

19th April 2002

PLEASE NOTE:

The attached Minutes are yet to be confirmed by the Commissioners as a true and correct record of proceedings at the various meetings, and the recommendations of the various committees are yet to be approved by the Commissioners.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.E.S. Smith', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

**J.E.S. SMITH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE/CLERK**

ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

*Hawthorn Villa,
Main Road,
Onchan.*

IN PUBLIC

19th April 2002

Sir/Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend an ORDINARY meeting of the Authority to be held in the boardroom at the offices of the Board to transact the undernoted business at:

7.00 p.m. on Monday, 22nd April, 2002

which will be followed by a meeting of the Board in Committee.

Yours faithfully,

J.E.S. SMITH

Chief Executive/Clerk

AGENDA

The order of business at every meeting of the authority shall be in accordance with that laid down in Standing Order No 4 unless varied by the Chairman at his discretion or by a resolution duly moved and seconded and passed on a motion which shall be moved and put without discussion.

1. To approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the:-
 - a) Ordinary meeting held on 18th March 2002 (Minutes - APPENDIX 2)
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2. To dispose of business (if any) remaining or arising from the above said meeting
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3. To dispose of business (if any) remaining or arising from meetings held prior to the last ordinary meeting.

3.1 Chief Secretary's Office re: Golden Jubilee Celebrations

3.2 Any other business arising.

4. Chairman's Announcements
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5. Questions - As may be asked by members under the provisions of Standing Order No 7(2).
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6. To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of committees. The chairman of the respective committees to report.
- 6.1 Housing Committee
- Meeting held 21st March 2002 (Minutes
– APPENDIX 3)
- 6.2 Works and Cleansing Committee
- Meeting held 8th April 2002
(Minutes – APPENDIX 4)
- 6.3 Leisure and Amenities Committee
- Meeting held 3rd April 2002
(Minutes – APPENDIX 5)
- 6.4 Policy and Finance Committee (Minutes
– APPENDIX 6)
- Meeting held 15th April 2002
- 6.5 Rural Committee (Minutes
- Meeting held 10th April 2002
– APPENDIX 7)
- 6.6 Joint Hackney Carriage Licensing Committee (Minutes
- Meeting held 27th March 2002
– APPENDIX 8)

Note:

Standing Order No 7(1) provides that “A member of the Authority may ask the chairman of a committee any question upon an item of the minutes, report or recommendations of a committee when that item is under consideration by the Authority.”

Other questions may be asked, after due notice in writing under the provisions of Standing Order No 7(2).

7 To consider letters, petitions, memorials and other communications.

7.1 Planning decisions/communications from the D.L.G.E. Planning Committee

(Schedule

- APPENDIX 10)

7.2 DOLGE re: Mr Adrian Earnshaw MHK – Member responsible for Local Government Affairs

7.3 DOLGE re: The Human Rights Act 2001

7.4 IOM Census Report 2001 – Volume 1 (circulated)

7.5 Office of the Council of Ministers – draft Race Relations Bill (circulated)

7.6 D.H.A. re: Police Consultative Forum's Annual Report (circulated)

7.7 Any Other Communication

8. To consider any report from the Clerk or the Surveyor.

9. To consider Motions in the order in which notice has been received. (*ref Standing Order No 5*)

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the **ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS** held in the Boardroom at Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 18th March 2002 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr D.J. Quirk, J.P. (Chairman)
Mr G.K. Astill
Mr S.T. Black
Mr D. Crellin
Mr M.J. Kennaugh
Mr E.D.R. Killey
Mr A.W.T. Norton
Mr H.L.G. Parkin
Mr J.K. Watterson

In Attendance Mr J.E.S. Smith (Chief Executive/Clerk)
Mr M.J. Williams (Deputy Clerk)
Mr E.K. Convery (District Surveyor)

C02/03/01/01
MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 11th February 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered, agreed as a correct record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

C02/03/01/02
BUSINESS ARISING

1. C02/02/01/06 - Attendance and Travelling Allowances

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated a copy of a letter received from Mr S.R. Morgan, Arbory Commissioner, advising that he was campaigning for a change to schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 1985, that part addressing the issue of travelling and attendance allowances, payable to Local Authority Members. In particular, Mr Morgan argued that it was unfair that a majority vote of an Authority should determine whether individual Commissioners had the right of claiming travelling or attendance allowances. The letter sought the views of the Onchan District Commissioners in this regard.

Mr Parkin had some sympathy with the arguments of Mr Morgan but considered that the majority vote was the democratic way of determining this issue. Mr Watterson considered that it was a matter for determination within the Authority of Mr Morgan, and once again had some sympathy with his position in this matter. However, Mr Watterson pointed out that to compromise situation had been reached within the Onchan District Commissioners whereby attendance allowances were payable to Members who attended ordinary meetings of the Board, the four standing

committees and the Joint Hackney Carriage Licensing Committee. Mr Killey indicated that he believed that an entitlement should be claimed. Mr Norton was concerned with the tenure of the letter and pointed out that the amount payable for attendance allowance was not significant. Mr Black suggested that the situation for Mr Morgan should be left to be discussed by Arbory Commissioners.

After a further short discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the correspondence received from Mr Morgan should be noted, and that he should be advised that the Onchan District Commissioners had reached a compromise in their consideration of this issue.

2. **C02/02/01/08 - Annual Election Dates**

The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that the Election preparation was underway, with the placement of an advertisement giving Notice of Election which had been erected and published that day. Nominations closed on Tuesday 2nd April 2002, the Returning Officer to declare validity of those nominations on 5th April 2002. If an election was to be held, it would take place on Friday 26th April 2002 at the Onchan Youth and Community Centre. On this occasion, the Returning Officer would be Deputy Chairman of the Commissioners, Mr Black, as the Chairman would himself be involved in the election as a candidate.

C02/03/01/03
BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None.

C02/03/01/04
CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:-

1. **Onchan District Commissioners' Election, April 2002**

Mr Quirk indicated that he would, once again, be a candidate at the forthcoming Election to the Onchan District Commissioners.

2. **Onchan Silver Band - Annual General Meeting**

The Chairman reminded Members that the Annual General Meeting of the Onchan Silver Band would take place on Wednesday 27th March 2002.

C02/03/01/05
QUESTIONS

None.

C02/03/01/06

HOUSING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Housing Committee meeting held on Monday 18th February 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated were considered. The following matters were arising therefrom:-

1. H02/02/02/05(2) - Ramped Access - Springfield Court Phase 2

Mr Crellin enquired as to the material which had been included in the consideration as to whether a ramped access should be provided to the lower side of Springfield Court. After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Housing Committee would re-examine this matter.

2. H02/02/02/05(1) - Cleaning of Gutters, Drop Spouts and Gullies - Phase 2

In answer to enquiry from Mr Black, the District Surveyor confirmed that the gullies at Springfield Court Phase 2 had now been cleared.

C02/03/01/07

RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Housing Committee meeting held on 18th February 2002, be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C02/03/01/08

WORKS AND CLEANSING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting held on Monday 25th February 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated were considered. Arising therefrom:-

1. WC02/02/05(d) - Broken Lamp Standard

It was considered that the use of the word "severed" was perhaps a little severe although technically accurate in that the lamp standard had become detached.

