

IN PUBLIC

11th December 2003

PLEASE NOTE:

1. *That the attached Minutes have yet to be confirmed by the Authority/Committees as true and correct record of proceedings at the various meetings; and*
2. That the resolutions of the various Committees, marked with an asterisk (*), are subject to the approval of the Authority.

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

J.E.S. SMITH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE/CLERK

IN PUBLIC**ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS***Hawthorn Villa,
Main Road, Onchan.*

IN PUBLIC

12th December 2003

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, 15th December, 2003

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:-
 - 1.1 Ordinary meeting held on 10th November 2003 *(Minutes - APPENDIX 2)*
 - 1.2 Extraordinary meeting held on 1st December 2003 *(Minutes - APPENDIX 2A)*

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2. To dispose of business (if any) remaining or arising from the above said meeting
 - 2.1 C03/11/01/02 Onchan District (Differential Rating) Order 2003 *(Clerk to report)*
 - 2.2 C03/11/01/16(1.1) Creation of Skateboard Facility, etc Onchan Park *(Letters circulated)*
 - 2.3 Any other business arising
 3. To dispose of business (if any) remaining or arising from meetings held prior to the last ordinary meeting.
 - 3.1 Civic Reception for Onchan Ladies Choir *(Letters circulated)*
 - 3.2 Any other business arising.

*IN PUBLIC***ODC MEETING 15th December 2003****IN PUBLIC**

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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) after due notice in writing.
-
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 17th November 2003 *(Minutes – APPENDIX 3)*
- 6.2 Works and Cleansing Committee
- Meeting held 24th November 2003 *(Minutes – APPENDIX 4)*
- 6.3 Leisure and Amenities Committee
- Meeting held 1st December 2003 *(Minutes – APPENDIX 5)*
- 6.4 Policy and Finance Committee
- Meeting held 8th December 2003 *(Minutes – APPENDIX 6)*
- 6.5 Rural Committee
- Meeting held 3rd December 2003 *(Minutes – APPENDIX 7)*
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- 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 8)
- 7.2 DOLGE re: Local Elections *(Letters circulated)*
- 7.3 DOLGE re: Two Children's Kickabout Areas *(Letter circulated)*
- 7.4 Data Protection Supervisor re: Fees Regulations *(Letter circulated)*
- 7.5 Any Other Communication
-
8. To consider any report from the Clerk or the Surveyor.
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9. To consider Motions in the order in which notice has been received. *(ref Standing Order No 5)*

IN PUBLIC

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the **ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS** held in the Boardroom at Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 15th December 2003 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Apologies Mr H.L.G. Parkin

In Attendance Mr J.E.S. Smith (Chief Executive/Clerk)
 Mr M.J. Williams (Deputy Clerk)
 Mr B.T. Price (Building Control Officer)

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

Immediately prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman presented awards to the winners of both categories in the Onchan District Commissioners' Christmas Lights Competition. The winners were:-

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Domestic Property | - | Mr and Mrs D. Mitchell, 20 Second Avenue, Onchan. |
| Non-domestic Property | - | M.R.P. Limited, Corkhills Forecourt Shop |

TRIBUTE – MR J.A.C.K. NIVISON

The Chairman paid tribute to the Hon. J.A.C.K. Nivison, C.B.E., J.P., former Onchan Village Commissioner, former Member of Tynwald and Captain of the Parish, who had passed away during the previous week. The Chairman made reference to the service that Mr Nivison had given both to the Village of Onchan and to the Isle of Man and recorded the sadness of the Board at the news of his death. The Chairman confirmed that a letter had been issued to the family of Mr Nivison to convey the condolences of the Commissioners, Members stood in silent tribute to Mr Nivison.

C03/12/02/01
MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the ordinary meeting held on 10th November 2003, and of the extraordinary meeting of the Board held on 1st December 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered, and, subject to a minor amendment to page 6 of the minutes of the ordinary meeting, were confirmed as a correct record of each of the proceedings and both sets of minutes were signed by the Chairman.

*IN PUBLIC*C03/12/02/02
BUSINESS ARISING1. C03/11/01/02(1) – Onchan District Act 1986 – Rural Ward Rate - Order

The Chief Executive/Clerk confirmed that at the December Sitting of Tynwald, the motion to approve the Order was adjourned and consideration would now be given at the Sitting of the Court in January 2004. The adjournment was moved by Mr Karran, MHK, and was to allow the Captain of the Parish to call a requisition meeting in relation to that Order.

Mr Quirk expressed disappointment that some Members of Tynwald appeared to believe that there were still two Local Authorities in the Onchan area. He suggested that a newsletter be issued, incorporating a tear off slip, to ascertain whether the people of Onchan supported the actions of the Authority in relation to the Rural rating. He advised that the cost of the newsletter would be in the order of £140 for printing. He suggested that the newsletter should be delivered to households within Onchan through the Isle of Man Courier and estimated the cost of that to be £166. He proposed that this action take place, and the proposal was seconded by Mr Norton.

Mr Watterson pointed out that the move would be unfair to residents within the Rural Ward since hardly any households in the area benefited from the delivery from the Isle of Man Courier. Mr Watterson proposed an amendment to the motion that the suggested action should not be carried out as it was unfair and unjust for the residents in the Rural Ward. He argued that the progression of the Order, the decision about which had been taken prior to consultation with the Rural Committee, was unjust and unreasonable. He pointed out that he had twice proposed that the matter be referred to the Rural Committee for consideration without success.

Mrs Kelly stated that the Rural Committee had considered the detail of the Orders. Mr Watterson concurred but pointed out that the Board had never referred the matter to the Committee for consideration, and they had only been raised at the Rural Committee by Mr Watterson himself. Mrs Kelly went on to remind Members that when the date of the extraordinary meeting of the Board had been set to take place in January 2003, it had been understood that the Ordinary meeting of the Rural Committee had been due to take place prior to that extraordinary meeting. It transpired that the date of the Rural Committee ordinary meeting had not been as expected, having been due to take place one week later.

The Chairman intervened, stipulating that the matters being discussed were historical and not relating to the motion.

Mr Quirk stated that he was happy for the newsletter to be posted to all households in the Rural Ward, to ensure that all such households received the document and were consulted. He added that the Commissioners should seek press coverage of the circular and invited anyone within the District who did not receive a copy thereof to contact the Commissioners' Office where spare copies could be made available.

After seeking clarification from Mr Watterson, it was established that the reason for his amendment being submitted was his disagreement with the method of delivery through the Isle of Man Courier and so Mr Quirk as proposer of the original motion, and Mr Norton as seconder, agreed to amend the wording to state that the households would receive the newsletter by post.

A vote was taken and it was **RESOLVED** that a newsletter be issued to households within the District, incorporating a tear off slip, to ascertain whether households within the District supported the actions of the Board in the making of the Onchan District (Differential Rating) Order 2003, with the newsletter being delivered to households by way of a postal service.

IN PUBLIC

*For: Mr Astill, Mr Black, Mr Crellin, Mrs Kelly, Mr Kennaugh, Mr Killey, Mr Norton, Mr Quirk.
Against: Mr Watterson.*

Mr Norton sought and was given clarification that the intent was for the process to be completed prior to the Sitting of the Tynwald Court in January 2004.

Mr Watterson stated that the Commissioners should read the minutes of the Authority to establish the Order of events that had taken place in January 2003, pointing out that the Rural Committee were unable to consider the content of motions before such motions had been proposed, seconded and received by the Board.

The Chairman again, referred to the historical nature of the comments, and moved the meeting to consider next business.

2. C03/11/01/16(1.1) – PA03/1066 – Creation of Skateboard Facility and Kickabout Area Tennis Courts, Onchan Park.

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated copies of correspondence received in relation to the decision of the Commissioners in relation to the siting of a skateboard park at Onchan Park. It was **RESOLVED** that the letters be referred to the next meeting of the Leisure and Amenities Committee for consideration.

Mr Quirk submitted a letter to the Chief Executive/Clerk asking that consideration be given to its contents after the meeting.

C03/12/02/03

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. Onchan Ladies Choir - Civic Reception

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated with the agenda copies of two letters received, thanking the Commissioners for the Civic Reception given in respect of the Onchan Ladies Choir. *Noted with pleasure.*

C03/12/02/04

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made the following announcements:-

1. Map of Onchan

The Chairman advised that during the Summer 2003, the Commissioners had asked Mrs Elsa Bridson of Whitebridge Road to produce a map of the district based on one she had prepared previously. The map was displayed for viewing by Members. The Chairman that arrangements be made for the map to be displayed in the Onchan Public Library for viewing by the public.

2. Onchan Website

The Chairman confirmed that the second tour of Onchan was now on-line with 42 photographs set within the text. A printed copy of the tour would be available for viewing in the Onchan Library along with a copy of tour number 1 which was already available.

3. Christmas Lights Competition

IN PUBLIC

The Chairman referred to the presentation which had taken place earlier in the evening to the winners of the Onchan District Commissioners' Christmas Lights Competition, to Mr and Mrs D. Mitchell of 20 Second Avenue in relation to the domestic properties, and to MRP Limited, Corkills Forecourt Shop in relation to the non-domestic properties.

Mrs Kelly suggested that a letter of acknowledgement be sent to all who had entered the competition.

4. Torchlight Procession

The Chairman referred to the success of the Torchlight Procession which had taken place in the previous week, in advising that it was attended by approximately 300 people. He thanked all for their efforts in organising the event and for participating therein.

5. Seasons Greetings

The Chairman extended seasons greetings to the public of Onchan, and wished all a happy Christmas and prosperous new year.

C03/12/02/05
QUESTIONS

The following questions had been asked in accord with Standing Order No 7(2).

1. Commissioner Killey to ask the Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee:-

From the Estimates and or financial records of Onchan District Commissioners for the year 2003/04 will you please supply the following information:-

- a) *The number of rateable properties in the rural area;*
- b) *The total rateable value of these properties;*
- c) *The total rate due from these properties;*
- d) *Confirm that there is a 50% allowance given at present for these properties and that the total amount allowed for all of these properties is £41,814.*
- e) *Confirm that the product of a 1p rate in Onchan District is £6,604; and*
- f) *By what amount could the urban area rate have been reduced if no allowance had been made?*

In the absence of the Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee, the Chairman himself read the answer to the question, clarifying that the answers were factual and had been drawn out by the Chief Executive/Clerk:-

- (i) 208
- (ii) £38,941
- (iii) £83,723 less the 50% allowance Net: £41,861.50
- (iv) The Actual is £41,861.50
- (v) £6,604 is the net product
- (vi) The £41,861 allowance is equivalent to a rate of over 6p. The same rate requirement for the whole district as estimated would have therefore required a rate of only £2.09 rather than the £2.15 levied.

2. Commissioner Killey to ask the Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee:-

IN PUBLIC

- 1) *Could you please confirm that Local Authority Rates are tax on the occupation of property. Rates are not a payment for services and ratepayers cannot seek to pay less on the basis that they do not use some of the Authority's services.*
- 2) *Please also confirm that this information has been readily available to all elected Members and Officers of Onchan District Commissioners and that in June 2002, the Isle of Man Department of Local Government and the Environment published a guide for general information in this respect.*
- 3) *Could you please confirm that all Onchan District Commissioners have attended the course as run by the Department of Local Government and the Environment on Commissioners' responsibilities or have had the opportunity to do so.*

In the absence of the Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee, the Chief Executive/Clerk had prepared the following responses:-

- (i) Yes.
- (ii) Yes
- (iii) Yes

3. Commissioner Killey to ask the Chairman of the Rural Committee:-

- 1) *Are you aware that local authority rates are a tax on the occupation of property and that rates are not a payment for services, and ratepayers cannot seek to pay less on the basis that they do not use some of the authority's services.*
- 2) *In this day and age (December 2003) will you please advise, what you perceive to be the advantages that urban area ratepayers receive as opposed to rural area ratepayers from rates charged and collected by Onchan District Commissioners.*

The Chairman of the Rural Committee, Commissioner Watterson responded as follows:-

Local Authority rates according to the Department of Local Government and the Environment Guidebook were considered to be a tax on property, the message to the ratepayers whom he represented was that rates were for services provided.

