

ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Hawthorn Villa,
Main Road, Onchan.

IN PUBLIC

16th January 2008

Sir/Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend an **ORDINARY meeting of the Authority** to be held in the Boardroom, at Hawthorn Villa, 79 Main Road, Onchan, to transact the undernoted business at:

7.00 p.m. on Monday, 21st January 2008

which will be followed by a meeting of the Board sitting *In Committee*.

Yours faithfully,

P.M. HULME
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 (with the exception of items 1, 2 or 3 which cannot be varied) or by a resolution duly moved and seconded and passed on a motion which shall be moved and put without discussion.

- 1. To choose a person to preside if the Chairman and vice-chairman be absent**
- 2. To deal with any business required by statute to be done before any other business**
- 3. To approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the:-**
 - 3.1 Ordinary meeting held on 17th December 2007 **(Minutes – APPENDIX 3)**
- 4. To dispose of business (if any) remaining or arising from the last and any intermediate extraordinary meeting.**

None.
- 5. To dispose of business (if any) remaining or arising from meetings held prior to the last ordinary meeting.**

None.

ODC MEETING 24th January 2008

IN PUBLIC

6. **To deal with any business expressly required by statute to be done.**
7. **To receive and consider reports, minutes and recommendations of committees.**
(Note: See Standing Order Number 7(1) attached)
- 7.1 Housing Committee
 - Meeting Held **27th December 2007** (*Minutes – APPENDIX 7.1*)
- 7.2 Works and Cleansing Committee
 - Meeting Held **3rd January 2008** (*Minutes – APPENDIX 7.2*)
- 7.2.1 Works and Cleansing Committee
 Extraordinary meeting held **15th January 2008** (*Minutes – APPENDIX 7.2.1*)
- 7.3 Leisure and Amenities Committee
 - Meeting Held **7th January 2008** (*Minutes – APPENDIX 7.3*)
- 7.4 Policy and Finance Committee
 - Meeting held **14th January 2008** (*Minutes – APPENDIX 7.4*)
- 7.5 Rural Committee
 - Meeting Held **9th January 2008** (*Minutes – APPENDIX 7.5*)
- *Minutes to follow
8. **To consider letters, petitions, memorials and other communications.**
- 8.1 Planning decisions/communications from the D.L.G.E. Planning Committee
- 1.1 Planning Communications – **list circulated**
- 1.2 Plans – **list circulated**
- 1.3 Planning Recommendations, Rural Committee
- 8.2 Manx Scouts – St Georges Day Parade – **letter circulated**
- 8.3 Chief Minister – Holocaust Memorial Day - **letter circulated**
9. **To consider any report from the clerk or the surveyor**
- 9.1 Housing Recommendations to the Municipal Association – **memorandum circulated**
10. **Chairman’s Announcements**
- Chairman to report
11. **To answer questions asked under standing order 7** (*Note: See Standing Order 7(2) to 7(4) attached*)
- None
12. **To consider Motions in the order in which notice has been received.** (*Note: See Standing Order No 5 attached*)
- None.
13. **Other Business, if any, specified in the summons**
- None.

Extracts from Standing Orders relating to Agenda items 7, 11 and 12

Standing Order No. 5 - Notices of Motion

5. (1) Notice of every motion, other than a motion which under standing order 6 may be moved without notice, shall be given in writing and signed by a member of the Authority and delivered, at least five clear days before the next meeting of the Authority, at the office of the clerk, by whom it shall be dated, numbered in the order in which it is received and entered in a book which shall be open to the inspection of every member of the Commission.
- (2) The clerk shall set out in the summons for every meeting of the Authority all motions of which notice has been duly given in the order in which they have been received, unless the member giving such a notice intimated in writing, when giving it, that he proposes to move it at some later meeting or has since withdrawn it in writing.
- (3) If a motion thus set out in the summons be not moved either by a member who gave notice thereof or by some other member on his behalf it shall, unless postponed by consent of the Authority, be treated as withdrawn and shall not be moved without fresh notice.
- (4) If the subject matter of any motion of which notice has been duly given comes within the province of any committee or committees it shall, upon being moved and seconded, stand referred without discussion to such committee or committees, as the Authority may determine, for consideration and report.
- (5) Every motion shall be relevant to some matter in relation to which the commission have powers or duties or which affects the district.