2. WC02/02/02(c) - Street Map

The minute of the meeting was referred to and noted.

3. WC02/02/08(b) - Any Other Health and Safety Business

Mr Watterson asked that more detail be included in the Health and Safety Report for the Works and Cleansing Committee. Mr

Crellin enquired as to whom he should contact with regard to arranging a tour of the Commissioners' Workshops. The District Surveyor indicated that if Mr Crellin contacted him directly, he would make the necessary arrangements.

C02/03/01/09

RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting held on 25th February 2002 be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C02/03/01/10

LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on Monday 4th March 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered.

The Chairman of the Leisure and Amenities Committee, Mr Killey, expressed some dissatisfaction over the level of progress in projects under the purview of the Leisure and Amenities Committee.

The following matters were specifically raised:-

1. LA02/03/05(a) (i) - Doors

The District Surveyor confirmed that the replacement of the door to the cubicle in the gentlemen's toilet in Main Road was in hand.

2. LA02/03/08(b) - Chair Storage

Mr Norton enquired whether alternative arrangements had been made for the storage of chairs at the Community Centre. He did not consider the stacking of chairs in the Committee Room at the Community Centre which was used by both the Onchan Playgroup and the Activity Centre as a satisfactory arrangement. Mr Norton also had concerns relating to the storage of tables in that area. Mr Watterson pointed out that new chairs had recently been purchased for use at the Community Centre, and that the tables had a proper storage facility provided, with securing straps, to ensure the safety of the tables in storage.

3. LA02/03/03(b) (ii) - Park Café

Mr Crellin enquired whether the works required at the Park Café had been completed. The District Surveyor indicated that the necessary tiling within the café area had been completed that day and the remaining works would be completed over the following two to three days. The District Surveyor pointed out that the Authority had been badly let down by the tiler, who had been elusive and eventually, an independent tiler had been engaged to carry out the works.

4. LA02/03/03(b)(iii) - Portacabin

Mr Crellin enquired whether the necessary works to the portacabin for the Parks Staff had been completed. The District Surveyor was aware that the works were in hand, and the portacabin was awaiting attention by the plumber and electrician.

5. LA02/03/07(f) - Website

Mr Kennaugh indicated that he had provided the necessary personal information in relation to the Commissioners' website, but that this had not yet been added. He also raised a difficulty which he had experienced in downloading the information. It was pointed out that the Administrative Officer, to whom the personal information had been provided was currently on leave.

6. LA02/03/09 - Outstanding Matters - Taverners Playground - Budgetary Allowance

The Chief Executive/Clerk clarified that no budgetary allowance had been made for further works to the Taverners Playground in 2002/03.

7. LA02/03/10(b) - Manx National Week

Mr Killey made reference to the resolution of the Leisure and Amenities Committee, that the past times operated by the Commissioners in Onchan Park should be available on Tynwald Day, 5th July 2002, on a two for the price of one basis. Mr Killey referred to the income in the previous year and questioned the success of the passports in 2001, in percentage terms.

Mr Killey indicated that the changes to the wording of the resolution might be appropriate, and it was subsequently **RESOLVED** that the resolution of the Leisure and Amenities Committee be amended to state that the pastimes by the Commissioners in Onchan Park should be available on Tynwald Day 5th July 2002, on a half price basis (to the nearest 10p), excluding those facilities which were coin operated.

8. LA02/03/06(a)(ii) - Summer Reading Scheme

Mr Black questioned the date in the minutes, understanding that the event had taken place on Saturday 16th March 2002.

C02/03/01/11
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on Monday 4th March 2002 be and are hereby received. It was further **RESOLVED** that the resolution contained therein, which had required the consent of the Board, be approved as amended by the Board, as follows:-

1. *that the pastimes by the Commissioners in Onchan Park should be available on Tynwald Day 5th July 2002, on a half price basis (to the nearest 10p), excluding those facilities which were coin operated.*

C02/03/01/12
POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 11th March 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. There were no matters arising therefrom.

C02/03/01/12
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 11th March 2002, be and are hereby received. It was further **RESOLVED** that the resolution contained therein requiring the consent of the Board be approved as follows:-

1. That the said payments from revenue account as detailed on the list attached to the minutes be endorsed.

C02/03/01/13

RURAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Rural Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6th March 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. The following matter was arising therefrom:-

1. **R02/03/02 - Matters Arising - Creg-na-Baa Back Road - Water on Road**

Mr Quirk made reference to apparent dumping near to the Honey Hill entrance. Mr Watterson advised that this was soil and materials which were to be used in the construction of the scramble course which had recently received planning approval. *Noted.*

C02/03/01/14

RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Rural Committee meeting held on 6th March 2002 be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C02/03/01/15

JOINT HACKNEY CARRIAGE LICENSING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Joint Hackney Carriage Licensing Committee meeting held on Wednesday 27th February 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. There were no matters arising therefrom.

C02/03/01/16

RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Joint Hackney Carriage Licensing Committee meeting held on 27th February 2002 be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board

C02/03/01/17

LETTERS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

1. **Planning Decisions/Communications from the Department of Local Government and the Environment Planning Committee**

PA Number	Description	Comment
01/2064	Variations of conditions of approval to extend	ODC Recommendation: Observation Initial Planning Decision Approval

	use of temporary access, Groudle Development	Surveyor reported reasons for decision, noted.
01/1273	Demolish existing dwelling and erect 4 2-storey blocks housing 30 apartments, land adjacent to "Far End", King Edward Road	ODC Recommendation: Refusal Planning Decision On Review Refusal Applicant requested an appeal hearing be held.
01/2115	Extension to create granny flat, 8 Whitebridge Road	ODC Recommendation: Refusal Initial Planning Decision: Refusal Request for a review of the decision submitted
01/1408	Amendment to garage blocks to include additional garages and bin stores, Garage blocks B, C and D, Majestic Apartments.	ODC Recommendation: Refusal Initial Planning Decision: Refusal Consideration deferred to later in meeting.
01/0669	Dwelling, land to rear of green fields, 14 Main Road	ODC Recommendation: Refusal Planning Decision: On Review - Refusal Decision to refuse application On Review upheld at Appeal..
01/2133	Conservatory to front elevation, 62 Lhon Vane Close	ODC Recommendation: Refusal Initial Planning Decision: Approval Reasons for approval reported, ODC not to seek review.
01/1636	12 Apartments, land below Majestic Apartments, King Edward Road	ODC Recommendation: Refusal Initial Planning Decision: Refusal Initial decision to refuse the application confirmed On Review.
01/1751	73 Bedroom Hotel, 28-38 Main Road	ODC Recommendation: Refusal Initial Planning Decision: Approval Initial decision to approve application upheld On Review.

In relation to PA01/1751 (73 bedroom hotel, 28-38 Main Road) Mr Watterson proposed that the application should not be taken to appeal. He pointed out that the site to be viable for development, it would have to be fairly densely occupied. Mr Watterson did not consider the proposals to be detrimental to the area. The views of Mr Watterson were echoed by Mr Parkin, who considered that there had been no real grounds for opposition to the development, in planning terms, on the previous occasion. The developer had complied with the previous objections of the Authority and Mr Parkin considered the opposition to the development to be on emotive grounds. Mr Parkin expressed concerns that the Commissioners were increasingly at odds with the views of the Planning Authority.