This was clearly displayed on the Commissioners' public notice board in the office and reinforced with an article in the Isle of Man Examiner, dated 4th November 2003 when Mrs Pam Crowe, Minister for Local Government and the Environment stated, "*Ratepayers need to know how much they are paying for the services provided and how much they are paying for the administration of those services*".

Ratepayers could in fact pay less for certain services they did not use and special drainage areas and special refuse collection areas and indeed the Onchan District Act 1986 were examples.

The differences between Urban and Rural Wards were laid down in minutes of the Commissioners meetings when the amalgamation took place between Village and Parish and agreed by both parties. That agreement still stood.

4. Commissioner Watterson to ask the Chairman of the Board:-

With reference to the Onchan District (Differential Rating) Order 2003 :-

IN PUBLIC

1. *Would you confirm that Motion 25 called for the parish rate to be altered only, but not by a specific figure?*
2. *Would you state which Commissioners proposed & seconded that equalisation of rates between urban & rural wards takes place, i.e. 100% rise to rural ward and at which meeting this debate took place and where it is recorded?*
3. *Before the Commissioners progressed with an order to the November sitting of Tynwald, on which dates did the Commissioners refer to and actively involve all elected Rural Committee members concerning the rates debate?*
4. *At the December sitting of Tynwald, the Commissioners and / or Department of Local Government & Environment submitted a paper of 'Key Dates'. Could you confirm that this paper was factually incorrect and misleading regarding meetings held in public or committee and were all Tynwald Members (as was Minister Mrs Pam Crowe) informed of this error before the relevant debate in Tynwald?*
5. *Would you circulate to all Commissioners, the 'Key Dates' paper as given to Tynwald?*

The Chairman gave the following answers:-

- i) Yes .
- ii) The making of the Order to equalise the rates over a two year period was proposed by Mr Quirk, seconded by Mr Black and was so resolved at the meeting of the Board held on 6th October 2003.
- iii) The Rural Committee did not request a meeting with the Board at any time, to the best of his knowledge.
- iv) Under the Onchan District Act 1986, the Rural Committee had a duty to consider any matters affecting the Rural Ward but the Act did not require the Board to refer such matters to the Rural Committee. The intention of the Board to make the Order was clear from the debates and decisions taken at the Board meetings held in January, February and September.
- v) The Rural Committee did, in fact, debate the proposal on a number of occasions during the year before the Order was made.
- vi) The Rural Committee at its meeting on 24th September 2003 made a recommendation that such an increase in the rates in the Rural Ward should not take place but this failed at the Board meeting held on 6th October 2003.
- vii) The paper was not factually incorrect in that the minutes from the said meetings were "in public" – distributed to the media, public library and Members of Tynwald for Onchan. In order to clarify this and to remove any doubt – both Mr Houghton, MHK, who was to move the Order and the Minister for Local Government and the Environment were advised so that they could advise the other Members of Tynwald during the debate.
- viii) Copies of the 'Key Dates' paper were available for Members.

The Chairman confirmed that under the provisions of Standing Orders, no debate could take place in relation to written questions when the answer had been given.

*IN PUBLIC***C03/12/02/06****HOUSING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The minutes of the public section of the Housing Committee meeting held on Monday 17th November 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. The Chairman drew attention to the following details contained within the minutes:-

- (i) H03/11/01/02(2) – Evictions;
- (ii) H03/11/01/04(1)(a) – Upgrade of Electrical Installation – Ashley Park (60 units);
- (iii) H03/11/01/04(1)(b) – Renewal of fascias, soffits and rainwater goods – Hackett Close, Meadow Close and Ashley Park plus roof refurbishment – The Park Bungalows;
- (iv) H03/11/01/04(2)(a) – Warden’s House – Meadow View.

The following matters were also arising.

1. H03/11/01/11(1) - Apprenticeships

The Chairman of the Committee drew attention to the consideration which had been given by Members. Mr Quirk reminded Members that it was the policy of the Board to support apprenticeships within the Authority. Mr Kennaugh concurred with this view.

2. H03/11/01/04(3) – Gas Conversion Project Operation

In answer to enquiry, the Deputy Clerk confirmed that an initial verbal response had been received from Manx Gas, and that further information in relation to the properties in question for Manx Gas was being collated for provision to that company. He also confirmed that the Office of Fair Trading had not been involved at present.

C03/12/02/07**RECEIVING OF MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Housing Committee meeting held on 17th November 2003, be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

*IN PUBLIC***C03/12/02/08****WORKS AND CLEANSING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting held on Monday 24th November 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. The Chairman of the Committee drew attention to the following details contained within the minutes:-

- (i) WC03/11/05(a)(iv) Bus Shelter, Manx Arms
- (ii) WC03/11/06(a) Officers Report – Replacement Vehicle Resolution

The following matters were also arising from the minutes:-

1. WC03/11/04(e) – Joint Civic Amenity Committee

The Chief Executive/Clerk suggested that the decision of the Works and Cleansing Committee that the Commissioners should be party to taking an option on the land in question should have taken the form of a resolution requiring the approval of the Board.

2. WC03/11/05(a)(ii) – Kaighin’s Lane/Cronk Lane

The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that the agreement of the Committee to the suggestion of the Surveyor, that the balance between the actual cost and the £40,000 figure intended for petition could be used up with post top adapters used where necessary as in the Ballachurry Estate, should have taken the form of a recommendation for the approval of the Board.

3. WC03/11/04(iii) – Fly Tipping

Mr Norton suggested that Members would need to be advised of the date and place of fly tipping incidents in order to assess the scale of any fly tipping problem.

4. WC03/11/04(g) – Middle River Site

The Chief Executive/Clerk confirmed that a further meeting with regard to this matter was to take place on Friday 19th December 2003 at 9.00 a.m..

5. WC03/11/12(d) – Dowty Land

The Chief Executive/Clerk confirmed that the “Dowty Land” referred to in the minute had been purchased by Government and had been placed in the Government landbank. He pointed out that the land was not zoned for housing. Mr Quirk suggested that the opportunity should be taken to invite the Member responsible for housing within the Department of Local Government and the Environment to meet with the Onchan District Commissioners and discuss the availability of land within the district for housing purposes. The Chief Executive/Clerk reiterated that proposals to develop the “Dowty Land” for housing would be contrary to the Onchan Local Plan which had been approved in 2000. Mr Quirk suggested that there was not harm in looking to identify land for housing. Mr Crellin suggested that to consider the “Dowty Land” for housing purposes would be contrary to the Board’s view in relation to the development of the Ballachrink Farm land for housing purposes. Mr Watterson suggested that there was also a need for light industrial commercial use land within the District. He believed that the “Dowty Land” fitted the bill.

The Chairman confirmed that the Department of Trade and Industry were aware that the land had been zoned for industrial use, and he considered it to be too early to consider the use of the land for housing purposes.

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Mr Quirk proposed that the member of the Department of Local Government and the Environment responsible for housing be invited to meet with the Onchan District Commissioners to discuss housing provision. There was no seconder to the proposal.

C03/12/02/09**RECEIVING OF MINUTES**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting held on 24th November 2003, be and are hereby received. It was further **RESOLVED** that the resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board be approved as follows:-

1. ***“to approve acceptance of the lowest tender as obtained through the Department of Transport for a replacement vehicle for the sewer team, a Citroen Relay 1800TD Low Roof panel van with 2800 cc diesel engine from Eurocars at a total cost of £9,899.40 (to be funded by Government under the Drainage Agency Agreement)”.***

The following matters, which should have taken the form of resolutions were also approved:-

2. ***Joint Civic Amenity Site Committee - That the Commissioners should be party to take an option on land for purchase in respect of the Eastern Civic Amenity Site;***
3. ***Kaighin’s Lane/Cronk Lane - That the schemes be added up and any balance between the cost and the £40,000 intended for petition be used up with post top adapters used where necessary as in the Ballachurry Estate. Further £1,700 be included in respect of the new street light at Hillberry, recently approved by the Board.***

C03/07/01/10**LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The minutes of the public section of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on Monday 1st December 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. The Chairman drew attention to the following matters contained within the minutes:-

- (i) LA03/12/03(c) – Roundabouts
- (ii) LA03/12/03(g) – Tour of the Park
- (iii) LA03/12/03(k) – Onchan Ladies Choir

The following matters were also arising from the minutes:-

1. **LA/03/12/05(a)(ii) – Port Jack Toilets**

The Chief Executive/Clerk suggested that the word “not” should be inserted in the first sentence of the second paragraph. *Agreed.*

*IN PUBLIC***2. LA/03/12/03(e) – Parks Foreman**

In answer to enquiry from Mr Kennaugh, it was noted that the closing date for the receipt of applications in respect of the Parks Foreman position had not yet expired.

3. LA/03/12/03(h) – Skateboard Park

Mr Norton suggested that the resolution in the minutes did not adequately reflect his proposal considered at the meeting, suggesting that his proposal was to request the Board to consider the 'Rec' as an alternative site for the provision of a skateboard and five-a-side/basketball facility. In answer to enquiry from the Chairman, the seconder in relation to the motion, Mr Quirk, concurred with the statements of Mr Norton.

Mrs Kelly referred to the resolution, believing that the elements contained therein, that of skateboard park and five-a-side basketball facilities should be separated. Mrs Kelly proposed an amendment to the motion, to request the Board to consider The Rec for the provision of a skateboard facility only.

Speaking in relation to the amendment, Mr Norton did not favour the separation of consideration of those facilities, pointing out that sufficient money had been set aside for the purpose of creating both, and indeed that there was sufficient land available for that purpose.

Mr Crellin was concerned at the expenditure of ratepayers money when no evidence had been presented to the Board for him to consider in support of that facility. Mr Crellin argued that the Board should have evidence of need for such a facility due to the expensive nature of the proposed development. He suggested that such evidence should be provided by the people who would want to use it. Conversely, Mr Crellin stated that those people who were in opposition to the provision of a skateboard park had indeed made their views known and had attended a meeting with the Leisure and Amenities Committee. Mr Norton reminded Members that a petition was received some three years or so previously from young people wishing to use such a facility. Mr Crellin acknowledged this but felt that proper evidence of a need for the facility should be presented.

Mr Watterson referred to correspondence received and circulated with the agenda, in which objectors referred to the decision not to develop the tennis courts at Onchan Park for this purpose. Mr Watterson reminded Members that one of the letters did recognise the need for a facility to be provided even though the letter did not support siting at the tennis courts. Mr Crellin reiterated his call for potential users of such a facility to present their evidence. Mr Astill concurred with this view.

Mr Quirk suggested and it was agreed that the Administrative Officer be asked to disclose all of the evidence which had been presented to date to the Leisure and Amenities Committee, in relation to the demand and need for a skateboard facility. He asked that the motion be supported pointing out that there would be a need for the matter to be brought back to the Board for approval to costings etc.

The Chairman advised that the skateboarding park which had been provided in Port Erin had been closed recently due to noise concerns.

After noting that there was no seconder for the amendment proposed by Mrs Kelly, a vote was taken on the resolution of the Committee, the wording of which had been amended earlier in the meeting.