Provided that the chairman may, if he considers it convenient and conducive to the dispatch of business, allow the motion to be dealt with at the meeting at which it is brought forward.

Standing Order No. 7 - Questions

7. (1) 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.
- (2) A member of the Authority may:-
 - (a) if one clear day's notice in writing has been given to the clerk ask the Chairman or the Chairman of any committee any question on any matter in relation to which the Authority has powers or duties or which affects the district.
 - (b) with the permission of the chairman put to him or the chairman of any committee any questions relating to urgent business, of which such notice has not been given; but a copy of any such question shall, if possible, be delivered to the clerk not later than three o'clock in the afternoon of the day of the meeting.
- (3) Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer.
- (4) An answer may take the form of:-
 - (a) a direct oral answer; or
 - (b) where the desired information is contained in a publication of the Authority, a reference to that publication; or
 - (c) where the reply to the question cannot conveniently be given orally, a written answer circulated to members of the Authority.

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the **ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 17th December 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr A.T.W. Norton (Chairman)
Mr G.K. Astill
Mr S.T. Black
Mr D. Crellin
Mrs J. Kelly
Mr M.J. Kennaugh
Mr E.D.R. Killey
Mrs W. Megson
Mr B. Stowell
Mr J.K. Watterson

In Attendance: Mr P.M. Hulme (Chief Executive)
Mr T.R. Craig (Deputy Clerk)
Mr B. T. Price (District Surveyor)
Ms A.S. Dentith (Personal Assistant)

C07/12/01/01
TO CHOOSE A PERSON TO PRESIDE IF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN BE ABSENT

Not necessary.

C07/12/01/02
BUSINESS REQUIRED TO BE DEALT WITH BY STATUTE

None.

C07/12/01/03
MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the ordinary meeting held on 12th November 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Mrs Megson asked that the apologies on the listing be altered as both Members were present at the meeting.

After discussion it was agreed to amend the voting list for WC07/10/04(1) – School Crossing Patrol, Royal Avenue. So the resolution shall read:-

Mr Crellin proposed, seconded by Mr Stowell, and it was RESOLVED that the Chief Executive write to the Department of Transport to find out why there is not a school crossing patrol person in that area..

For: Messrs Crellin, Kennaugh, Astill, Killey, Stowell, Killey and Mrs Kelly

Against: Mrs Megson

Abstained: Mr Watterson

No vote recorded: Mr Black and Mr Norton

Mr Norton requested that an amendment be made to C07/09/01/28(1) Skateboard Park, in the Committee section of the minutes.

C07/12/01/04
BUSINESS ARISING

1. C07/11/01/09(3) – School Crossing Patrol – Royal Avenue

The Chief Executive was asked to follow up the matter.

C07/12/01/05

ANY BUSINESS REMAINING OR ARISING FROM MEETINGS HELD PRIOR TO THE LAST ORDINARY MEETING

None.

C07/12/01/06

ANY BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE

None.

C07/12/01/07

HOUSING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Housing Committee meeting of 19th November 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. There were no questions arising therefrom.

C07/12/01/08

RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Housing Committee Meeting held on 19th November 2007 be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein which required the consent of the Board.

C07/12/01/09

WORKS AND CLEANSING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting of 26th November 2007, copies of having been placed on the Board table, the Chairman went through the Minutes with Members. The District Surveyor apologised to Members for the delay in issuing the minutes.

The following matters were arising therefrom:-

1. PA07/02103 – 25 Majestic Road Alterations

Amend to read 25 Majestic Drive.