The District Surveyor pointed out that regardless of the current application, the developer had an existing planning approval for the creation of a hotel on the site, and a separate approval for the creation of offices thereon. The latest application simply tried to address some of the concerns which the Commissioners had previously expressed. Mr Watterson proposed that the opposition to the development should not be taken further. The proposal was seconded by Mr Parkin. A vote was taken and the proposal was defeated with only Messrs Parkin and Watterson voting for the proposal. Other Members voted against.

2. **Richmond Hill Consultative Committee**

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated copies of the public minutes of the Richmond Hill Consultative Committee with the agenda and the content of the minutes were noted.

3. Chief Constable - Appointment of Inspector Peter Young

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated a copy of a letter dated 13th February 2002 from the Chief Constable, advising that Acting Inspector Peter Young was to be promoted to the substantive rank of Inspector on 11th March 2002, and that he would retain his responsibilities as Divisional Commander for "B" Division which comprised of the areas covered by Douglas Corporation, Onchan and Braddan Commissioners. The Chief Constable recognised that Peter Young had been in Operational Command at the Division in the capacity of Acting Inspector for the previous 12 months and was now pleased to be able to confirm his permanent appointment in the interests of continuity and consistency for all policing matters within the division. The Chief Constable stated that he had every confidence in Mr Young in further developing quality in local policing and he was sure the current professional relationship that the Police enjoyed with the Commissioners would continue to flourish. *Noted.*

Mr Killey made reference to the fact that twice in the previous week, he had attended the Onchan Police Station and that on both occasions, the Station had been unmanned. *Noted.*

4. Groudle Road - Traffic/Development

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated with the agenda the copy letter received addressed to the Chief Executive of the Department of Transport from Mr A. Bottomley, dated 25th February 2002. Mr Bottomley, a resident at Groudle Road, had expressed concerns regarding traffic movements along Groudle Road, particularly in relation to recent and ongoing developments.

In discussions, Mr Kennaugh was not aware that the difficulties on Groudle Road were any different to those experienced elsewhere within Onchan, during busy times of the day. Mr Parkin expressed the view that the road was too narrow for the volume of traffic and the introduction of traffic humps was not appropriate. He considered that the residents in the area had a justifiable grievance although recognised that some of the traffic difficulties were replicated elsewhere on the Island. Mr Quirk made reference to the recent introduction of a Traffic Counter.

Mr Norton enquired whether there was any evidence that traffic was taking a detour through Lakeside Gardens to avoid traffic difficulties on Governor's Bridge. Mr Watterson considered that the difficulties caused by the movements of heavy goods vehicles may be eased by the introduction of temporary site access of Whitebridge Road. Mr Crellin noted that at least some of the concerns were down to speeding. He also questioned whether the introduction of a weight restriction should be considered. The District Surveyor pointed out that the movement of the heavy goods vehicles in relation to the development on North Bank Land would be drawing to a

conclusion, as the developers were now developing the final 21 properties. That particular problem should diminish.

Mr Crellin enquired whether part of the difficulty was due to the meeting of heavy goods vehicles travelling in opposite directions. The District Surveyor pointed out that the developers had had an agreement to utilise the road in one direction only. Mr Watterson pointed out that the introduction of a weight restriction would provide difficulties for the other vehicles including the Commissioners' own refuse collection vehicles.

On completion of the consideration it was **RESOLVED** that a letter be issued to Sergeant Mitchell at the Onchan Police Station, drawing the attention of the Police to alleged speeding on the Groudle Road. Furthermore, it was **RESOLVED** that a letter be issued to the Department of Transport asking that the Department look at the deterioration in the condition of the Groudle Road and provide assistance when necessary. It was also **RESOLVED** that a response be issued to Mr Bottomley in this regard.

Mr Parkin added that the provision of a one-way system along the far end of Groudle Road appeared to encourage drivers to increase their speed, as they knew that they would not meet traffic travelling in the other direction. However, to a pedestrian, this provided an additional hazard. Mr Parkin suggested that the reintroduction of two-way traffic would help to control the speed of vehicles travelling along that section of road. *Noted.*

5. Road Safety - Kaighin's Lane

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated a copy of a letter received from Mrs Curphey concerning road safety for children using Kaighin's Lane. The letter pointed out that a lot of children used that route to travel to Onchan School and it currently involved them using the entrance to the Commissioners' Car Park to cross from Kaighin's Lane to the grass plot adjacent to the Scout Hut. Mrs Curphey pointed out that it was very difficult to see the traffic from School Road entering onto the road into the Car Park and that a recent additional hazard had been having to walk into the road to pass a transit van which had been parked on the pavement.

Mr Quirk suggested that consideration be given to the addition of a further speed hump near to the access road to the Community Centre to try to slow vehicles down sooner.

Mr Killey suggested that the question of the transit van parking on the pavement be referred to Onchan Police for investigation. The Deputy Clerk advised that he had received complaints from residents at Springfield Court that the Car Park at First Avenue was also being used by persons taking children to Onchan School for the purpose of parking their vehicle and causing congestion therein. Mr Watterson suggested that a letter be sent to Onchan School drawing their attention to the difficulties being experienced, and asking

that the matter be relayed to parents by way of the Onchan School Newsletter.

Mr Crellin made reference to the number of parking difficulties which were apparent throughout the district, and suggested that the enforcement of the traffic laws would be difficult for the Onchan Police with the reduced manpower which was presently available.

6. Residence Act

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of a letter received from the Office of the Council of Ministers, dated 27th February 2002, with regard to the Residence Act.

It was agreed that consideration of the letter be referred to an extraordinary meeting of the Commissioners.

C02/03/01/18
CLERK'S REPORT

None .

C02/03/01/19
DISTRICT SURVEYOR'S REPORT

None .

C02/03/01/20
MOTIONS

None .

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the **HOUSING COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 21st March 2002 beginning at 7.35 p.m.

Present: Mr M.J. Kennaugh (Chairman)
Mr A.T.W. Norton
Mr J.K. Watterson

Apologies Mr D.J. Quirk, J.P.

In attendance: Mr M.J. Williams (Deputy Clerk)
Mr A.B. Sutherland (Housing Maintenance Manager)

H02/03/02/01

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on Monday 18th February 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered, agreed as a correct record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

H02/03/02/02

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. **H02/02/02/02(2)- Uniform Housing Acceptance and Allocation Criteria**

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that letters had been issued to all housing applicants on 5th March 2002, requiring the completion of the new housing application form, in compliance with the instruction of the Department of Local Government and the Environment. A reasonable response had followed, but a significant number of applications had not yet been received. Reminder letters had been prepared, suggesting Tuesday 2nd April 2002 as the final date for submission of the forms.

2. **H02/02/02/16(2) - Bemahague Sheltered Housing Complex**

The Deputy Clerk reported that he had been advised that the construction contract was progressing satisfactorily.

Arrangements had yet to be made to meet with the Soldiers Sailors and Air Forces Association and indeed the Joint Ex-Servicemen's Association, to discuss further the practicalities of the management of the complex when completed. The Deputy Clerk hoped to arranged this in the near future.

H02/03/02/03

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None.