IN PUBLIC

It was subsequently **RESOLVED** to request the Board to consider The Rec as an alternative site for the provision of a skateboard and 5-a-side/basketball facility.

For: Mr Black, Mr Kennaugh, Mr Killey, Mr Norton, Mr Quirk, Mr Watterson.
Against: Mr Astill, Mr Crellin, Mrs Kelly.

Mr Crellin reiterated that he had voted against the provision of the facility on the grounds that he had seen no evidence produced to the Board to justify the expenditure of such a large sum of money and to prove the need for such a facility.

4. LA/03/12/5(a)(ii) – Port Jack Toilets

Mr Watterson drew attention to overgrown bushes in the vicinity of the Port Jack toilets which were obstructing the footpath.

5. LA/03/12/09(c) – Christmas Lights Competition

Mr Watterson suggested, and it was agreed, that certificates should be issued to all parties who had entered the Christmas Lights Competition.

6. LA/03/12/07(a)(iii) – Christmas Carol

The Chairman congratulated the Librarian and Mr Chris Caine for the reading of the Christmas Carol at the Onchan Library and suggested that the event should be held annually.

7. LA/03/12/12(a) – Bemahague Kickabout Area

In answer to enquiry from Mr Crellin, it was confirmed that there was no land available in the vicinity of Heywood Park to replace the Bemahague Kickabout Area on a temporary basis.

8. LA/03/12/04(j) – Millennium Shelter

In answer to enquiry from Mr Black, Mr Quirk suggested that nothing would be undertaken with regard to the Christmas Lights at the Millennium Shelter for the current year.

Mr Norton enquired further with regard to the flooring of the Millennium Shelter, and the Building Control Officer confirmed that a report would be made to the next meeting of the Leisure and Amenities Committee in that regard.

9. LA/03/12/05(a)(ii) – Port Jack Toilets

Mrs Kelly enquired as to whether any progress had been made with regard to the fitting out of the Port Jack Toilets with stainless steel fittings. The Building Control Officer confirmed that a report would be made to the next meeting of the Works and Cleansing Committee.

*IN PUBLIC***10. LA/03/12/13(b) – Tractor**

Mr Kennaugh sought determination from the resolution of the Leisure and Amenities Committee in relation to the Ferguson Tractor. A vote on the resolution of the Committee was taken which fell, with votes being recorded as follows:-

For: Mr Black, Mr Kennaugh, Mr Norton, Mr Quirk
Against: Mr Astill, Mr Crellin, Mrs Kelly, Mr Killey and Mr Watterson

The decision to retain the tractor having been taken, Mr Quirk asked that the Board consider expending some funding upon the machine in order that it might be put to some useful purpose. Mr Watterson concurred pointing out that apart from some minor adaptations and its colouring, the tractor was largely of the original specification. It was agreed that expenditure upon the tractor and its future useage should be referred back to the Leisure and Amenities Committee for further consideration.

C03/12/02/11
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 1st December 2003, be and are hereby received. A vote was taken in relation to the resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board with the wording of the following resolution being corrected before such vote had been taken. It had therefore been **RESOLVED**:-

- 1. to consider The Rec as an alternative site for the provision of a skateboard and 5-a-side/basketball facility.***

A vote had been taken upon the following resolution which failed:-

- 2. to recommend that the Board again considers the disposal of the original Ferguson Tractor purchased for Onchan Park, at the time of its opening.***

C03/12/02/12
POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 8th December 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. There were no matters arising therefrom.

C03/12/02/13
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 8th December 2003, 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.***

C03/12/02/14
RURAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

IN PUBLIC

The minutes of the public section of the Rural Committee meeting held on Wednesday 3rd December 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. The Chairman drew attention to the following matters recorded in the minutes:-

- (i) R03/12/02(b) – Scollag Road Traffic Count
- (ii) R03/12/06(a) – Planning Decisions
(PA03/729 , PA 03/468 – 471 and PA03/525-526, PA03/658 and 659)

The following matters were also arising:-

1. R/03/12/2(d) – Onchan District Act and Rating Differential

The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that the Memorandum which he had written and to which reference was made within the minute was not submitted to the Department of Local Government and the Environment as stated therein, but to a Tynwald Select Committee on Local Government Reform. He also advised that his memorandum did not refer to the fact that where circumstances changed, such as at Ashley Hill, then the rating differential could be removed in that area. The Chief Executive/Clerk considered that the legislation referred to alteration of the rating differential for the whole of the Rural Ward and not part of it.

Mr Watterson advised that the requisition meeting was likely to be held on 13th January 2004 at 8.00 p.m. in the Village Hall. He added that this would be subject to confirmation in the press.

2. R/03/12/2(c) – King Edward Bay Golf Course

In answer to enquiry from Mr Norton, Mr Watterson confirmed that the Works and Cleansign Committee, who were responsible for planning issues, were being kept up to date with regard to the recommencement of works at the King Edward Bay Golf Course, and that the matter had been recorded at the Rural Committee as it was a Member of that Committee that had raised the issue of the recommencement of works.

3. R/03/12/6(a) – Planning Decisions

In relation to the planning applications of Clypse Farms Limited, Mr Kennaugh enquired whether it would be possible to view the plans. The Building Control Officer confirmed that he had a presentation package available for Members if they wished to visit his Department to view same.

C03/12/02/15

RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Rural Committee meeting held on 3rd December 2003, be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C03/12/02/16

LETTERS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

The following planning communications were noted:-

IN PUBLIC

| PA Number | Description | Comment |
|------------------|---|--|
| 03/0276 | 3 Storey extension, 1A Royal Terrace | ODC Recommendation – Refusal Planning decision On Review Refusal Appeal decision – Dismissed, refused confirmed |
| 02/2438 | Garage with Games/Play room over, 76 Royal Avenue | ODC Recommendation – Refusal Planning decision On Review - Refusal Appeal decision – Dismissed, refusal confirmed. |
| 03/1232 | Alterations and Extensions, 8 Snaefell Crescent | ODC Recommendation – Refusal Initial Planning decision – Approval/Refusal Request for review received – ODC submission prepared . |
| 03/1289 | First Floor Domer Extension, 16 Beech Avenue | ODC Recommendation – Refusal Initial Planning Decision – Approval Request for review of decision received |
| 03/1066 | Create skateboard facility and kickabout area, Tennis Courts, Onchan Park | ODC Recommendation – Approval Initial Planning Decision – Approval Review decision – Refusal (copy of decision to circulate to interested Members) |
| 03/0396 | Field Access of Little Mill Road, The Crofts, Hillberry | ODC Recommendation – Approval Planning Decision On Review – Refusal Appeal against decision submitted |

2. Local Elections

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated with the agenda copies of a letter received dated 11th November 2003 from the Local Government Unit Manager advising that the Department had selected Thursday 22nd April 2004 as the date for the General Election of Local Authority Membership on the Isle of Man. It also referred to the payment of attendance allowances.

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated his interim response to the Department in relation thereto together with the acknowledgement of that response from the Local Government Unit Manager.

The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that he anticipated the delivery of nomination papers being required before 5.00 p.m. on Monday 29th March 2003, and that the date for the Notice of Election would be Tuesday 16th March 2003. He reminded Members that Easter fell over the week end of 9th to 12th April 2004.

Mr Quirk requested that enquiries be made to provide the details of the Voters List to Members in electronic format.

The Chairman reiterated advice given at previous meetings that, despite the recent deliberations of the Board in relation to representation from the Rural Ward, no changes to that arrangement would be effected for the election in April 2004.

Mr Quirk referred to the appointment of a Returning Officer for the Election. It was clarified that the appointment of the Returning Officer is undertaken by the Authority, and that the Chief Executive/Clerk could be appointed to that position if necessary. The Chairman advised that the matter would be considered again by the Board in the New Year, and invited any suggestions for the appointment of Returning Officer to be made to himself or the Chief Executive/Clerk.

3. Data Protection (Fees) (No 2) Regulations 2003

IN PUBLIC

The Chief Executive/Clerk had circulated with the agenda copies of a letter received from the Data Protection Supervisor advising of the approval of the Data Protection (Fees) (No 2) Regulations 2003. The effect of the approval was that individual Local Authority Members who used computers to process personal data for the purpose of constituency case work, were obliged to notify the supervisor of their processing, but would now not have to pay any fee therefore. *Noted.*

C03/12/02/17**CLERK'S REPORT**

None.

C03/12/02/18**DISTRICT SURVEYOR'S REPORT**

None.

C03/12/02/19**MOTIONS**

None.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 8.25 p.m.

IN PUBLIC

Minutes of a meeting of the **HOUSING COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday, 17th November, 2003, beginning at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr M.J. Kennaugh (Chairman)
Mr S.T. Black
Mr D. Crellin
Mrs E.J.C. Kelly
Mr E.D.R. Killey, J.P.

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

H03/11/01/01
MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on Monday, 13th October 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered, agreed as a correct record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

H03/11/01/02
MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The following items were arising from the minutes, which would not be dealt with elsewhere on the agenda:-

1. H03/10/01/02(1) – Recycling Bins

In his report, the Deputy Clerk confirmed that the issue relating to the recycling bins had not been progressed to date.

2. H03/10/01/25(2) – Evictions

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the Department of Local Government and the Environment were considering a proposal from Tynwald Court as to whether a Local Authority and Government Housing Eviction Consultative Body should be established. The Deputy Clerk had made Members aware of the content of a Tynwald debate on the issue, which had taken place on Tuesday 21st October 2003. A further report would be submitted by the Minister for Local Government and the Environment to the sitting of Tynwald to take place in November 2003. *Noted.*

3. H03/10/01/26(1) – Tynwald Question – Rent Arrears

The Deputy Clerk had circulated an extract of Hansard in relation to the answer given to a question about rent arrears, requiring written response at Tynwald on 21st October 2003. *Noted.*

H03/11/01/03
MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None.

*IN PUBLIC***H03/11/01/04****HOUSING AND OTHER ESTATES BUSINESS****1. Maintenance Report**

The Housing Maintenance Manager had prepared a report on maintenance issues relating to housing and other estates business, which had been circulated with the agenda. Arising therefrom:-

(a) Upgrade of Electrical Installation – Ashley Park (60 units)

In his report, the Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that the contract for the upgrade of electrical installations to Ashley Park Houses was approximately 50% complete. The contractor had stated that the contract would not be completed on 5th December 2003 as had previously been anticipated, and would be applying for an extension of time to complete the works. The standard of work remained satisfactory.

Concern was expressed at the delays in the completion of the contract which had originally been due on 5th December 2003. The Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that the contractor would be sensitive to avoid unwarranted disruption of households over the Christmas period, and ensure that works commenced had been completed before their Christmas break. He reiterated that there had been no complaints in relation to the conduct or workmanship of the contractor in the course of carrying out the contract.

Whilst noting the circumstances, it was **RESOLVED:-**

That the disappointment of the Housing Committee in relation to the delays in the completion of the contract be conveyed to the Contractor.

**(b) Renewal of Fascias, Soffits and Rainwater Goods – Hackett Close, Meadow Close and Ashley Park
Roof Refurbishment – The Park Bungalows**

In his report, the Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that tenders were being sought for the completion of the schemes. Completed tender forms were due to be submitted by 12 noon on 28th November 2003.

2. Deputy Clerk's Report

The Deputy Clerk had prepared a report on a number of matters relating to housing and estate issues. Most of the items covered were in fact relating to individual housing or housing estate issues which were of a personal nature. There was, however, one matter for consideration in public, as follows:-

(a) H03/10/01/19(1)(a) – Warden's House – Meadow View

In his report, the Deputy Clerk confirmed that he had not had the opportunity to progress further the legal documentation in relation to the Warden's House at Meadow View. This would be given priority.