2. WC07/11/06(2)- Street Lighting

It was brought to the attention of the District Surveyor that the additional lighting on the hoarding on Royal Avenue is not working. *Noted.*

3. PA07/02101 – Howstrake Developments Ltd, Far End and Land adjacent to King Edward Road

In answer to question from a Member, the District Surveyor advised that the plan referred was for approval of access road, drainage and detailed plot layout

4. WC07/11/06(1) – Officers Report

There was further discussion regarding street lighting in the Park and at Bay View Road. The District Surveyor advised Members that new lamp heads were again in the estimates for the next financial year, having been struck out in previous years.

5. WC07/11/10(1) – Smiley Face

In answer to question, the Chairman of the Works and Cleansing Committee, Mr Stowell advised Members that there appeared to be a problem with charging.

6. WC07/11/10(1) – Pedestrian Crossing (Outside the former Caley's Bakery)

The pelican crossing in Main Road at Caley's old shop was discussed and members noted a request from the public to have a luminous backing board to the lights. In discussion, comment was passed by a

member that the addition would in their view be detrimental to the appearance of the village. There was no decision to progress the request.

7. WC07/11/08(2) – Policy for Vehicle Parking

It was noted that the application of policy regarding off-street parking on planning applications appeared to differ at the Authority and Department of Local Government and the Environment. The District Surveyor was seeking written clarification that the Department were adhering to the Onchan Local Plan.

8. WC07/11/08(2) – PA07/02065 – 24 Snaefell Crescent

A query was raised on the accuracy of the minutes regarding the planning application. It was noted that the application was shown as approved, whereas it was refused. The District Surveyor undertook to correct the minute.

C07/12/01/10
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting held on 26th November 2007 be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C07/12/01/11
WORKS AND CLEANSING COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee extraordinary meeting of 12th December 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. There were no matters arising.

C07/12/01/12
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Works and Cleansing Committee extraordinary meeting held on 12th December 2007 be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C07/12/01/13
LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the public section of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 3rd December 2007, copies of which, having been circulated at the meeting, were considered. The following matters were arising therefrom:-

1. LA07/12/04(n) – Café for Sale .

There was further discussion regarding opening of the Park Café and it was confirmed that the tenant had been spoken to regarding next season. An undertaking had been obtained that opening times would reflect the lease.

2. LA07/12/04(r) – Stadium Football .

The Chairman of the Committee answered questions relating to use of the football pitch at Nivison Stadium and it was noted that there was an amount of standing water left after heavy rain.

3. Feasibility Study – Onchan Park

In answer to question, the Chairman confirmed the intent to retain the Park as public space.

4. Junior Board Meetings

There was discussion regarding the holding of junior board meetings involving children from the local schools, and the Chairman of the Committee undertook to confirm proposals with the Board.

C07/12/01/14
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 3rd December 2007 be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C07/12/01/15
POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the public section of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 13th December 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. There were no questions arising therefrom.

A member requested that the wording at the end of the minutes be changed to indicate the finish time of the public section of the meeting.

C07/12/01/16
RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 13th December 2007, be and are hereby received.

C07/12/01/17

RURAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Members noted that the minutes of the Rural Committee meeting held on 5th December 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered. There were no questions arising therefrom.

1. R07/12/06 – Proposed Standing Orders May 2008

It was noted from the minutes that Rural Members had not received copies of the draft Standing Orders for the new Board, although two sets had been posted. The Chief Executive confirmed that a further set had been hand delivered to each Member.

C07/12/01/18

RECEIVING OF MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the public section of the Rural Committee meeting held on 5th December 2007, be and are hereby received. There were no resolutions contained therein requiring the consent of the Board.

C07/12/01/19

LETTERS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

1. Planning Decisions/Communications From The Department Of Local Government And The Environment Planning Committee

A copy of the report was circulated to all members.