H02/03/02/04

HOUSING AND OTHER ESTATES BUSINESS

1. H02/02/02/04(1) - External Painting and Decorating

In his report, the Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that the external decoration of units at Heywood Grove was now complete. In addition, the decoration to properties numbered 50 to 69 Heywood Drive had also been completed and works were continuing on the final units numbered 70 to 75 in Heywood Drive.

The Housing Maintenance Manager advised that the contract may run over in to the new financial year by one week and that some replacement of trellis work had been necessary. *Noted.*

2. H02/02/02/04(2) - Nursery Avenue Properties - Steps

The Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that Contractor fitting handrails to properties in the Nursery Avenue area was due on site on 25th March 2002.

3. H02/02/02/04(4) - Marion Court - Satellite Television

The Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that the works to the satellite television system at Marion Court had been completed, and that the difficulty had now been rectified.

4. The Park Houses - Garden Walls

The Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that it had been necessary to remove a small dividing wall between numbers 38 and 39 The Park, as the construction was becoming unsafe. The wall had been replaced with a timber post and rail fence for the time being. However, the Housing Maintenance Manager reminded Members that some money had been ear marked for future works to the garden walls at the Park Houses, in the planned housing maintenance schemes. At present, works were not due to take place for two to three years, although this would be reviewed in the planned housing maintenance discussions with the Department of Local Government and the Environment.

H02/03/02/05

SPRINGFIELD COURT MATTERS

1. H02/02/02/05(1) - Cleaning of Gutters, Drop Spouts and Gullies - Phase 2

In his report, the Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that the clearance of the gutters, drop spouts and gullies at phase 2 at Springfield Court was complete.

2. Replacement of External Doors and Frames

In his report, the Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that rendering and dash had still to be applied where external corridors at Springfield Court had recently been closed in. *Noted.*

3. H02/02/02/05(3) - Satellite Television - Springfield Court

The Deputy Clerk reported that there had been no progress in this regard.

H02/03/02/06

GARAGE MATTERS

1. Garage Tenancies

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that little work had been undertaken in respect of garages since the previous Administrative Assistant left the employ of the Commissioners. The management of the garages was the responsibility of the Administrative Assistant but had carried less priority with the Deputy Clerk than dealing with the various housing application matters which had arisen in the meantime.

2. Garage Doors - Repainting

No progress to report.

H02/03/02/07

PLANNED HOUSING MAINTENANCE

1. Planned Housing Maintenance Survey Update

The Deputy Clerk reported that the completed survey data, including detailed findings in relation to the Onchan District properties, had been installed on a "stand alone" computer in the Commissioners' Office and was awaiting examination.

H02/03/02/08

HEALTH AND SAFETY BUSINESS

The Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that there had been no accidents or incidents in relation to the Housing Committee activities since the last meeting of the Committee. He had ensured that the Health and Safety at Work posters were displayed as required. The next Departmental Health and Safety Committee meeting was to be held on 29th March 2002.

During discussion, it was noted that the portable tools used by the workforce should be tested at least annually.

H02/03/02/09

OFFICERS REPORT

None.

H02/03/02/10

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

None.

H02/03/02/11
FINANCIAL MATTERS

The report of the Finance Officer comparing actual income and expenditure for the year to date to 11th March 2002, with anticipated figures from the original estimates, in respect of general housing and the elderly persons complex were noted. Furthermore, the report on year to date activity to 11th March 2002, in respect of non-housing responsibilities were also noted.

H02/03/02/12
OUTSTANDING MATTERS

None considered this month.

H02/03/02/13
MATTERS REFERRED BY THE BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES

1. Springfield Court - Ramp

The Deputy Clerk reminded Members that the Board had asked the Housing Committee to reconsider its deliberation in relation to the request for the construction of a ramp to the lower end of Springfield Court. The Deputy Clerk recalled that Mr Crellin had suggested that the District Surveyor should examine the issue.

The Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that he, together with the District Surveyor, had revisited the area to consider the issue afresh. The slope of the site meant that to achieve the required gradient (1:12 or 1:15), the Housing Maintenance Manager advised that the ramp would be approximately 75 ft, or to the First Avenue car park in length. The land itself was particularly boggy and would have to be built up. This made the construction expensive to achieve. It was understood that the facility would be for a visitor to the Complex. The Housing Committee restated that any tenant having difficulty with access to their home could apply for a transfer to another unit at Springfield Court and the application would be considered sympathetically, as and when suitable vacancies occurred.

After discussion, the Committee reaffirmed its previous view that, given the financial constraints upon the maintenance budget at Springfield Court and the practical difficulties with the provision of a ramp would provide, that the request to provide an additional ramp at Springfield Court must be declined.

H02/03/02/14
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Commissioners' Surgery would take place on Thursday 25th April 2002 at 6.30 p.m..

It was further agreed that the next ordinary meeting of the Committee would take place on Monday 29th April 2002, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the **WORKS & CLEANSING COMMITTEE**, held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 8th April 2002 at 7.00pm.

Present: Messrs H.L.G. Parkin (in the chair) G.K. Astill, D. Crellin, A.T.W. Norton
and D.J. Quirk JP.

In attendance: J.E.S. Smith (Clerk), E.K. Convery (Surveyor) and Peter Kelly (Administration)

WC/02/4/1

SILENCE

The Chairman requested that those present stand in silence for a minute as mark of respect for Her Majesty The Queen Mother who had passed away on 30th March.

At the end of the silence the Clerk advised members that Mr Charles H. Gill of Greeba Castle had passed away on 6th April. Mr Gill was the senior past commissioner, having been a member from 1932-35. He was in his 93rd year.

WC/02/4/2

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 25th February 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, was taken as read, confirmed and signed.

WC/02/4/3

MATTERS ARISING

The following matters were arising:-

a) White City - Wayleave

The Surveyor advised that work was progressing on the completion of the storm water outlet over the rock face between Port Jack and White City. Discussions had taken place with Heritage Homes with the suggestion that in lieu of a wayleave payment they consider the renovation of the Port Jack toilets on a design and build basis. Mr Quirk expressed concern over the reinstatement work which the Surveyor indicated was yet complete. He then enquired as to any work to be carried out by the commissioners in respect of missing bars from the railings. The Surveyor replied that there was an allowance in the

current year's estimates for ongoing repairs to the railings but was not aware of any missing bars. Mr Quirk then suggested that the Department of Transport be offered the coastal footpath running down the brows in front of White City.

b) **Street Map**

The Administrative Officer informed members that there had been no further communication from Atlas who had offered to produce a street map of Onchan in return for displaying one of their advertising maps in Onchan Park.

WC/02/4/4

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil.

WC/02/4/5

REFUSE COLLECTION AND OTHER CLEANSING BUSINESS

a) **Officer's Report**

Copies of the Building Control Officer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following matter being discussed further:-

New Refuse Vehicle

The Clerk confirmed that an order had been placed with Faun Municipal Vehicles Limited, following receipt of their tender of £115,499 +VAT which had been accepted by the Board. A fax had been received that day in answer to a query from the commissioners advising that the cab could be fitted with a bench seat and the cost of same including the alteration to the floor well was £950 +VAT. It was confirmed that there was a 3 year guarantee on the vehicle and a delivery date of 9th August. A brief discussion it was

***RESOLVED**

"to accept the additional quotation from Faun in the sum of £950 for the provision of a bench seat together with alterations to the well of the cab on the new refuse vehicle".