Concern was expressed with regard to the undue delays in relation to the completion of the return of the Warden's House and its addition to the Commissioners' housing stock. Officers were requested to progress this matter as soon as possible.

IN PUBLIC**3. H03/10/01/04(1)(b) – Gas Conversion Project Operation**

The Housing Maintenance Manager reported that the gas conversion project had commenced in Onchan in September 2003. In view of comments made by Commissioners, he had written to Manx Gas on 25th September 2003 requesting a copy of safety reports in respect of appliances belonging to the Authority which had been converted. No response had been received.

The Commissioners servicing contractor had commenced works to service the Commissioners gas boilers, in accordance with health and safety requirements. Since the commencement of those works over the period of gas commissioning, 25% of the Commissioners' properties had been visited and boilers serviced. A number of minor faults had been rectified, some of which could most likely be explained as resulting from the gas conversion works.

The Committee were concerned, as landlord, that the safety of the appliances after conversion had not been certified. It was **RESOLVED:-**

That a letter be sent to Manx Gas Limited, expressing the concern of the Housing Committee that the safety of appliances converted had not been certified, and requesting such certification as soon as possible.

It was further agreed that a response should be requested to be submitted within seven days, and that, if necessary, the matter be drawn to the attention of the Office of Fair Trading. Finally, the Deputy Clerk was instructed to contact the Chairman of the Committee if there had been no response to the communication.

4. H03/10/01/04(2)(a) – 72 Ballachrink Drive – Tree

The Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that no action had been taken to date.

H03/11/01/05**SPRINGFIELD COURT MATTERS****1. Maintenance Report**

No matters for report at meeting.

2. Deputy Clerk's Report

None.

3. Lift Maintenance – Service Visit Reports

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the required service visit report had been completed on 6th November 2003 in respect of both lifts at Springfield Court. There were no matters arising from those reports. *Noted.*

H03/11/01/06**HEYWOOD COURT MATTERS****1. Maintenance Report**

IN PUBLIC

In his report, the Housing Maintenance Manager confirmed that the Architects were compiling a list of defects throughout the Heywood Court building. The programme required that this work would be attended to and completed in December 2003. *Noted.*

2. Deputy Clerk's Report

None.

3. 1st Onchan Methodist Brownies

The Deputy Clerk had circulated a letter dated 7th November 2003 from the Assistant Brownie Guider of 1st Onchan Methodist Brownies, offering to visit the Heywood Court on 8th December 2003 for a Christmas Carol performance for the residents. *Noted.*

H03/11/01/07**GARAGE MATTERS****1. Garage Rents**

The Deputy Clerk drew attention to the number of tenants of the Commissioners' garage properties who were in arrear, and whilst the totals were not excessive, the Deputy Clerk was concerned that the administrative cost, both monetarily and in predicted time lost, in chasing these arrears.

After a short discussion, the Committee noted that the policy of the Commissioners in relation to arrears of rent in respect of garages, including the enforcement of repossession of the units, would be rigorously enforced. Furthermore, that any cases where the tenants of the units were repetitive in their failure to make payments of rent in accord with the Memorandum of Agreement, would be drawn to the attention of the Housing Committee with a view to repossession of those units.

H03/11/01/08**PLANNED HOUSING MAINTENANCE**

The Deputy Clerk reported that a meeting was to be held on 25th November 2003, where the officers would meet the Quantity Surveyor at the Department Local Government and the Environment in relation to the progression of the planned maintenance schemes. The meeting would also be attended by a Consultant, experienced in the use of external cladding and render, to advise upon options for render works to Commissioners' Housing Properties such as at School Road.

H03/11/01/09**HEALTH AND SAFETY BUSINESS**

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that in accord with the decision of the Board, the monthly report in relation to health and safety business had been referred to the Health and Safety Co-Ordinator for inclusion in a quarterly report for consideration by the Board. There were no extraordinary health and safety incidents to report.

H03/11/01/10**OFFICERS REPORT****1. Housing Allocations**

IN PUBLIC

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the allocations undertaken at the meeting of the Board held on 10th November 2003 had not yet been actioned, the keys to the properties in question having yet to be returned to the Commissioners' Office from the previous tenants. The procedure for allocation of the units would be undertaken as soon as possible.

2. Housing Discussion Document

The Deputy Clerk was aware that the Department of Local Government and the Environment were to issue a housing discussion document, in the near future, which would be referred to the appropriate parties for consideration. The Commissioners had received requests for information, which had been provided, relating to the time involvement of officers within the Authority in the housing function. This would be utilised to inform the forthcoming Housing Discussion Document.
Noted.

H03/11/01/11**OTHER CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS****1. Apprenticeships**

The Deputy Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of an email received from Commissioner Quirk in relation to apprenticeships. Mr Quirk had asked that the fact that the Onchan District Commissioners do not have any apprentices placed with the Local Authority at present be brought to the attention of the Housing Committee.

It was agreed that the officers should consider the implications of apprenticeships within the Authority, and report back to the next meeting of the Committee.

H03/11/01/12**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

None for report this month.

H03/11/01/13**OUTSTANDING MATTERS**

None considered this month.

H03/11/01/14**MATTERS REFERRED BY THE BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES**

None.

*IN PUBLIC***H03/11/01/15****ANY OTHER BUSINESS****1. Commissioners' Surgery**

It was noted that the next Commissioners' Surgery was due to take place on Thursday, 18th December 2003, commencing at 6.30 p.m.

2. Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Committee would be held on Monday, 22nd December 2003, commencing at 7.00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.50 p.m.

IN PUBLIC

Minutes of a meeting of the **WORKS & CLEANSING COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 24th November 2003 at 7.50pm.

Present: Mr J.K. Watterson (in the chair), Messrs D. Crellin, A.T.W. Norton and D.J. Quirk

Apologises: Mr E.D.R. Killey JP

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

WC/03/11/1
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 20th October 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, was taken as read, confirmed and signed.

WC/03/11/2
MATTERS ARISING

a) **Meeting with DoT and the Police**

Confirmation was given that the meeting was due to take place on Tuesday 2nd December 2003. A draft agenda had been circulated prior to the meeting. the Clerk advised that Inspector Hoggett would be attending on behalf of the police. It was agreed that the question of the First Avenue car park should be added to the agenda and the Administrative Officer advised that there were some rural matters together with policing in Onchan Park. It was further agreed that the question of the pavement sweeping machine should also be discussed.

b) **Carved Stone Sign – Heywood Court**

The Surveyor advised that he had not progressed this matter any further since the last meeting. Noted.

WC/03/11/3
MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil.

WC/03/11/4
WASTE MANAGEMENT AND OTHER CLEANSING BUSINESS

a) **Officer's Report**

Copies of the report as prepared by the Waste Operations Development Officer had been circulated and was noted with the following items being discussed further:-

i) **Bin Weighing**

Members noted the problem that had been experienced in the computerised bin weighing of trade refuse and the officer's thoughts in respect of where the error was occurring. In answer to question it was confirmed that a letter had been sent out to business premises explaining the purpose of invoicing. The Chairman enquired as to what tolerances there were in respect of the onboard weighing equipment and at the weighbridge at the Ayres. Details were given. The Chairman expressed his concern that certain bins were having to

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be re-chipped in order to get a reading and he was therefore concerned that under reading in the meantime could mean that the vehicle was overloaded going to the tip. It was confirmed that the Finance Officer had the invoicing side of the operation in hand. The Clerk reported that Braddan had decided to produce a 15 page contract between themselves and traders for each and every bin which they used.

ii) **Vehicle Serviceability**

The Surveyor reported that there were no problems in respect of this item.

iii) **Fly Tipping**

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the officer for his action during the past five week period for dealing with fly tipping in the way reported.

iv) **Abandoned Vehicles**

Members noted the action taken in respect of the Manx Arms car park. Mr Quirk expressed his concern that the Charade in the Onchan Park car park had not been removed and it was now propped up on its axles. Mr Crellin commented that the whole matter of abandoned vehicles required a degree of initiative. The Surveyor responded that his department had made a conscious effort to have vehicles removed wherever possible.

v) **Staffing**

The Surveyor reported that an employee who had been a temporary parks man during the summer had now been taken on the refuse staff for a three month period to help out. In April his department would be recruiting an additional member of staff. Mr Watterson made reference to the practice of the drivers starting earlier at the Snugborough depot and enquired if the time sheet recorded the time of start or when they were due to start. His concern was if an accident occurred at a time prior to the timesheet showing that work had commenced then there may be problem. The Surveyor to investigate.

vi) **Street Cleaning**

Members noted that the Hako sweeper had been returned by DoT following repair/servicing. The Chairman queried whether it was in fact the right machine for the job.

vii) **Base Location**

In answer to question from the Chairman the Surveyor informed members that the question of establishing the base location for starting in the morning was ongoing and pending other changes within the system. Noted.

b) **Snugborough Trading Estate**

Minutes of a meeting of owners/occupiers of premises in the Snugborough Trading Estate held on 30th October 2003 had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

c) **Snugborough Garage**

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The Chairman had requested inclusion on the agenda the question of fire precautions at the Snugborough Refuse Vehicle Garage. He stated he was aware that was a fire alarm system connected to the fire services but he wondered whether the question of a CO2 fire flooding system or a sprinkler system being installed could be investigated. He queried whether any changes in the rounds was going to have any effect with particular regard to refuse in the vehicles overnight. The Surveyor replied that the vehicles are emptied each day and should not be parked in the garage containing a load. He further added that a sprinkler system was considered at the time of the building design but had been omitted for some reason which he would investigate.

d) **Recycling Bin Sites**

The Surveyor referred to the traffic management minutes regarding suggested discussions relative to the proposed site at Hague Crescent. The planning decision had now been received and the Surveyor advised that had been refused. A Review had been sought. The Surveyor further added that a separate meeting was to be arranged to discuss various recycling sites and as far as design and layout was concerned there was conflicting advice coming from DoT. Mr Crellin commented that if the commissioners had applied for a Review and the planning committee decided to approve the application at Review then the DoT would have to accept the situation.

e) **Joint Civic Amenity Committee**

Copies of the draft minutes of the Joint Civic Committee meeting held on 21st November 2003 had been received that day. The covering letter was read from which it was noted that officers' attention was drawn to the option to purchase land for the Eastern Civic Amenity site. The matter was discussed in some detail and finally on the proposal of Mr Quirk it was agreed that the commissioners should be party to taking an option on the land in question.

f) **Advisory Group**

Letter reported as received from Mrs Carol Sutherland, Local Government Unit Manager in respect of the Minister's proposal that an advisory group be formed with two persons nominated to represent the north, south, east and west areas of the Island along with one representative from the Borough of Douglas.

The remit of the group would be to consider the department's proposal to remove the legislative function for waste collection; whether it would be more practical to form five area authorities or an all Island service to carry out this function. Furthermore the group would be required to examine all costings and operational matters in regard to a waste collection provision that meets the best practice service standards. The group to report back to the Minister by 1st April 2004. It was noted that representatives for the east were the Clerk to Onchan District Commissioners and Mr E. Fowler of Lonan Parish Commissioners. The first meeting was to be held on Thursday 4th December 2003. The Clerk advised that he would report back in due course. Noted.

g) **Middle River Site**

The Clerk reported that Simon Harrison was not at the last meeting of the joint authorities. He had put forward two options in respect of layout due to health and safety objections. It was stated that there were no financial implications to the options and the matters of the original design had now been resolved. It appeared therefore that the original scheme is still an option and has the benefit of planning approval. It was confirmed that Onchan Commissioner prefer option one and notification of such preference should be indicated.