1.2 The following plans were considered:-

1.2.1 PA07/02207 – 23 Hillcrest Grove – Raise ridge height of roof and installation of dormer windows

After a brief discussion, it was proposed by Mr Stowell, seconded by Mr Watterson and **RESOLVED to approve the application as submitted.**

*For: Messrs Black, Killey, Megson, Kennaugh, Watterson, Stowell and Mrs Kelly
Against: Messrs Crellin, Astill and Norton*

1.2.2 PA07/02209 – 65 Howe Road – Alterations and erection of an extension to existing garage.

After a brief discussion it was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the application as submitted.**

1.2.3 PA07/02223 – 27 Eskdale Road – Erection of an extension

Mr Stowell declared an interest and took no further part in discussion.

After a brief discussion it was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the application as submitted.**

1.2.4 PA07/02227 – Unit 7, The Village Walk – Conversion of retail unit to a dental surgery

After a brief discussion it was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve the application as submitted.**

1.3 Planning Recommendations of the Rural Committee

1.3.1 P07/1809 – Glen Bower, Little Mill – installation of replacement windows

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Rural Committee to approve the planning application subject to both new windows being of sliding sash variety.**

1.3.2 **PA07/2048 – Clucas Plc, Tromode Industrial Estate, Tromode – Proposed sign at entrance**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Rural Committee to approve the planning application subject to there being no subsidiary signage erected in the same location**

1.3.3 **PA07/206 – Clucas Plc, off Carrs Lane, Tromode Industrial Estate, Tromode – Erection of directional for estate layout**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Rural Committee to approve the planning application as submitted.**

1.3.4 **PA07/2094 – The Old Bar, Bibaloe Beg Road, Onchan – Proposed Erection of Raised Timber Decking areas to rear of the property**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Rural Committee to approve the planning application as submitted.**

2. Department of Transport – Lighting Provision on Public Highways

Letter received from the Department of Transport, Highways Division, dated 27th November 2007, having previously been circulated was noted.

3. Eastern Civic Amenity Site

Correspondence reported as follows:-

- Letter from BridsonHallsall, dated 5th December 2007
 - Two letters from Quinn Kneale dated 4th December 2007
- All having previously been circulated were noted.

In answer to question, the Chief Executive advised that Quinn Kneale are acting for Douglas Corporation and the Authority had to use a separate Advocate, which is BridsonHallsall. He further confirmed that the name of the Authority is the Commissioners for the Local Government District of Onchan.

4. **Mrs R. Sayle**

A letter received 3rd December 2007 from Mrs R. Sayle, having previously been circulated was noted.

5. **Road Transport Licensing Committee**

Circular No 221 of the Road Transport Licensing Committee – Applications, Decisions and Notices, having been circulated at the meeting was noted with regard to 20 Governors Road.

C07/12/01/20

CLERKS REPORT

None.

C07/12/01/21

DISTRICT SURVEYORS REPORT

None.

C07/12/01/22

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Appointments**

The Chairman advised Members that he had attended the following functions in an official capacity:-

- 29th November – Prize Presentation, St John Ambulance Headquarters
- 2nd December – St Barbara's Service, St Thomas's Church, for the Royal Artillery Association
- 4th December – Onchan Community Christmas, Youth and Community Centre Car Park, - Chairman added this was a very successful evening despite the strong winds
- 12th December – Carol Service, Christ Church, Laxey, Laxey, Lonan and Maughold Parish Commissioners

2. **Onchan Youth Development Fund**

The Chairman advised that the Onchan Youth Development Fund was administered by the Commissioners. He further explained that this was a fund of money raised by donations from the public and fund raising activities and was originally set up solely for sponsoring a young person from Onchan to go on the Francis Drake sailing ship. However, the activities have broadened to help with other character building experiences, and the Commissioners would welcome applications from any Onchan young person for financial assistance towards the cost of going on such a trip. He asked that contact be made through Mrs S. Dougherty, Tel: 675564.

3. **Onchan District Commissioners – Dinner Dance**

The Chairman announced that the Annual Dinner Dance will be held on Friday 29th February 2008 at the Masonic Hall in Douglas. Tickets will be £20.00.