Further letter reported as received from Faun advising that a spring show was to take place in Anglesey on 17th and 18th April at which 25 exhibitors from the waste industry would be taking part. After discussion it was

***RESOLVED**

“that the Clerk, Building Control Officer and Commissioner Watterson should attend the two day event in Anglesey”.

b) Pavement Sweeper

The Clerk made reference to the fact that the Leisure and Amenities Committee had recommended that an alternative long term garage be found for the pavement sweeper as opposed to it being kept alongside the new public toilets in Main Road. Mr Quirk commented that the commissioners did own a large number of lock up garages and he felt that one of these would be suitable in the interim. The Surveyor commented that in the long term it was intended now that provision be made in the new School Road depôt for the sweeper to be kept with the other commissioners' vehicles.

WC/02/4/6

STREET LIGHTING

a) **Officer's Report**

Copies of the District Surveyor's report in respect of street lighting, having been circulated prior to the meeting, was noted with the following matters being discussed further:-

i) **Blackberry Lane – Footpath**

Mr Quirk commented on the excellent co-operation between the Department of Transport and the MEA in the erection and connection of the new streetlights in Blackberry Lane.

ii) **Main Road Street Furniture Scheme**

The Surveyor advised that McGarrigle Jackson, the architects engaged to produce a scheme, had now taken into their employ Mr John Payne who would be producing a scheme for the commissioners which was expected to be forwarded in the course of the next couple of weeks. Discussion was to be held with him the following week.

b) **Street Lighting Capital Improvement Schemes**

i) **Access Lane to Meadow View**

The Surveyor reported quotation from the MEA of £3,027.

ii) **King Edward Road**

The Surveyor advised that the survey of the present standards carried out by Nortest revealed that the columns required to be replaced. A quotation had been received from the MEA in the sum of £43,703 to replace eight nos ten metre high columns together with a new cabling work. No allowance had been made for cutting into rock.

The Clerk reported that adding the two schemes together and allowing a contingency figure of £3,270 that a petition could be made for borrowing powers in the sum of £50,000. After further discussion it was

***RESOLVED**

“that the quotation received from the Manx Electricity Authority in the sum of £43,503 +VAT for the installation of eight nos ten metre high public lighting columns and associated new cable at King Edward/Port Jack be accepted, subject to the approval of the Department of Local Government and the Environment”.

“that the quotation received from the Manx Electricity Authority in the sum of £3,027 +VAT for the installation of two nos five metre public lighting columns and associated new cable at Meadow View be accepted, subject to the approval of the Department of Local Government and the Environment”.

“that a petition be submitted to the Department of Local Government and the Environment for sanction to borrow a sum not exceeding £50,000 (which includes a contingency provision) repayable in 15 years to defray the cost of the above proposed street lighting improvement schemes”.

Mr Quirk made reference to the weeds growing at the side of the pavement at Port Jack alongside the railings.

WC/02/4/7

DRAINAGE FUNCTION

a) Officer’s Report

Copies of the District Surveyor’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following matters being discussed further

i) Sewer Rehabilitation Contract

The Surveyor reported that plans were being prepared showing the areas where work had been undertaken in the Ballachurry Park Estate and where work was yet to take place.

ii) Birch Hill Avenue

Mr Quirk enquired as to why work was taking place in Birch Hill Avenue on the previous Friday and Saturday. The Surveyor replied that a section of drain had been lined by Insituform but unfortunately the junction into Birchleigh House had not been cut after the lining. It was this work that was being carried out. Noted.

WC/02/4/8

PLANNING MATTERS

a) **Planning Communications**

There were no items to report where the decision of the Planning Committee differed from the recommendation of the commissioners. The Surveyor did however advise as to requests for Appeal and Review in respect of a number of applications.

b) **Extraordinary Meeting**

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 13th March 2002 to consider planning applications, copies of which having been circulated prior to the meeting, was taken as read, confirmed and signed.

c) **New Applications**

The following applications were considered:-

PA01/2528 Additional window, 9 Buttermere Drive for Mr G. Thompaon
– ***Recommend approval subject to notifying neighbour.***

PA01/2564 Extension to garage and rooflight to rear at 7 Howe Road for Mr Conway

- ***Recommend approval, neighbour to be notified.***

PA01/2565 Brick up kitchen door at 111 Wybourn View for Mr P. Elworthy (retrospective application) – ***Recommend approval subject to the fire officer's consent.***

PA01/2585 Replacement garage and rear extension at 64 Derwent Drive for Mr A. Clague – ***Recommend approval subject to notifying neighbours.***

PA01/2421 Conversion of premises to ceramic studio, unit 5C Village Walk for Mr & Mrs Whiteman – ***Recommend approval.***

WC/02/4/9

HEALTH AND SAFETY BUSINESS

a) Officer's Report

Copies of the Building Control Officer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following points being discussed further:-

i) Training Course

It was noted that the Amenities Officer and the Building Control Officer were to attend a refresher course on confined space working. The reason for sending two persons on the course was to provide back up cover in the event of one of the officers being on holiday or ill at the time that such supervision may be required.

ii) Bagged Waste

The Surveyor explained, in answer to question from Mr Norton, problems experienced at Mount Murray due to the narrow road layout which was not passable by the refuse vehicles. As a result, a smaller pick up vehicle was having to be used to collect bagged refuse. This situation had been on going for approximately 3 months and the intention was that Braddan Commissioners would provide central refuse collection points to alleviate the necessity of bag collection. Mr Quirk commented that he felt Braddan Commissioners should be given one month in which to rectify the problem otherwise the commissioners cease to collect on health and safety grounds.

WC/02/4/10

CAPITAL AND REVENUE PROJECTS

a) **Officer's Report**

Copies of the report prepared by the Clerk had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following item being discussed further

Go-kart Track Extension

The Clerk advised that he had been informed by the licence holder that following experiments which had taken place on the stock car track it was now felt unnecessary to extend the track in the two positions previously indicated and for which the commissioners were to make a financial contribution. The draft lease was therefore to be amended to omit that section dealing with the alterations to track. Noted.

b) **Bemahague Sheltered Housing Complex**

The Surveyor reported that the complex was on schedule and was getting to a stage where he felt it would be appropriate for the commissioners to have an on site meeting. He anticipated this to be in approximately a month's time.

c) **Main Road Public Toilets**

The Surveyor reported that this had now reached stage five having gone to DOLGE to seek permission to go out to tender.

d) **Hawthorn Villa Alterations**

The Surveyor reported that a meeting was to be held later that week with the architects. He was hopeful that work should commence in the latter part of the year.

e) **Port Jack Shelter**

The Surveyor advised that he had received a letter from the architects certifying that the making good of defects had been carried out.

f) **Data Protection Office – Air Conditioning**

Mr Quirk requested an update on the situation regarding the possible installation of air conditioning plant which was given to him by the Clerk and Surveyor.

WC/02/4/11

BUILDING CONTROL

There were no matters for discussion or consideration.