*IN PUBLIC***WC/03/11/5**
STREET LIGHTING/STREET FURNITURE**a) Officer's Report**

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

i) Church Road – Conservation Scheme

The Administrative Officer confirmed that the order had now been placed with D.W. Windsor Limited but they were quoting an eight week delivery for the lantern heads.

ii) Kaighens Lane/Cronk Lane

The Surveyor confirmed that the lighting for Kaighens Lane had been approved by the Board and a tender accepted. In respect of the second scheme for Cronk Lane he produced a plan showing alternatives of five columns at £16,290 +VAT or six columns at £19,341 +VAT. On the proposal of Mr Quirk it was agreed that the six column option should be accepted subject to the scheme being incorporated and a successful petition for borrowing powers. The Surveyor suggested that when the schemes were added up any balance between the cost and the £40,000 intended for petition could be used up with post top adapters used where necessary as in the Ballachurry Estate. It was pointed out however that there was £1,700 required for the new street light at Hillberry, recently approved by the Board.

iii) Port Jack Toilets

Mr Quirk expressed concern that the question of costing of stainless steel fittings for the Port Jack Toilets had been ongoing for a long time. He queried what was going to happen. The Surveyor promised that the costings would be available for the next meeting.

iv) Bus Shelter Manx Arms

The Surveyor had reported on a meeting held on site with representatives of the Department of Transport and the Transport Section of the Department of Tourism and Leisure. As a result of that meeting it was agreed that the bus shelter should be positioned behind the line of the footpath so as to avoid any potential of buses hitting the shelter with any overhang. Mr Quirk commented that this was a waste and he still felt it better that the shelter should be placed to one side. Mr Crellin enquired whether persons waiting for the bus in a shelter at the position now proposed could see the bus to which the Surveyor replied in the positive and Mr Crellin expressed his satisfaction with the situation.

v) Litter Bins Main Road

The Surveyor provided an illustration of litter bins and advised that cost would be in the region of £500 - £600 each. Mr Quirk expressed concern over any fire retarding properties that the bins may or may not have. Mr Norton enquired whether it was possible to have chewing gum receptacles added.

vi) Port Jack Railings

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Mr Quirk expressed concern that only a percentage of the railings were being renovated and suggested it would be better and more economical if they were all done at once. The Surveyor responded that the section being undertaken was the only area that needed new rails and that in all other cases scrapping and painting was sufficient.

WC/03/11/6
DRAINAGE FUNCTION

a) **Officer's Report**

Copies of the Building Control Officer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted without further comment.

The Surveyor reported that the sewer team vehicle was due for replacement. Use had been made of the Department of Transport facility to obtain competitive tenders which were listed in his memorandum. After brief discussion it was ***RESOLVED**

“to recommend the acceptance of the lowest tender as obtained through the Department of Transport for a replacement vehicle for the sewer team, a Citroen Relay from 1800TD Low Roof panel van with 2800cc diesel engine from Eurocars at a total cost of £9,899.40 (to be funded by Government under the Drainage Agency Agreement”.

WC/03/11/7
PLANNING MATTERS

a) **Planning Communications**

The Surveyor reported on the following two applications where the initial decision of the Planning Committee differed from that from the recommendation of the commissioners:-

PA 03/1115 Vehicle hardstanding and access in front garden, 77 Wybourn Grove The commissioners had recommended approval of this application but the planning committee had refused it on the grounds that the extent of the hard surfacing would remove all greenery from the front of the property. Such refusal was without prejudice to a smaller area being paved over leaving five metres of planting and garden.

PA 03/1289 First floor dormer extension 16 Beech Avenue, Birch Hill Park

The commissioners recommended refusal but the planning committee had approved the application. Mr Crellin enquired whether any other objections were received. The Surveyor replied that no copies had come direct to the commissioners. Mr Quirk suggested that contact be made with the planning officer to see whether any of the neighbours objected.

b) **Minutes**

Minutes of the extraordinary meetings of the Works and Cleansing Committee to discuss planning applications as held on 5th November and 20th November 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated was taken as read and approved.

c) **Proposed Secondary School**

Reference was made to the commissioners' submission to the planning committee in respect of the recent planning application and with particular regard to the access to the school. Mr Crellin

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commented that he had been speaking with Inspector Gary Roberts regarding the Surveyor's suggestion that access would be better taken from the Mountain Road close to The Nook instead of from within Heywood Park. Inspector Roberts thought this was a good idea as it would slow down traffic on the main thoroughfare and reduce the potential of accidents. He also did not think it was going to cause any major problems. The Surveyor responded that he had compared the situation with a new school in Ramsey which takes its access from Lezayre Road and on the basis that the schools were generally closed now during the TT and Grand Prix periods access to them should not be a problem during race periods particularly when a secondary access could be provided for such occasions. Mr Quirk enquired whether an acknowledgement had been sent to the resident of Highfield Crescent regarding his comments. The Surveyor replied that it was a copy letter as sent by him to the planning committee and not a communication to the commissioners.

WC/03/11/8
CAPITAL AND REVENUE SCHEMES

a) Officer's Report

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

i) Hawthorn Villa Project

Mr Quirk enquired as to what was happening in respect of the extension to the office and the re-building of the former refuse vehicle garage. The Surveyor replied that he had that evening received the list of interested contractors in respect of the project. After discussion with the architect it had been agreed to interview all five interested contractors. It was proposed to issue tender documents at the end of January 2004.

ii) Skateboard Park

Mr Norton commented that as it would appear the skateboard park was not proceeding on the tennis courts site would consideration be given to alternative sites. He was advised that this was a matter for the Leisure and Amenities Committee. Mr Quirk then enquired whether letters received at the office in support of the application for the tennis court site were for the Chairman's personal viewing or were they intended for the information of the Board. The Surveyor replied that the letters being referred to were addressed to Mr Killey the Chairman and marked personal on the envelope. In answer to further question he advised that it was not the usual practice to circulate letters to all commissioners as received in respect of planning applications. Such letters are however on file and can always be viewed at anytime by any of the commissioners. Mr Quirk then made reference to a letter of support received from Onchan Football Club. The Surveyor advised that there was no letter received from Onchan Football Club but in fact an e-mail bearing the typed name of an individual followed by the word secretary. There was no heading to that e-mail to suggest as to which body the person was a secretary and in fact the heading on the e-mail was D.J. Quirk. In answer to further question from Mr Quirk the Surveyor advised that the letter received from a resident in Whitebridge Road had not been acknowledged.

WC/03/11/9
HIGHWAY AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

a) Central Traffic Management Liaison Group

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Copies of the minutes of the meeting of the Liaison Group held on 6th November 2003 had been circulated. With regard to the recently created projection at the top of Kelvin Road members were of the opinion that this extended too far down onto Kelvin Road thus impinging on the disabled parking space and subsequently on the extent to which cars can park below that point. The Administrative Officer pointed out that the kerb is difficult to see at night when traffic is turning into Kelvin Road having come from the Corkill's Garage end of the village. The kerb would be better if painted black and white to highlight its projection. Agreed that both these matters be raised with DoT and police at the meeting to be held the following week.

b) Disabled Space

Notification had been received in respect of the proposal to create a disabled person's parking space at the top of Belgravia Road adjoining the entrance to Onchan Park. Noted.

WC/03/11/10**FURTHER REPORTS**

There were no further reports from the Clerk or Surveyor.

WC/03/11/11**CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER COMMUNICATIONS****a) Land at Bemahague**

Letter reported as received from the Estates Manager of DOLGE advising that as the Department of Education had now agreed to accept ownership of land at Bemahague then the strip of land previously used on the top side of the access road to Heywood Court was now subject to one month's notice from the department of termination of the temporary lease. Noted.

*IN PUBLIC***b) Waste Disposal Licence**

Letter reported as received from Mrs C.E. Neeson, Environmental Health Officer enclosing a copy of the Waste Disposal Licence for the new incinerator at Richmond Hill. Noted.

c) Bye-laws

Letter reported as received from the Manager of the Legislation and Policy Unit, Department of Local Government and the Environment advising that the department is currently carrying out a review of the various bye-laws that can either be made by local authorities or by the department on behalf of local authorities. As a result they requested copies of various bye-laws operated by the commissioners. The Clerk advised that this matter had been referred to the Deputy Clerk for action. Noted.

WC/03/11/12**OUTSTANDING MATTERS**

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

a) Adoption of Roads Marion Court and Heywood Park

The Chairman enquired as to the position in respect of this work. The Surveyor advised that he was trying to get out a specification for prices to have the remedial works undertaken.

b) Flooding Summerhill Road

Mr Crellin enquired as to the position regarding remedial work in this area. The Surveyor advised that he understood the present storm water sewer had been lined and investigations were being carried out higher up on the line of pipes.

c) Millennium Shelter

Mr Norton enquired as to what progress was being made in respect of improving the floor surface within the shelter. The Surveyor responded that he was only aware that one accident had occurred in this location.

d) Dowty Land

Mr Quirk enquired as to what progress was being made in respect of a potential purchase of the Dowty Land for housing. The Clerk replied that the Department of Industry had purchased the factory and land. Mr Quirk suggested that perhaps discussions should take place with that department as to the availability of the land.

e) Hague Farm Land

Mr Crellin enquired as to what was happening over any potential purchase of the land around the Hague Farm for first time buyers. Members were reminded that the owner was not prepared to sell. After discussion it was agreed to delete this item from the list.

IN PUBLIC**f) Back Lanes**

A long discussion took place in respect of the lanes backing on to Nursery Avenue/Church Avenue/Elm Drive. The Administrative Officer reminded members that when this item was first raised in the year 2000 it was agreed that the Bye-law Officer/Warden be requested to inspect and produce a report on the state of these lanes with particular regard to any rubbish dumped etc. After further discussion it was agreed that the Bye-law Enforcement Officer should be requested to carry out an inspection and produce a report for the next meeting of the committee.

WC/03/11/13**MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES****a) Streambed Port Jack**

The Surveyor reported that the Building Control Officer was preparing a scheme for the remedial work necessary. Mr Quirk avered that the stream was undoubtedly a storm water drain and suggested that the two gullies at the base of Alberta Drive be checked out as he was of the opinion that they discharged into this water course.

WC/03/11/14**ANY OTHER BUSINESS****a) Time and Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 5th January 2004 at 7pm.

b) Springfield Court

Mr Quirk pointed out that there were holes in the surfacing of the car park and in the vicinity of the post box the pavement level had dropped below that of the kerb. Agreed to refer to DoT as appropriate.

c) Summerhill Road

Mr Quirk made reference to the fact that water was coming out from the field behind the MEA substation at the junction of Blackberry Lane and Summerhill Road.

Meeting terminated at 10.47pm.

IN PUBLIC

Minutes of a meeting of the **LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 1st December 2003 at 7.07pm.

Present: Mr G.K. Astill (in the chair), Messrs E.D.R. Killey JP, T.W. Norton and D.J. Quirk

Apologises: Mrs E.J.C. Kelly

In attendance: Peter Kelly (Administration) Ray Quane (Amenities Officer)

LA/03/12/1
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 27th October 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, was taken as read, confirmed and signed.

LA/03/12/2
MATTERS ARISING

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

LA/03/12/3
PLAYGROUNDS/PARKS

a) Playground Log Books

The Amenities Officer advised that these were ready for signing by the Chairman. He further advised that there were no matters of concern regarding playground maintenance.