4. **Seasons Greetings**

The Chairman wished his fellow Commissioners, the staff of the Authority and all the people who live or work in Onchan a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

C07/12/01/23
QUESTIONS

None

C07/12/01/24
MOTIONS

None.

C07/12/01/25
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

***There being no further public business
the meeting terminated at 8.00 p.m. and the Board moved into Committee.***

Minutes of a meeting of the **HOUSING COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan on Thursday 27th December 2007, commencing at 7.00 pm.

Present:	Mr M.J. Kennaugh Mr G K Astill Mr S T Black Mrs J Kelly Mr A T W Norton, JP	(Chairman) (Chairman, ODC)
Apologies:	Mr K.W. Bragg Mr A.B. Sutherland Ms A.S. Dentith Mrs S. Dougherty	(Chief Cashier) (Housing Maintenance Manager) (Personal Assistant) (Administrative Assistant)
In attendance:	Mr T R Craig	(Deputy Clerk)

H07//12/01/01 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Housing Committee held on Monday 19th November 2007 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

H07/12/01/02 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

1. H07/11/01/02(1) - Ballachrink Bus Stop

The Deputy Clerk reported that following agreement with the Department of Transport regarding site, the Department had advised that they only large bus shelters available for immediate installation. Further discussion had been undertaken with Mr A.J. Earnshaw, MHK, Member for the Department, with a view to acquiring the appropriate style of shelter earlier than the new financial year.

2. H07/10/01/02(2) - Solar Panel Supplementary Heating

The Deputy Clerk advised Members that at a meeting between Officers of the Authority and Mr Richard Senior of the Department of Local Government and the Environment, the Department's position was given that the installation of solar panel supplementary heating and other environmentally friendly mechanisms such as wind turbines and ground source heat pumps would only be considered in the event of new build and not retro fitted to existing properties. Following brief discussion it was agreed that the matter be removed from the agenda.

3. H07/10/01/02(3) - Heywood Park Kick-about Area

The Deputy Clerk reported that at the meeting referred to above with Mr Senior of the Department of Local Government and the Environment, the advice was given that the kick-about area would not be restored as development of the site for the new school was imminent. Following brief discussion, it was agreed that the item be removed from the agenda.

H07/12/01/03 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

None.

H07/12/01/04 **HOUSING AND OTHER RELATED BUSINESS**

1. Maintenance Report

In the absence of the Housing Maintenance Manager, the written report submitted to the Committee was noted.

H07/12/01/05

SPRINGFIELD COURT MATTERS

1. Maintenance Report

In the absence of the Housing Maintenance Manager, the written report submitted to the Committee was noted.

H07/12/01/06

HEYWOOD COURT MATTERS

1. Maintenance Report

In the absence of the Housing Maintenance Manager, the written report submitted to the Committee was noted.

H07/12/01/07

PLANNED HOUSING MAINTENANCE

1. Report

In the absence of the Housing Maintenance Manager, the written report submitted to the Committee was noted.

H07/12/01/08

HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS

1. Health and Safety Matters

The report of the Housing Maintenance Manager was noted and the Deputy Clerk confirmed that Mr Esp, the electrician, was in the process of testing all portable hand appliances.

H07/12/01/09

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS

It was noted that issues regarding environmentally friendly supplementary power and heating had been covered earlier in the meeting.

H07/12/01/10

ANY FURTHER REPORTS FROM THE DEPUTY CLERK OR HOUSING MAINTENANCE MANAGER

1. Data Performance and Standards

In the absence of Ms Dentith, Members considered the handout of her presentation regarding quality assurance. It was noted that an overall high level of satisfaction with the services provided by the Commissioners' staff, and this exercise would form the base line for a programme of regular monitoring to ensure that services were maintained at a high level. Members particularly noted the high levels of satisfaction with response times and repairs undertaken to tenants properties. There was further discussion regarding the meeting held with Members of the Department of Local Government and the Environment on 4th December when the Authority's standards and procedures were audited. It was further noted that officers of the Department were satisfied that the Authority was providing a good level of service to its tenants, and had sufficiently robust auditing systems in place in order to demonstrate its levels of performance. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the Housing Director for the Department could see no reason why the Authority would not qualify for the increased administration allowance of 7.5% back dated to April 2007, based on the evidence of the audit.