WC/02/4/12

HIGHWAY AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

a) **Speed Bumps Windermere Drive**

Letter reported as received from a resident of Windermere Drive enclosing a copy of a letter he had sent to the Department of Transport expressing his dismay at the installation of traffic calming measures within the Lakeside Gardens Estate. Noted.

b) **Abandoned Vehicle**

Mr Parkin made reference to what appeared to be a abandoned vehicle opposite the tram stop at White City. The Surveyor reported that this had been drawn to the

attention of the police on a number of occasions. Mr Crellin enquired whether there had been an update report from the police to which the Surveyor replied that there hadn't. Mr Quirk added that the commissioners should write to the police and DoT regarding any vehicles over which they had concern. He then made reference to two trailers carrying boats which had been left in Imperial Terrace, a trailer in Marion Road and three vehicles apparently abandoned at the rear of Marion Court. He further added that there was a black Citroen alongside Beech House Bookshop and a van in Elm Tree Road and Stoney Road. He suggested that a complaints form should be prepared for completion and onward transmission to the relevant departments.

c) Parking

Mr Parkin made reference to the contractors' vehicles in relation to the Douglas Bay Hotel site development. He commented that they were parking everywhere. The Surveyor pointed out that they could not park within the site due to work being carried out. Providing they parked in a legal way and the vehicles were registered that there was nothing that could be done. He would anticipate that the only effect that these vehicles have, particularly where they were double parked was in fact to the operatives themselves.

d) Pot Holes

Mr Astill made reference to potholes in the road at the top entrance to The Park and also near Port Jack. He further added that cars were still speeding down Summerhill Road, taxis in particular.

WC/02/4/13

FURTHER REPORTS FROM CLERK/SURVEYOR

There were no further reports.

WC/02/4/14

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

a) Beech House Bookshop

Letter reported as received from the tenant of the Beech House Bookshop requesting permission to remove an internal partition to the office and to erect 1.5 high screen at the opposite end of the building to provide an office area. After brief discussion it was resolved that such approval should be granted.

b) Recycling – Textiles

Letter reported as received from a resident in Whitebridge Road regarding the recycling facilities alongside the commissioners' office for glass, newspapers, cans and clothing. The resident enquired whether it was possible to also include a facility for textiles such as blankets and other materials. Mr Astill commented that in New York they were going to scrap recycling as they regarded it as being too expensive. Agreed that the Clerk send a suitable reply to the enquirer.

WC/02/4/15

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

Copies of the list of outstanding matters had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following matters being discussed further.

WC/01/07/04(a) New Refuse Vehicle – Order in January 2002 – Delete as vehicle now ordered.

WC/02/01/20(a) Reinstatement of Road – Majestic Footpath – **Delete as work now complete.**

EWC/01/11/04(f)(vi) Avondale Road – Anti Skid Surface – Zebra Crossing

Mr Crellin enquired as to why there had been no progress in respect of this item. The Surveyor reminded members that the Department of Transport had safety surfacing installed by a UK firm who came to the Island periodically to carry out such work in batches. It was a case of waiting until they next came to the Island when there was sufficient work for them. Noted.

W98/7/14(a) Adoption of Roads and Lanes – Marion Court

Mr Quirk enquired as to the position regarding the adoption. The Surveyor advised that there was a list of items to rectify in respect of the Marion Court development. Comment was made that part of the area was in fact, to the best knowledge of the Clerk and Administrative Officer, already adopted in respect of the footpath running from Royal Avenue to The Park.

W99/09/03(a) Adoption of Roads – Heywood Park

Mr Quirk enquired as to the position regarding road adoption in this location. The Surveyor reminded members that they had only recently accepted a quotation for the remedial work to be carried out in this area after which it was hoped the road would be adopted. Noted.

W97/6/8(6) Amend Dog By-laws

Mr Norton enquired as to when this was to be carried out. The Clerk replied that the Department of Local Government and the Environment were proposing to amend the primary legislation. This had not yet come through in the form of a bill.

W95/9/11 Proposed extension and or new Conservation Area

Mr Quirk requested that a letter be sent to Mrs Marlene Hendy, Building Conservation Officer enquiring as to progress in this matter and a copy to be sent to the new Planning Officer. Mr Quirk also requested that his suggestion of Government House being registered should be brought to the attention of Mrs Hendy again.

Kaighens Lane

The Surveyor advised that he had spoken with the Road Safety Officer following receipt of a letter of complaint from a resident regarding traffic coming in and out of the YCC car park adjoining Kaighens Lane. The location of a hedge making it difficult for drivers to see children to crossing over at this point. An on site meeting was to be held shortly. Noted.

WC/02/4/17

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 30th April 2002 at 7pm.

b) **Heywood Park**

Mr Crellin made reference to bushes overgrowing the walkway at Heywood Park. The Surveyor advised that he had looked at the area and could only find this in one location by the entrance to a path. It would be necessary to establish whether the bushes were on land owned by the commissioners or belonging to the properties; then appropriate action could be taken.

c) **Bemahague Road**

Mr Quirk made reference to the fact that during periods of rain, water was coming out of the embankments behind the street lights and onto Bemahague Road.

Meeting terminated 9.21pm.

Minutes of a meeting of the **LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Wednesday 3rd April 2002 at 7.00pm.

Present: Messrs E.D.R. Killey (in the chair), G.K. Astill, D. Crellin, D.J. Quirk JP
and J.K. Watterson

In attendance: Peter Kelly (Administration)

LA/02/4/1

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, was taken as read, confirmed and signed.

LA/02/4/2

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising that were not already on the agenda.

LA/02/4/3

PLAYGROUNDS/PARKS

a) **Playground Log Books**

The Chairman advised that as the Amenities Officer was on holiday then the books were not available for signing. This would be undertaken following the return of the officer from vacation. Mr Quirk made reference to the roundabout in Onchan Park advising that he had the playground inspector from Douglas Corporation look at the roundabout and the latter felt that the bearings had gone. Mr Astill and Mr Crellin both informed the meeting that they had received complaints about paint chipping off equipment. Both matters to be referred to the Amenities Officer.

b) **Amenities Officer's Report**

Copies of the report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following matters being discussed further:-

i) **Storm Damage**

Mr Quirk expressed concern over the estimated amount of time that it would take the park staff to remove the tree stump to below ground level and suggested that half a day for two men with the right equipment would suffice. He further advised that there was another tree stump in the vicinity of the rose gardens by the park bungalows which required to be taken down below ground level as well. After discussion it was agreed that the correct equipment should be hired and the Amenities Officer should be in attendance whilst the work is carried out.

ii) Portacabin

The Chairman expressed concern that the new staff facilities were not yet connected to the mains electric and drainage. Mr Astill commented that he did not feel the unit was large enough but Mr Quirk advised that it was the largest available and the model which the commissioners themselves had selected. The Chairman directed that the connections be made by the time of the next Board meeting and that the current temporary staff accommodation under the stadium be cleared out of all furnishings.

iii) Festoons

Members noted that the replacement bulbs had been placed in the festoons and the Chairman commented that perhaps the electrician could investigate the power supply adjoining the boating lake to see if it would be suitable for floodlighting.

iv) Flat Green

Members noted with concern that some damage had occurred to the flat green over the weekend. It was further noted that the police had been informed. Messrs Quirk and Crellin both commented that there had not been police officers on duty in Onchan of recent as they were doing duties elsewhere. It was noted that the CCTV video recording was to be viewed in the hopes of identifying the culprits. Mr Watterson sought confirmation that the camera system was not digital on the basis that if it were then the system would require to be registered with the Data Protection Office. Mr Quirk added that there were a number of sections of fence at the lower side of the flat green not in position which provides easy access to the area. Matter to be referred to the Amenities Officer.

v) First Aid Course

Members noted that Mr Rolfe had undertaken a refresher course in first aid and the Chairman directed that a letter be sent to him.

c) Easter Takings

Members noted with interest that the nett takings over the Easter period were £2,390.43 compared to £2,165.32 the previous year. The Administrative Officer pointed out that the park was in fact open one additional day this year compared to the last. The Chairman requested that the happy hour times for the summer months should be clearly displayed at the hut.

d) Special Olympics

The Administrative Officer reported correspondence with Mr Dominic Pickard regarding the two persons being trained for the Irish National Golf Games on the putting green. A copy of the group's insurance cover was now to hand and established to be satisfactory. Noted.