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) Flat Green Hut

The Amenities Officer showed photographs taken of the damage done to the doors on the flat green hut when illegally entered of recent. Internally items had been disturbed within the hut but nothing appeared to have been broken. The doors were now boarded over and would require a new track in the springtime.

ii) Mini Golf Shelter

Members noted that work on its demolition was in progress. The Amenities Officer added that the work was assisted by young people pushing over a brick pillar during the night. Noted.

c) Roundabouts

The Administrative Officer reported receipt of a letter from G.L. Jones Playgrounds the suppliers of the new roundabouts and swings recently installed in the various playgrounds in Onchan. In their letter they thanked the Administrative Officer and the Amenities Officer for their assistance to the installation team and added that in their 25 years of trading Onchan Commissioners were without doubt the most co-operative local authority with whom they had ever dealt. Noted with pleasure.

*IN PUBLIC***d) Police Matters**

Those matters still outstanding would be discussed at the meeting the following evening which was to be held jointly with DoT and the Police.

e) Parks Foreman

The Administrative Officer read draft advertisement to be placed in the local newspapers that week for a parks foreman to commence upon the retirement of the present parks chargehand. Wording of the advertisement was approved. Advertisement also to appear on the commissioners' website.

f) Seat at Lazy Corner

The Administrative Officer reported that he had looked at the site with the Amenities Officer. They had pulled forward the seat which was adjoining the cottage gable. The Amenities Officer advised that this had not yet had its restraining brackets fitted.

With regard to the other seat position the Administrative Officer pointed out that it could not be placed in front of the green boxes as these were telecom boxes and the doors opened out fully. There was a space alongside however where the second seat could be located. Mr Norton enquired whether it could be placed round the corner nearer the gritting box. The Administrative Officer replied that the path was narrow there and it would involve a concrete base and equally it was nearer to the traffic and persons using it were therefore more likely to be subjected to exhaust fumes.

g) Tour of the Park

An updated list of items had been circulated. The Amenities Officer advised that no further works had been done since the previous meeting and therefore there was nothing further to remove from the list. List to be re-circulated at the next meeting.

h) Skateboard Park

Mr Norton commented that as the proposed skateboard park/kickabout area on the tennis courts now appeared to be "dead in the water" he felt the commissioners should revert to looking at alternative sites. He made reference to one of the alternatives which had been previously put forward which was an area in the corner of the School Road Recreation Ground behind the commissioners' office. The current year's estimates had allowed £100,000 for a combined facility and the Surveyor's estimate for the site behind the commissioners' offices was £34,000 to construct a flat base with tarmac finish and fencing and a further £30,000 for the equipment itself. Deducting, therefore, the £64,000 this still left £36,000 to create a five-a-side/basketball facility.

Mr Killley commented that when the development at North Bank Land was first discussed it was noted that several acres of land was to be given to the commissioners and there had been a suggestion at that time that perhaps a BMX course and possibly skateboard park could be provided in that area providing it was sufficiently far away from the houses. Mr Quirk reminded members that they were still awaiting for the Surveyor to arrange an on site meeting and this just doesn't seem to happen. He felt they should push for this meeting to take place.

Finally, on the proposal of Mr Norton, seconded by Mr Quirk it was

***RESOLVED**

IN PUBLIC

“to request the Board to consider alternative sites for the provision of a skateboard and five-a-side/basketball facility within the district”.

The Administrative Officer reported receipt of correspondence from a local agent in respect of synthetic sports flooring as a result of publicity given to the potential skateboard park. A reply had been sent. Noted.

j) Disabled Parking

The Administrative Officer advised that the formal notice had been received in respect of the proposed reserved space for the disabled at the top of Belgravia Road adjoining Onchan Park for use by disabled persons entering the park from that location. Noted.

k) Onchan Ladies Choir

Members commented on how pleasant an evening it was with the Onchan Ladies Choir at their civic reception. Reference was made to the well selected menu and the very reasonable charge made by Niarbyl Catering. Details of alternative prices received were also given for the information of members. The Chairman requested that the thanks of the committee to the Administrative Officer should be recorded in the minutes.

m) Bowling Green Watering

The Amenities Officer reported that he had accepted the quotation of the Water Authority and had asked for the work to be programmed in January/February. Mr Quirk suggested that if digging was required then ducting should be installed at the same time to provide for potential power cables in the future. The Amenities Officer advised that there was no digging per se. Noted.

n) Sale of Safety Tiles

The Amenities Officer reported that the person interested in the safety tiles removed from some of the existing equipment was prepared to offer £2 per tile. In answer to question he advised that the tiles were over £20 each when new but pointed out that these had been in use for some years. Members felt however that this £2 inclusive of VAT price was too little and suggested that the tiles should be advertised at a potential selling price of £5 each. It was understood there were 20 tiles in total.

m) Park Fencing

The Amenities Officer advised that he had been speaking with the contractor. The materials arrived on the Island on the previous Friday and it was hoped that work would commence next week. Mr Quirk enquired as to what was the next section to be fenced to which the Administrative Officer advised that the officers were of the opinion that the worse sections of fencing had been replaced. With regard to further replacement of fencing he suggested that perhaps consideration should be given to the other items in the forthcoming year's estimates first before embarking on any replacement of fencing which was in reasonable condition. Agreed.

LA/03/12/4
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 items being discussed further:-

*IN PUBLIC***i) Decorative Lighting**

Mr Quirk advised that he appreciated that the new street lighting contractors had been thrown in at the deep end with particular regard to the preparation of lighting for Christmas and enquired as to how they were finding it. The Amenities Officer responded that they were doing very well and the hoist equipment which they had resulted in much better access was available in certain locations. This had come to light in particular with regard to the new net lighting which had been placed over the weeping elm tree.

ii) Santa Train

Mr Killey commented on how good the Santa Train looked on the gable of the building and the Administrative Officer was thanked for his involvement in its selection and purchase.

iii) Tree Planting

Mr Quirk made reference to the tree which had been planted in No 2 car park but which had being removed by youths. He suggested that arrangements are made immediately for a further tree to be planted in this location but a more substantial one.

b) Port Jack Glen - Entrance

The Amenities Officer advised that the new sign had not yet been painted but he was hopeful that that might take place during the current week. Noted.

c) Jubilee Park – Conveyance of Land

The Administrative Officer was pleased to advise that the contract for the deed of gift of the land adjoining Jubilee Park from Heritage Homes had now been received, signed by the Chairman and Clerk and returned to the advocates. Noted with pleasure.

d) Centenary Park

The Administrative Officer reported that 60 trees had been planted of two varieties as selected by Mr Andree Dumbledum of the Manx Wildlife Trust. In addition a further 20 Italian alder trees were to be planted in a selected location by Mr Pearn of Rainbow Borders.

Also during the month buddelia had been planted on the embankment at the far end of the park in the hopes of providing a good habitat and feeding ground for butterflies in the future. These had been provided free of charge by Mr Radcliffe of Ballakissack, Santon.

Mr Quirk made reference to the gorse fire at Port Jack Glen during the summer and suggested that perhaps a clear way should be cut within the gorse and perhaps buddelia could be planted in lieu thereof.

Oxford Brookes University students schemes for alternative layouts at Centenary Park in relation to nature park, futuristic park, community park etc were viewed with great interest. Members were interested to note the proposals of the students but were aware that several were not a practical solution due to reasons of health and safety, unsupervised site etc.

It was agreed therefore to continue on the present principle of improving the area through planting and the creation of a circulatory path so that the emphasis was on ramblage and nature.

*IN PUBLIC***e) Groudle Glen Waterwheel**

Letter reported as sent to the Chief Forestry Officer at DAFF enquiring as to when the wheelhouse was likely to be renovated. Reply read from which it was noted that this work was to have been carried out in the autumn/winter of 2002 but the storms in October resulted in considerable flood damage to the glen which both prevented access to the waterwheel and diverted resources to the reinstatement of footpaths, bridges etc. DAFF anticipated however that work on the re-roofing and general restoration of the waterwheel house would be carried out between Easter and TT Fortnight 2004. Noted with the hope that it would be sooner rather than later.

f) The Rec

In answer to question, the Amenities Officer replied that the scheme approved by the Board in July for repairs to the concrete footpaths at the entrance to The Rec had not yet been progressed. After brief discussion, on the proposal of Mr Quirk, it was agreed that the Administrative Officer should seek tenders for the work.

g) Christmas Decorations

The Amenities Officer reported that the rope light which normally is placed over the roof of the Millennium Shelter at Port Jack had been vandalised during the Christmas period 2002. It was not possible therefore to connect this set of lights this year. Mr Quirk commented that he was sure if the Amenities Officer took the rope light to Douglas Corporation's electricity department they would be able to carry out the necessary repair.

h) Reindeer

Mr Quirk enquired whether the Amenities Officer had yet had the reindeer light feature repaired. The Amenities Officer replied in the negative. Again Mr Quirk suggested that it be taken to the Douglas Corporation electricity section who should be able to implement a repair.

j) Millennium Shelter

The Amenities Officer reported that a nuisance was currently being caused by youths in the Millennium Shelter who are now removing the rubber gaskets from the glazing and loosening the Perspex sheets. Mr Norton enquired whether anything yet had been done by the Surveyor in respect of the floor to the shelter as promised. The Amenities Officer advised that he was not aware that anything had been progressed.

LA/03/12/5
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES**a) Amenities Officer's Report**

Copies of the report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted, with the following items being raised.

i) Main Road Toilets

The Amenities Officer reported that the front covers to the soap dispensers and the fresh air inpleair had been pulled off.

ii) Port Jack Toilets

IN PUBLIC

Mr Quirk enquired whether the Surveyor had yet obtained prices for stainless steel fittings. The Amenities Officer advised that he was not aware that this had been undertaken yet. A general discussion then took place in respect of the toilets and whilst it had previously been suggested that they should be demolished and rebuilt this was partially influenced by the fact that damage was occurring to the roof tiles due to youths throwing stones from the steps behind.

Now that the Royal Skandia building was in operation the steps were closed off at night and damage was not occurring. It was generally agreed therefore that perhaps the existing building should be re-roofed and renovated internally rather than totally demolished only to be replaced by another building.

b) CCTV Coverage

The Amenities Officer reported that Securicor had not come back to him with a quotation. He and the Surveyor had looked at a scheme operated by Colebourns but a quotation had not been sought. After general discussion it was agreed that the subject of CCTV coverage in the district should perhaps be the subject of a report by Constable Mike Radcliffe and the matter could be raised at the joint meeting of the police and DoT the following day.

LA/03/12/6

HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS**Amenities Officer's Report**

The Amenities Officer reported that health and safety for the whole of the commissioners' departments was now undertaken by the Building Control Officer. A report would come from him in future but he was currently on leave. Noted.

*IN PUBLIC***LA/03/12/7**
PUBLIC LIBRARY**a) Librarian's Report**

Copies of the Librarian's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and were noted with the following items being discussed further:-

i) Issues

It was noted that issues for October were 7,240 compared to 6,513 in October 2002. There was also a 20% increase in library membership subscription.

ii) Computer Courses

Mr Robert Woollams who has volunteered to give lessons on computer in a similar way to courses offered by Help the Aged had already given instruction to 11 people with 3 scheduled for the following week and further 21 on the waiting list. Noted with interest.

iii) Christmas Carol

Members had received a personal invitation to attend the reading of A Christmas Carol by Chris Caine who would be appearing as Charles Dickens in the library on Thursday 4th December.

iv) Diamond Jubilee

It was noted that following the support of the Board to implement a ration book type voucher in respect of subscriptions during the financial year 2004-5 offers of assistance had been received from Mrs Frances Killey of the Onchan Branch of the Royal British Legion to help with the wartime display and also Mrs Pat Nicolson of the Family History Society had offered to provide information.

b) Amenities Officer's Report

Copies of the Amenities Officer's report had been circulated prior to the meeting from which it was noted that no maintenance work had been carried out at the library since the previous meeting.

