentation to the Board about recycling. Members agreed in principle to the meeting the matter to be discussed with the Town Clerk.



(2022/23:094) On-Going Matters “Action Tracker” Continued:

Toilet Art – the Deputy Town Clerk referred to this matter included in the Public Action Tracker and informed members that the opportunity has arisen to include some internal art work in keeping with the Commission’s preferred theme and for which funding might be able to be found.

Members were agreeable to the principle noting that if the interior art work progresses it may be necessary to close the public conveniences. Mr. Parker reminded members that public conveniences were available at the Bowling Alley during school holidays.

Albert Road Site – reference was made to the redevelopment of the site of the former Albert Road School – members were informed that approval has yet to be received for acquisition of the site, although it is understood that funding has been identified within the Government’s budgets for 2022/23 to enable a scheme to be commenced. It was noted that difficulty is being experienced in finding suitably qualified Structural Engineers.

(2022/23:095) On-Going Matters - Register of Ruinous Property, Unightly Land and Buildings:

Resolved: To note the “Register of Ruinous Property ..” to 14th July, 2022, subject to the following and accepting that some matters may be referred to within other Clauses of these minutes:-

Bleak House – Members were informed that legal advice was still awaited. Miss Craine was reminded of the settlement figure agreed by the Board last month; such sum has not been received until discussions with our Advocates and the Coroner are concluded.

The Holly Grove Mount – Members were reminded that previous correspondence from the owner of this property had been made via a third party.

5, College Street – members were informed that it is understood that the sale of the property is complete and works will be commenced during the week commencing 25th July.

Members were informed, in response to a query as to progress made by Mr. Singer, that it is understood that the company listed at the end of the “register” had attended the meeting with the Department of Enterprise to determine if any grants could be made available to them to undertake works to their property.

Mr. Kelly referred to the Central Hotel, which is a Registered Building, and expressed concern that the registration could affect any ultimate sale of the premises and its condition will further decline. Mr. Kelly indicated he will be looking into getting the premises deregistered.



Finance and General Purposes:

(2022/23:096) Town Clerk’s Report – Isle of Man Newspapers – Business Club:

Members considered the Town Clerk’s report dated 11th July, 2022, advising of the Isle of Man Newspapers’ Business Club’s advertising packages. Members were unsure what value could be achieved and agreed the Commission needed to have a Marketing plan in place before any advertising packages are agreed.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness seconded by Mr. Cowell and agreed that no advertising package with Isle of Man Newspapers be entered into at the present time. Miss Craine’s vote could not be determined at the time of voting.

Mr. Parker suggested that increasing the rental costs for Town Hall users might give an increased revenue to support advertising costs but was advised that local charitable events could already be advertised on the “What’s On Page” at no cost.

Mr. Oldham withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the following Clause.

(2022/23:097) Deputy Town Clerk’s Report – Ramsey Courthouse – Ramsey Community Hub:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk’s report dated 12th July, 2022, presented subsequent to the Special Meeting, the minutes of which were recorded in private because of commercial sensitivity, and to which was appended a further copy of his report presented to the May 2022 Board Meeting [Clause 033 referred].

Members discussed the works required to be done prior to any official lease being entered into, which had been identified as being relatively minor, with the exception of the boiler. Discussion ensued as to the duration of and measurables to be included in a lease agreement and Members also considered a letter from an existing user of the Courthouse.

It was agreed that there were expectations concerning the operation that needed to be agreed prior to the execution of a formal lease.

Lease – it was proposed by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed by 6 votes to 4 that a lease be entered into. Messrs. Beighton, Court, McGuinness and Parker voted against – Miss Craine was “off-line at the time of voting. [Mr. Oldham was not in the room].



(2022/23:097) Deputy Town Clerk's Report – Ramsey Courthouse – Ramsey Community Hub:

Discussion ensued on whether or not to allow a rent-free period and the duration of the lease and whether or not to include break periods within the lease.

Mr. Singer proposed 2-year break periods which was seconded by Mr. Young. Miss Craine suggested ½ yearly break periods. Mr. Cowell further suggested a 6 year lease the first two of which could be rent free with quarterly reviews.

A further proposal was put by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Beighton that the Commission commit to a 1 or 2 year rent free trial period of operation, excluding measurables but including an option to extend / renew.

Mr. Young suggested that the Courthouse be sold. Miss Craine queried any benefit to be gained from a rent-free period which she felt could encourage procrastination on the part of the Community Hub. Miss Craine also suggested the Hub redesign their "logo".

Mr. McGuinness amended his proposal to reflect a 2-year lease at which point Mr. Singer withdrew his proposal.

The proposal that a 2-year lease be granted was carried.

Mr. McGuinness further proposed, and Mr. Williams seconded that the Commission agree to the principles detailed within the Deputy Town Clerk's report dated 10th May, 2022, subject to the following:-

- The Commission will be responsible for the boiler.
- The Hub will be responsible for internal maintenance.
- Persons staging events at the outside area of the Courthouse will be permitted to use internal areas and vice versa.
- The Commission will be permitted use of the Courthouse when required.

Mr. Oldham returned to the meeting at this stage.