LA/02/4/4

OPEN SPACES

a) Amenities Officer's Report

Copies of the Amenities Officer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following points being discussed further:-

i) War Memorial

Mr Quirk commented that the planting around the War Memorial required more colour.

ii) **Village Green**

Mr Quirk commented that there was a cracked and split slab on the steps to the Village Cross.

iii) **Nursery Avenue Recreation Ground**

Mr Quirk commented that he was not aware that the drains in The Rec had been jetted of recent.

b) **Centenary Park**

The Administrative Officer reported that arrangements had been made for a fence to be erected in the lower field to separate the area which was to be planted with oak trees in the Autumn. With regard to the embankment he had a look at this of recent and was of the opinion that the best way forward in the scheme to be submitted for planning approval was in fact to sculpture the present embankment with a JCB thus alleviating the necessity of bringing further spoil to the site.

c) **Groudle Glen**

The Administrative Officer laid before the committee a plan as produced by the Clerk and Surveyor. This showed a series of parcels of land to the west of the river which currently belonged to the owners of Bibaloe Moar Farm. The owners were prepared to gift these plots to the commissioners on condition that their legal costs are covered and that the commissioners erect a fence along the river boundary and that a cattle watering place is maintained. After a brief discussion it was

***RESOLVED**

“to recommend the acceptance of the land in Groudle Glen belonging to the owners of Bibaloe Moar Farm as indicated on the plan laid before the committee and on the terms whereby the commissioners pay the vendor’s legal charges and erect a fence alongside the river boundary”.

LA/02/4/5

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

a) **Amenities Officer’s Report**

Copies of the report had been circulated prior to the meeting and were noted.

b) **Port Jack Toilets**

The Administrative Officer reported that a wash hand basin had been damaged over the Easter weekend but this had been replaced. Mr Quirk commented that the masonry pillar at the entrance to the toilets had still not been repaired.

c) **Main Road Toilets Redevelopment**

There was no further information, in the absence of the Surveyor on holiday, as to how far the pre-contract works were progressing.

LA/02/4/6

PUBLIC LIBRARY

a) **Librarian’s Report**

Copies of the Librarian’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. Again there was a overall increase in issues for the month compared to the previous year. Members noted that student library assistant Vicki Belfield and Anna Potts both read to over 60 children in their nightwear as part of the National Bedtime Reading Week. Agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to both members of staff.

b) **Amenities Officer's Report**

Copies of the Amenities Officer's report had been circulated and it was noted that no maintenance or other works had been necessary in the library during the month.

LA/02/4/7

PROMOTIONS/ADVERTISING/PUBLIC INFORMATION

a) **Advertising**

The Administrative Officer reported that advertising space was taken in the three local papers during the week leading up to the Easter weekend to advertise Onchan Park.

The Administrative Officer showed members a copy of the advertisement for Onchan Park which appears on page 41 of The All Round Guide to the Isle of Man just published.

The Chairman enquired as to radio advertising for the season. The Administrative Officer reported that to date no decision had been made by the committee or instructions given. Agreed that a quotation be requested from Manx Radio to provide a similar service to the previous year.

The Chairman also suggested that perhaps posters could be produced for distribution to the various tourist offices throughout the Island. These he felt could be done on computer in house.

b) **Queen's Golden Jubilee**

The Administrative Officer reported that the order had now been sent for the jubilee mugs following the consideration and acceptance of quotation by the Board. Both schools had replied and arrangements were in hand for the presentation of the mugs at the schools.

There was a recent further request for a street party this time in Wentworth Close. The Administrative Officer reported interview he had held with the two promoters of the Seaview Road street party and explained the requirements for a road closing order which the committee had previously agreed to make. After further discussion it was

***RESOLVED**

"to make application in the name of the commissioners for road closing orders in Seaview Road and Wentworth Close on 4th July 2002 for street parties. Cost of the public announcement made by the Department of Transport being reimbursed by the commissioners on whose insurance cover the road closing order would be granted".

c) **Website**

The Administrative Officer reported that since the last meeting the list of tourist accommodation in Onchan had been added to the website. This covered all registered tourist accommodation in Onchan with the exception of two premises who had failed or declined to return the slip granting their consent for inclusion on the web. Noted.

d) **Flags**

The Amenities Officer had obtained a quotation for the putting up and taking down of flags for the summer season. It was noted that the Amenities Officer indicated the price was the same as during the previous year. As this was a repeat and for which budget had been provided then it was left for the Amenities Officer to accept.

LA/02/4/8

YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

a) **Amenities Officer's Report**

Copies of the Amenities Officer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following matter being discussed further.

Water Heater

Mr Quirk enquired whether the new water heater had yet been fitted. In the absence of the Amenities Officer the question could not be answered.

LA/02/4/9

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

Copies of the list of outstanding matters had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted with the following matters being discussed further:-

PP 99/2/5 (vii) Water Feature – Port Jack Glen – *Amend to read specification and on site meeting required.*

LA 01/12/14 Pennington Hall - *Amend to read have structural survey update prepared for the next meeting of the Board.*

LA 00/10/14(a) Pennington Hall – Future Development – *Amend to read have portacabin set up and working by next meeting of the Board.*

LA/02/4/10

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

a) **Island in Bloom**

Letter reported as received from the Department of Tourism advising that on Friday 17th May at 7.30pm there was to be a slide presentation in the Empress Hotel by Mr Terry Whitmill who was one of Britain in Bloom judges last year. It is his intention to give a workshop showing slides of entries that have been made in recent years in the hopes that it will encourage local authorities and other entrants to work to higher standards. After discussion it was agreed that the Amenities Officer, Parks Chargehand and one of the parks man should attend.

b) **Recreation Facilities**

Letter reported as received from the Department of Education requesting information in respect of hire charges made by the commissioners for community halls, sports halls, tennis, football pitches etc. The purpose of the exercise was to compare the prices charged by others with those charged by the department. On the suggestion of the Administrative Officer it was agreed that the information should be supplied providing the department in return sent a copy of their findings.

c) **Beach Clean**

Letter reported as received from Manx Wildlife Trust regarding the potential of carrying out beach cleans in the area and posing a series of questions relevant to those beaches. Agreed that the information be supplied.

d) **Happy Valley**

Mr Quirk informed members that he had received a complaint from the wife of an MLC regarding the Wrack Road leading to Onchan Harbour. This stops short of the beach with a considerable drop thereto and DoT had indicated in the past that they would do something to provide an easier gradient onto the beach. Letter to be sent drawing this to their attention.