LA/03/12/8
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:-

Security

The Amenities Officer drew to the attention of the committee the fact that on two occasions the cleaner when entering the building in the morning had discovered that a window had been left open. In answer to question it was confirmed that on both occasions it was after use by the Youth Club. Agreed that the matter should be taken up by the Management Committee direct with the hirer.

LA/03/12/9

*IN PUBLIC***PROMOTIONS/ADVERTISING/PUBLIC INFORMATION****a) Website**

The Administrative Officer reported on statistics received from Web One UK which indicated that in October the number of page views was 7,063 and the number of user sessions 4,419. In November this increased to 11,213 page views and 6,475 visits. Since the last meeting the changes to the website had been made which now resulted in it being extremely quick and more direct in going to the sub sections. One or two other amendments had been made to the graphics and layout. The list of clubs and societies was continually updated when information came to hand. The bus timetable details had also been updated following a request to Isle of Man Transport to point out any changes. A link had also been provided with the web site of DOLGE.

The vast majority of photographs in respect of the Tour of Onchan Part 2 had now been sent to the website provider. The Administrative Officer had decided to cut down on the length of the tour as it had already reached 42 photographs and 24 pages of text. This means that in fact the Tour of Onchan would be in three sections which could increase if he then took it through other parts of the district. Noted. The Administrative Officer advised members that Commissioner Quirk had been interviewed on recently one afternoon on Manx Radio from the Village Walk Shopping Precinct and he described the commissioners website as being "excellent". A new section introduced by the Administrative Officer was news snippets which were intended to provide updated information such as the information on the Torchlight Procession etc. Mr Quirk suggested that the site should be linked to the Isle of Man Newspapers site.

b) Torchlight Procession

The Administrative Officer reported that everything was in hand. No reply had been received to date from Geoff Corkish who had been asked to lead the singing. Mr Killey commented that he thought he was away. The lanterns had arrived and were currently on sale in the front office of the commissioners. The glow sticks should have arrived the previous Friday on a three day delivery but had been received that afternoon and were currently being despatched.

As the sitting of Tynwald in December is brought forward by a week it means that once again the Members of Tynwald are unlikely to be able to attend the Torchlight Procession due to their commitment elsewhere. Noted.

c) Christmas Lights Competition

The Administrative Officer had previously distributed copies of the application form for those properties who wished to be judged. One domestic form had been returned and Mr Quirk completed a form for property in the commercial section during the meeting. Mr Killey put forward the suggestion that perhaps certificates could be given to all the entrants but there was no further comment from members.

IN PUBLIC**d) 2004 Scooter Rally**

The Administrative Officer had circulated prior to the meeting a file note from the meeting which was held at Onchan Stadium between himself, Emma Walker of the Department of Tourism and Kevin Walsh the Secretary of the Lambretta Club of Great Britain. Members confirmed that they were prepared to grant the free use of the stadium on Saturday 1st May 2004 for the gymkhana event and display of scooters. This was on the basis that there would be no charge for admission to the public. It was noted that they may require to erect a marquee on the ground to provide cover for the display machines in the event of inclement weather. This was a matter to be further investigated. The members agreed that a trophy could be provided and for one of the competitions run by the club and this would be presented by the Board Chairman, a former scooterist.

e) Advertising

The Administrative Officer showed members a copy of the advertisement which was to appear in the A to Z Atlas of the Isle of Man on the page covering Onchan Park. Noted.

f) Film Commission

Mr Quirk enquired as to whether contact had been made with the Isle of Man Film Commission regarding the potential use of Onchan Park and Stadium as a film location. The Administrative Officer replied that he had written to Miss Hilary Dugdale as instructed and in telephoning the commission in order to obtain their address which did not appear in the telephone directory, he established that she was currently on holiday.

LA/03/12/10**OUTSTANDING MATTERS**

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

LA 01/12/3(c) Jubilee Playground extension – await finalisation of legal agreement – ***delete as now complete.***

LA 03/9/4(a)(i) War Memorial – Amenities Officer and Board Chairman to liaise with British Legion – ***The Amenities Officer suggested to the committee that a degree of thinning out of the existing planting and the planting of new shrubs should take place in the spring. Agreed.***

LA 03/9/4(f) Port Jack Glen Streambed – Report any remedial work required – ***Mr Quirk suggested that a former employee of DHPP should be contacted to obtain his views in respect as to whether the stream was a stream or in fact a storm water sewer.***

LA/03/12/11**MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES**

The Administrative Officer advised that he had not been informed as to anything referred. Noted.

IN PUBLIC**LA/03/12/12****CORRESPONDENCE****a) Bemahague Kickabout Area**

The Administrative Officer reported that a letter had been received from the Estates Manager of DOLGE giving the commissioners a month's notice in respect of the licence for the two plots of land used as kickabout areas at Bemahague. Reply as sent requesting confirmation as to the date from which the notice was given and also as to whether a refund was due in respect of the licence fee was read. Reply awaited. Mr Quirk suggested that the commissioners should remove the kissing gate in the meantime as this was an expensive item.

b) Teddy Bear's Picnic

Letter received from the Secretary of Onchan Middle and Laxey Hospice Committee thanking the commissioners for the use of Onchan Stadium for their Teddy Bear's Picnic which raised £2,500. Letter also requested use of the stadium on Sunday 27th June 2004 for the same purpose. After a brief discussion it was agreed that subject to the date not being one of the Sunday stock car events the request should be acceded.

LA/03/12/13**ANY OTHER BUSINESS****a) Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 12th January 2004 at 7pm.

b) Tractor

Mr Quirk informed members that it was now 6 months since the Board decision not to sell the Ferguson tractor and therefore he made a proposal which was seconded by Mr Norton and
*RESOLVED

"to recommend that the Board again considers the disposal of the original Ferguson tractor purchased for Onchan Park at the time of its opening."

c) Seasons Greetings

The Chairman extended seasons greetings to the members and staff. These were reciprocated together with thanks to Mrs Astill for providing mince pies for the meeting.

Meeting terminated at 9.46pm.

IN PUBLIC

Minutes of a meeting of the **RURAL COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Wednesday 3rd December 2003 at 5.25pm.

Present: Mr J.K. Watterson, (in the Chair), Messrs S.T. Black, J.M. Bulley (from 5.31pm), D. Crellin and B.H. Moore

In attendance: Peter Kelly (Administration) & E.K. Convery (Surveyor) (until 5.54pm)

R/03/12/1
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, was taken as read, confirmed and signed.

R/03/12/2
MATTERS ARISING

The following matters were arising from the minutes:-

a) Alternative Power for Street Lighting

The Administrative Officer reported letter as sent to Wind & Sun Limited whose catalogue had been referred to at the previous meeting in respect of wind and solar powered street lighting. The letter requested information in respect of street lighting based on the commissioners use of five metre columns with 100 watt SON light bulbs. The letter had been sent a month previous but no reply had been received to date. Noted.

b) Scollag Road Traffic Count

The Chairman reported that at the joint meeting held the previous evening the representatives from DoT advised that they would undertake a count at sometime in the future. Proposals were currently in hand for the installation of a mini roundabout at the Ballanard Road/Johnny Watterson's Road junction and the Ballafletcher/Braddan Road junction and therefore the count would not take place until such times as these works had been carried out as otherwise the figures could be distorted by traffic avoiding the road works.

c) King Edward Bay Golf Course

The Surveyor reported that there had been no response to the letter sent to the Planning Enforcement Officer five weeks previous. Mr Crellin enquired what happened within the office when a reply had not been received within such a length of time. The Surveyor advised that usually the staff would telephone to enquire as to the situation. When questioned on whether this action had taken place he responded that it had but he had been unable to contact the Planning Enforcement Officer that day. Noted.

d) Onchan District Act and Rating Differential

The Chairman reported to the meeting that since the last meeting of the committee there had been two extraordinary meetings of the Board of Commissioners in connection with this subject. The first of these meetings was held under the Chairmanship of Honourable P.M. Crowe MLC, Minister for DOLGE and was attended also by the MHKs for Onchan together with one MLC and the two Rural Members. The second meeting was an extraordinary meeting of the Board to which the Rural Members were not invited although the meeting was actually held in public.

IN PUBLIC

The latter meeting was in connection with representation and whilst the proposal to change the representation for the Rural Ward had been voted out by the Board only a week previous the matter had reappeared due to a Notice of Motion signed by three members of the Board.

The new motions were:-

- 1) "That the Onchan District Commissioners rescind the resolution passed at the extraordinary meeting of the Board held on 24th November 2003 to retain the status quo for the election of commissioners whereby nine members are returned by the Urban Ward and one member by the Rural Ward"
- 2) "That the Department of Local Government and the Environment be requested to promote amending legislation to provide equal representation for both wards whereby all ten members are returned by the voters in the Urban and Rural Wards voting together".

The first motion was approved. Commissioner D.J. Quirk put forward an amendment to the second motion namely "That the Department of Local Government and the Environment be requested to promote amending legislation to provide equal representation for all voters in the Onchan District". The original proposal failed and the amendment was carried. It was noted that this matter, which seriously affected the Rural Ward by changing its representation, had not been referred to the Rural Committee for consideration.

Mr Moore informed members that he had of recent been speaking to individual Laxey and Lonan Commissioners when they had called in to his farm shop. They had commented that times for local authorities in the future were now going to be very difficult for it was obvious that the trust which existed at the time of the amalgamation of Onchan Village and Parish Commissioners had now gone with the District Board having reneged on the original agreement. A general discussion then took place with Mr Black restating his views on the fact there was nothing wrong with what had taken place and Mr Crellin pointing out that Mr Black was only going over old ground which was not necessary as a decision had been taken.

The Chairman made reference to what had been described as consultation and stated that the Minister's idea of consultation was to call everybody into a room, tell them what she was going to do and that was consultation. He felt that she did not have "the handle to the story". He personally believed she wasn't really listening and she had the impression that all residents in the Rural Ward lived in big houses in the country whereas those living on Main Road in the centre of the village had problems in backing out into the traffic. She didn't want to listen or be referred to the Clerk's memorandum to her department written in 2000 which indicated that the system worked very well and the Rural Ward produced a surplus to off set the Urban Ward.

Mr Bulley commented that within a very short time of Mrs Crowe speaking he formed the opinion that in her mind the whole matter was cut and dried and there was no "move ability". Mr Moore added that the joint meeting was a bit late in the day to start talking when a decision had already been made.

The Chairman referred to Hansard of 26th November 1985 quoting what was said by the mover of the Onchan Act and pointed out that where circumstances change such as at Ashley Hill then the rating differential moved in that area. This had been reiterated by the Clerk in his memorandum of 2000 but was now being ignored.

Mr Moore added that it would have been far better if the Urban Commissioners had sat down with the Rural Commissioners to discuss the whole proposals first rather than the way things were done. The Chairman added that he fully agreed with Commissioner Black that there was provision in the Act for the rating differential to change but there had to be a reason behind it and that was being ignored. He then informed members that after the public sitting of the Board held

IN PUBLIC

the previous week several of the rural residents signed a notice to the Captain of the Parish to call a public meeting. This would obviously happen after the sitting of Tynwald as time did not permit sufficient notification etc in the press.