(2022/23:098) Finance Officer's General Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer's general report dated 13th July, 2022, subject to the following:-

Rent Arrears – Members were informed that the tenant listed at No. 24 in the details of rent arrears had not met the agreed payment plan and advocates are progressing recovery of the debt. The Housing and Property Manager suggested that action through the Small Claims Court could be commenced sooner.



(2022/23:098) Finance Officer's General Report Continued:

Treasury and HSBC Bank Borrowing Facility Agreement - Members noted the Finance Officer's detailed appendix to his report concerning the Agreement – it was proposed by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed that the Commission enter into the Amendment and Restatement Agreement and the Loan Facility Agreement, which updates the current borrowing .

Works and Development:

(2022/23:099) Technical Services Manager's Report – Waste Recycling Conference:

Members considered the Technical Services Manager's report dated 13th July, 2022, advising of the Waste Recycling Conference to be held at the NEC in Birmingham later this year. A proposal was put by Mr. Williams, seconded by Miss Craine that the Commission agree to the principle of attendance.

An amendment was put by Mr. McGuinness that the matter be referred to the Establishment for decision when costs are known. Mr. Singer asked if we needed 1 or 2 attendees and queried if the attendee(s) would report back to the Commission in writing.

Mr. Cowell seconded Mr. McGuinness's amendment which was put to the vote and carried by 11 votes to 1, Mr. Parker voting against.

Mr. Singer asked that the matter be added to the "Action Tracker".

Housing and Property:

The Town Clerk withdrew from the meeting during discussion of the following clause explaining that a family member had expressed interest in acquiring the Albert Street Flats.

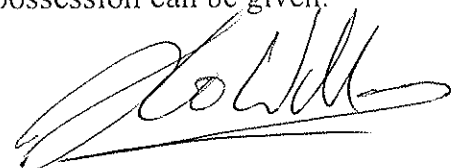
(2022/23:100) Housing and Property Manager's Report – Albert Street Flats:

Members considered the Housing and Property Manager's report dated 12th July, 2022, advising that the property comprising Albert Street flats have been placed with a local estate agent for sale on the open market.

The report includes details of 2 offers received to date. Members were informed that further offers had also been received since preparation of the Housing and Property Manager's report.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Miss Craine and agreed that no offer be accepted until such time as vacant possession can be given.

The Town Clerk returned to the meeting.



(2022/23:101) Housing and Property Manager's Report – Cronk Elfin Refurbishment Update:

Resolved: To note the Housing and Property Manager's report dated 11th July, 2022, updating members on the progress of the Cronk Elfin refurbishment project.

Members were informed that the contractor is struggling to obtaining building materials and the chimney cappings are causing problems.

It was proposed by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. McGuinness and agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow the meeting to be continued to its conclusion.

(2022/23:102) Housing and Property Manager's Report – Shoprite Toilets:

Members considered the Housing and Property Manager's report dated 12th July, 2022, concerning the provision of public conveniences in the vicinity of those no longer in use abutting Shoprite supermarket.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed this matter be deferred to a special meeting of the Commission, accepting that other matters will be discussed at the same meeting.

Any Other Business:

(2022/23:103) Minutes:

Miss Craine proposed that minutes be written up within 7 days of a meeting and then distributed to members for review and approval.

Mr. McGuinness proposed an amendment to exclude a 7-day limit but to email minutes to members earlier.

Concern was expressed that this action could cause additional pressure on staff and affect workloads. Members were informed that the action to email out was not problematic but of concern was the possibility of getting numerous differing responses.

Mr. McGuinness's amendment was seconded by Miss Craine and put to the vote. It failed by 8 votes to 4, Miss Craine and Messrs. Court, McGuinness and Williams.

Mr. Singer took the opportunity to refer to the service to the Commission by Mrs. Chrystal over many years and proposed that Commission record their appreciation. The proposal was seconded by Mr. Oldham and carried by 11 votes to 1, Mr. McGuinness voting against.



(2022/23:104) Advertising Picnic in the Park:

Reference was made to costs of additional advertising provided by a member for the “Picnic in the Park Event”. That member stated that such advertising had been undertaken on their own volition. Members queried if an advertising budget should be included.

Members were reminded by the Deputy Town Clerk that legitimately approved expenses incurred by members could be reimbursed.

Matters of Establishment:

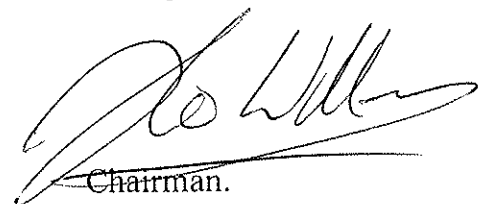
(2022/23:105) Meetings Establishment Committee:

Resolved; To note and approve the Minutes of meetings of the Establishment Committee held on 13th June, and 11th July, 2022, subject to the following:-

Mr. Beighton queried the FOI request and was advised by the Deputy Town Clerk that details were usually published on the Commission’s website when the matter was completed.

Mr. Kelly queried if “The Bradford Factor” has been set up with regard to staff absences. The Town Clerk advised that Covid absences had been a factor but that it has now been established that Covid absences should not be included.

The meeting closed at 10.15 p.m. giving a time of 3 ½ hours for the payment of attendance allowances.


Chairman.