LA/02/4/11

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) **Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 13th May 2002 at 7pm.

b) **Flowering Baskets**

Mr Quirk enquired whether the staff were progressing the flowering baskets. The Administrative Officer was not in a position to advise as it was a matter for the Amenities Officer.

c) **End of Year**

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the committee members for their work during the year and extended same to the Administrative Officer, Amenities Officer, the Administrative Officer's secretary and the staff at the library. He also extended good wishes to Mr Quirk who was standing for re-election.

Meeting terminated 11.37pm.

Minutes of a meeting of the **POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom at Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday, 15th April 2002, at 8.05 p.m.

Present: Mr S.T. Black (Chairman)
Mr M.J. Kennaugh
Mr E.D.R. Killey
Mr H.L.G. Parkin
Mr D.J. Quirk, J.P.

In Attendance Mr J.E.S. Smith (Chief Executive/Clerk)
Mr A.S. Booth, F.C.A. (Finance Officer)

PF02/04/01
MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting held on 11th March 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

PF02/04/02
BUSINESS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting other than those dealt with in the Clerk's and Finance Officer's reports and those matters listed separately on the agenda paper.

PF02/04/03
MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising from the minutes of previous meetings other than those dealt with in the Clerk's and Finance Officer's reports and those matters listed separately on the agenda paper.

PF02/04/04
FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Finance Officer's report, copies of which having previously been circulated was considered and arising therefrom:-

1. **Bond Interest Rates**

It was noted that it had been necessary to increase interest rates offered for new loans and reinvestments with effect from 2nd April 2002 as follows (previous rates shown in brackets):-

1 or 2 years	4.25%	(4%)
3 years	4.50%	(4.25%)

4 or 5 years 4.75% (4.50%)

The action taken was noted and endorsed.

2. Rates Collected

It was noted that the total estimated collectable rates and cash received in the current financial year to 9th April 2002 compared with the previous financial year were as follows:-

2002/03 estimated amount collectable including arrears brought forward £1,098,373

2002/03 collected to 9th April 2002 less refunds
£1,034,279 (12.23%)

Comparative figures

2001/02 estimated amount collectable including arrears brought forward £1,032,869

2001/02 collected to 9th April 2001 less refunds
£1,116,213 (11.26%)

3. Revenue Account Payments

The list of payments from revenue account during the month of March 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered and it was **RESOLVED*:-**

That the said payments from revenue account as detailed on the list attached to the minutes be endorsed.

PF02/04/05
CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

There were no items of correspondence for consideration in public.

PF02/04/06
MATTERS REFERRED BY COMMISSIONERS/OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no matters which had been referred to the Policy and Finance Committee for consideration in public.

PF02/04/07
RECOMMENDATIONS WITH POLICY OR FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations with policy or financial implications from other consideration in public.

PF02/04/08
OTHER BUSINESS

None.

PF02/04/09
MEETING DATE

It was agreed that the next ordinary meeting of the Committee be held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 20th May 2002.

PF02/04/10

END OF MUNICIPAL YEAR

This being the last meeting of the Committee in the current Municipal year the Chairman thanked the Members and Officers for their counsel and hard work during the year. Mr Killey proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman which was unanimously supported.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 9.25 p.m.

Minutes of a meeting of the **RURAL COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Wednesday 10th April 2002 at 5.15pm.

Present: Messrs J.K. Watterson (in the Chair), J.M. Bulley, B.H. Moore and A.T.W. Norton

In attendance: Peter Kelly (Administration) & B.T. Price (Building Control Officer)

R/02/4/1

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 6th March 2002, copies of which having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

R/02/4/2

MATTERS ARISING

The following matters was arising from the minutes:-

a) **Creg-na-Baa Back Road – Water on Road**

Mr Bulley advised that whilst he was not aware that any work had been carried out on this road, there certainly was no longer the flooding problem which had previously been experienced. He added that possibly gullies and ditches had been cleared but the present conditions were acceptable.

b) **Scramble Track**

The Building Control Officer advised that he had been to look at the site following the last meeting and could confirm that work had commenced on site and at that time things did look untidy through the fact that it was in an unfinished state. He was of the opinion that perhaps work was curtailed due to weather conditions at the time but anticipated that matters would be put right in time for TT Week. Agreed to hold over the matter until the next meeting when an updated report could be given. The Chairman added that he was aware that work had been taking place on site since the last meeting and possibly since the visit of the Building Control Officer. Noted.

c) **Road Works Scollag Road/Brandish Corner**

Letter reported as sent to DoT requesting further information on proposals for road works within the Rural Ward at Brandish Corner and Scollag Road. Reply reported as received from Mr O. Mitchell, Area Maintenance Engineer – Central.

At Brandish Corner the department was in the process of acquiring a strip of land on the east side of the road from Slegaby Lane to the north side of Brandish Corner. This will allow the department to improve the visibility at Slegaby Lane and set the hedge back at Brandish Corner to again improve visibility.

At Scollag Road the proposals in the forthcoming financial year were to carry out drainage works and resurfacing work on the narrow section near Lower Sulby Farm to alleviate the flooding problems. Members noted the explanations and the Chairman commented that the action being taken at Slegaby Lane was to be applauded.

R/02/4/3

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

Amal Road Sign

The Administrative Officer advised that the sign had not yet been received from Colas and apparently there was a delay in the receipt of road signs from them in general. This was confirmed by the Building Control Officer. Noted.

R/02/4/4

MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil.

R/02/4/5

MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES

Nil.

R/02/4/6

PLANNING MATTERS

a) Planning Decisions

The Building Control Officer reported on the receipt of the following planning approval

PA 01/2292 Erection of two holiday cottages (amendments to previously approved plan) Ballacain House, Little Mill Road for Mr & Mrs R. Corkill – approved subject to the same conditions viz

- 1. The development shall commence within 4 years.**
- 2 The approval may only be taken up once the use of the adjacent building for motor repairs has ceased.**
- 3 The accommodation may be used by bona fide tourists with no individual tenancy exceeding two consecutive weeks duration unless otherwise accepted by the committee.**

b) Appeal Request

The Building Control Officer reported on receipt of the documentation for the Appeal in respect of

PA 01/1425 Appeal against refusal for approval in principle for conversion of part stables to create two tourist units, Ballakaighen Farm, Onchan for Mr & Mrs P. Simpson

It was noted that the Appeal was to take place on Thursday 11th April at 9.30am. There was to be no representation at the Appeal by the commissioners.

R/02/4/7

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Time and Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15th May 2002 at 5.15pm.

b) Manx Motor Racing Club

Letter reported as received from the Manx Motor Racing Club advising that the Creg-na-Baa Hill Climb was to take place on Friday 3rd May 2002. The roads would be closed from 8.30am until no later than 7.30pm. Reply to be sent requesting that all neighbouring properties be advised.

Further letter reported as received from the Department of Transport informing the commissioners as to the request from Manx Motor Racing Club Limited for a road closing order in respect of the Cre-na-Baa Hill Climb.

c) FIM World Trials

Letter reported as received from the Department of Transport in respect of a road closing order from the beach at Groudle up the former Pack Road and on to Lonan Old Church. The views of the commissioners was sought. It was noted that the route, as far it affected Onchan, was in fact over private land. DoT to be advised and recommend to contact the Groudle Glen Railway Volunteers.

Meeting terminated 6.01pm.