R/03/12/3**OUTSTANDING MATTERS****a) Ballacreech Corner – Unloading of Vehicles**

The Chairman reported that at the Eastern Sector meeting Sergeant John Kinrade was arranging to look at the situation. At the joint meeting with DoT and the police the night before, the representatives of the Department of Transport advised that they did not see a problem with the trailer parked in the corner but Inspector Hoggett is going to ask Sergeant Kinrade for his views. Noted.

b) Registration of Chimneys – Clucas Laundry

The Surveyor reported receipt of a Notice of Proposal to Register the two chimneys at Clucas's Laundry, Carr's Lane, Tromode, Onchan. Representations had to be made not later than 29th December 2003. Agreed that representation supporting the registration as previously approved by the Board should be made.

R/03/12/4**MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Nil.

R/03/12/5**MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES**

No notification received of any referrals relevant to matters affecting the Rural Ward.

R/03/12/6**PLANNING MATTERS****a) Planning Decisions**

The Surveyor reported on the following planning decisions at the initial stage

PA 03/729 Change of use of agricultural land and barn for paintball games and indoor laser games, Ballakaighen Farm, Onchan for Mr Andrew Clague – the application was approved subject to an amended plan which had been submitted but had not been seen by the committee relevant to alterations to the access from the Ramsey Road. There were notes to the approval to safeguard any of the activities adversely affecting the river or vegetation on the side banks. There was a further note pointing out that the building to be used was regarded as redundant for agricultural purposes and therefore the Planning Committee did not expect any further applications for additional agricultural buildings relevant to this farm holding. Noted.

PA 03/468 Refurbishment and extension to Ballacottier Farmhouse, off Ballacottier Road Onchan for Clype Farms Limited – Refused on the grounds that the approval in principle was for the refurbishment and extension of the property whereas the proposals transform what is presently a modest and attractive traditional dwelling into a much more grand country residence and bears no resemblance to the existing property. Noted.

IN PUBLIC

PA 03/469 Erection of two storey dwelling with garage to replace existing cottage Glenside Cottage, off Ballacottier Road, Onchan for Clypse Farms Limited – *Refused on the grounds that whilst the approval in principle was for a replacement of this dwelling with a new footprint no larger than 150% of the existing, the proposal now includes a second storey over the main part of the house thus increasing significantly the size of the property. Noted.*

PA 03/470 Refurbishment and extension to create a dwelling, The Tuck Mill, Ballacottier for Clypse Farms Limited – *Refused on the grounds that the approval in principle for the conversion of the mill was subject to a sympathetic approach retaining the existing fabric whereas the proposal by adding chimneys, conservatory, change of roof shape etc significantly alters the format of the original building. Noted.*

PA 03/471 Erection of a terrace of four three storey dwellings with detached garages to replace the large barn, Slegaby for Clypse Farms Limited – *Refused on the grounds that the Onchan Local Plan supports the redevelopment of the building to form a country dwelling designed in accordance with planning circular 3/91 and the proposed building does not achieve this standard nor does it replicate the form and appearance of the existing building which is very prominent as viewed from Ballacottier Road. Noted.*

PA 03/525 Refurbishment and extension to cottage to create single dwelling The Beggar's House, Slegaby for Clypse Farms Limited – *Refused on the grounds that the approval in principle provided for this building to be used for storage purposes. The proposals are to extend the building and therefore do not comply with the approval in principle and equally does not comply with planning circular 3/89 which makes provision for the reuse of buildings of merit. Noted.*

PA 03/526 Erection of dwelling to replace existing farmhouse, Slegaby for Clypse Farms Limited – *Refused on the grounds that the Onchan Local Plan provides for the conversion of the large barn but such scheme must include the demolition of the farmhouse which is now proposed for redevelopment. No provision is made for the redevelopment of the farmhouse on the local plan. Noted.*

PA 03/1174 Upgrade of existing farm track including drainage, passing places and visibility displays, access lane between Ballacottier Road and Ballcottier Farm – *Refused on the grounds that the developments which this new access road would serve have all been refused. Such work would therefore be unwarranted. Noted.*

PA 03/1434 Approval in principle for an extension and alterations to dwelling, Barrowdale House, Sir George's Bridge, Abbeylands for Mr Amin Juma – *Approved with such approval being valid for a two year period. Noted.*

b) Decisions at Review

PA 03/396 Creation of field access off Ballacottier Road near The Crofts, Hillberry for Mr & Mrs D. Robbins – *Refused on the grounds that the new access will afford substandard visibility for drivers emerging from the site thus resulting in an unsafe access. Noted.*

PA 03/658 Approval in principle for the erection of holiday cottages field 1150, land adjacent to Hillberry Manor, Little Mill Road for Mr R.C. Leventhorpe – *Refused for reasons similar to the decision at the initial stage. Noted.*

PA 03/ 659 Approval in principle for development of first time buyer homes field 1150, land adjacent to Hillberry Manor, Little Mill Road for Mr R.C. Leventhorpe – *Refused for reasons similar to those given at the initial planning stage. Noted.*

*IN PUBLIC***c) Notification of Appeals**

The following notifications that Appeals had been requested were received in respect of the following

PA 03/396 Creation of field access off Ballacottier Road near The Crofts Hillberry for Mr & Mrs D. Robbins.

PA 03/658 Approval in principle for erection of holiday cottages, field 1150, land adjacent to Hillberry Manor, Little Mill Road for Mr R.C. Leventhorpe.

PA 03/659 Approval in principle for a development of first time buyer homes, field 1150, land adjacent to Hillberry Manor, Little Mill Road for Mr R.C. Leventhorpe.

d) Other Planning Matters

PA 03/1556 Hardcore of existing access track fields 534327 and 534328 Ballacashin, Abbeylands for Mr & Mrs G. Owen.

This application had been received following the last meeting of the Rural Committee and was therefore dealt with by the Board/Works Committee after consultation with the Rural Members. It was recommended that the application be Refused on the grounds that the renovation of the property was for family use. The proposed separate entrance would now effectively make this a new dwelling in the countryside as a separate unit. Furthermore the argument that the tail drains to Ballacashin are in the way of a linking drive was not sustainable as it would be cheaper to move the drains than to create a new drive.

The Surveyor reported receipt of a letter from Miss Sarah Corlett, Planning Officer pointing out that there was not a condition of approval limiting the use of the property for members of family although she accepted that this had been given in evidence at the Appeal but was not a condition of approval. Miss Corlett therefore enquired as to whether the commissioners still wished to proceed with their objection to the application. After brief discussion and a reference to the fact that the driveway had now been created without the benefit of planning approval, it was agreed to continue opposition thereto. The Chairman commented that at the meeting held the previous evening the representatives of the police and DoT comment was made by the DoT representative that Abbeylands Road was getting overloaded with vehicles.

R/03/12/7

ANY OTHER BUSINESS**a) Time and Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 14th January 2004 at 5.15pm.

b) Tromode Green

The Chairman referred to the unmade up section of footpath alongside a streetlight in Tromode Green. The Administrative Officer reminded him that this road and footpath had not yet been adopted and therefore was a matter for the developer.

c) Street Lighting

The Chairman reported that the streetlight close to Abbeylands Chapel was "cycling" in so much that it was coming on and going off for periods. Matter to be referred to the street lighting contractor.

*IN PUBLIC***d) Clypse Moar Road**

The Chairman reported that at the joint meeting with DoT and the police the previous evening the Board was informed that the road had been repaired to a satisfactory standard. There was a section of private road however through the gate pillars to the former Clypse e Creer Farm which provides access to the Clypse Reservoir and this was in a poor state of repair but was a matter entirely for the Water Authority.

e) Abbeylands Road

The Chairman reported that all remedial works had now been undertaken on this road and the Department of Transport had contacted the owner of Strenaby Farm regarding water discharging onto the highway.

f) Seasons Greetings

The Chairman extended seasons greetings to the members and officers which were returned as well as a thanks to Mrs Watterson for providing her homemade mince pies.

Meeting terminated at 6.41pm.

IN PUBLIC

Minutes of a meeting of the **POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom at Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday, 8th December 2003, at 5.30 p.m.

Present: Mr H.L.G. Parkin (Chairman)
Mr G.K. Astill
Mr M.J. Kennaugh
Mr E.D.R. Killey, J.P.
Mr J.K. Watterson

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

PF03/12/01
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

PF03/12/02
BUSINESS ARISING

There was no business 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.

PF03/12/03
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.

PF03/12/04
FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

1. Onchan Website

It was reported that the upgraded Onchan Website had been commissioned and was much more user friendly and easier to navigate than before.

2. Bond Interest Rates

It was reported that following the increase in the base rate, the Commissioners' bond interest rates had been correspondingly increased by ¼% and were now as follows (previous rates shown in brackets):-

| | | |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| 1 or 2 years | 3.75% | (3.50%) |
| 3 or 4 years | 4.00% | (3.75%) |
| 5 years | 4.25% | (4.00%) |

IN PUBLIC**3. Rates Collected**

It was noted that the total estimated collectable rates and cash received in the current financial year to 2nd December 2003 compared with the previous financial year were as follows:-

2003/04 estimated amount collectable including arrears brought forward £1,405,728
2003/04 collected to 2nd December 2003 less refunds £1,367,546 (97.28%)

Comparative figures

2002/03 estimated amount collectable including arrears brought forward £1,098,373
2002/03 collected to 2nd December 2002 less refunds £1,059,423 (96.45%)

4. Revenue Account Payments

The list of payments from revenue account during the months of October and November 2003, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered and it was **RESOLVED***:-

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

4. Debtors

The list of general debtors copies of which having previously been circulated was considered. Total sum outstanding as at 3rd December 2003 was £31,236.75 which compared with an amount of £75,149.51 outstanding as at 29th October 2003. A separate list of refuse collection charges (Rural area debtors) had been circulated and it was noted that of the total amount billed in the sum of £5,355, £2,142 was outstanding.

PF03/12/05**CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS****1. Department of Local Government and the Environment re: New Website**

Copies had been circulated of a letter from the Department of Local Government and the Environment advising that the Department had launched a new website some two months ago. There are a number of areas on the site that have an impact on Local Authorities including a specific section on Local Authorities in which it is possible to view/download a copy of the General Information Handbook which was published earlier in the year. It also includes a "Flash" map which enables users to view contact details for a Local Authority by hovering over the relevant section of the map. The contact details include the Commissioners' website address and a link to the address can be established by clicking on to it.

Finance Officer confirmed that the Commissioners' website had a link to the Department's website.

IN PUBLIC**2. Isle of Man Local Government Pension Scheme**

The Clerk reported receipt of the annual report and accounts for the year ending 31st March 2003 of the Isle of Man Local Government Pension Scheme. Clerk further advised that Hymans Robertson, the Scheme's Consultants and Actuaries were to carry out a triennial valuation for the three years to 31st March 2004 and Douglas Corporation, the Administrators of the Scheme, anticipated a more timely production of the report than had been the experience in the past. The report was noted.

PF03/12/06**MATTERS REFERRED BY COMMISSIONERS/OTHER COMMITTEES**

None to report in public.

PF03/12/07**RECOMMENDATIONS WITH POLICY OR FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following recommendation from the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting held 24th November 2003 be endorsed:-

1. ***“to approve acceptance of the lowest tender as obtained through the Department of Transport for a replacement vehicle for the sewer team, a Citroen Relay from 1800TD Low Roof panel van with 2800 cc diesel engine from Eurocars at a total cost of £9,899.40 (to be funded by Government under the Drainage Agency Agreement”.***

PF03/12/08**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business for consideration in public.

PF03/12/09**NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next ordinary meeting of the Committee be held at 5.00 p.m. on Monday 19th January 2004.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 6.40 p.m..