The Chairman asked that the appreciation of the Committee be passed to Ms Dentith for her work in this area.

2. Mental Health Awareness

The Deputy Clerk advised Members that he and the Administrative Assistant had attended a seminar run by the Department of Health and Social Security to highlight the needs of the mentally ill in respect of housing, together with indicators to be aware of when dealing with housing matters where there might be mental health issues not yet disclosed. The Deputy Clerk advised that this was a very useful briefing session and that further information regarding the role of the Warden in sheltered housing had been sought by way of follow up.

H07/12/01/11

ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

None.

H07/12/01/12

FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Housing Maintenance Expenditure

The report of the Chief Finance Officer was circulated and noted. The Chairman expressed the view that a tipping trailer rather than a whole replacement vehicle may be more appropriate by way of expenditure, and following further discussion, it was noted that the money shown in the current budget was for replacement of the joiners van rather than the masons tipper vehicle. The Deputy Clerk undertook to ask the Surveyor to investigate the prospect of a tipping trailer as an alternative purchase to the new masons tipper in the next financial year.

2. EPC Maintenance Expenditure

The report from the Chief Finance Officer was considered and noted.

3. Rent/Mesne Profit Receipt Report

The report of the Chief Cashier was circulated and noted. The Deputy Clerk updated Members on matters therein which had progressed over the Christmas period following preparation of the report. The Deputy Clerk also advised Members of the positive comment received from Officers of the Department of Local Government and Environment at their recent meeting concerning the way the Authority's arrears had been brought down and were now being monitored.

4. Housing and EPC Deficiency Claims

No report.

H07/12/01/13

ANY MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES

1. IOM Municipal Association – Better Use of Housing Stock

Members considered the draft from the Deputy Clerk regarding a submission to the Municipal Association concerning better use of Local Authority Housing Stock. Following brief discussion, Members noted the content and agreed to refer the draft to the Board for approval prior to submission to the Municipal Association.

2. Rents 2008/09

Members considered the request for an opinion from the Department of Local Government and the Environment as to the rate of increase and after discussion agreed that the suggestion of a 5% increase should be submitted.

H07/12/01/14

HOUSING APPLICATIONS

1. Waiting List

It was noted that the waiting list had previously been circulated with the Board papers.

2. **New applications received**

In the absence of the Administrative Assistant this matter had been held over to the next meeting.

3. **Review of applications**

None.

4. **Appeals**

None.

5. **Any other business**

None.

H07/12/01/15

SHELTERED HOUSING APPLICATIONS

1. **Waiting List**

It was noted that the sheltered housing waiting list had previously been circulated with the Board papers.

2. **New applications received**

In the absence of the Administrative Assistant this matter had been held over to the next meeting.

3. **Review of applications**

None.

4. **Appeals**

None.

5. **Any other business**

None.

H07/12/01/16

HOUSING/TRANSFER APPLICATIONS – SURGERY VISITS

1. **Transfer List**

It was noted that a copy of the current transfer list had previously been circulated with the Board papers.

2. **Letters/File notes/Reports**

In the absence of the Administrative Assistant this matter had been held over to the next meeting.

3. **Surgery Visit Reports**

Copy of the Surgery Visit Reports were noted and where appropriate brief discussion was held to update Members on current situations.

4. **Transfer/Sheltered Housing Application- Review**

None.

5. **Any other business**

None.

H07/12/01/17
MEETING DATES

1. **Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Housing Committee was to take place on Monday 28th January 2008.

2. **Commissioner's Surgery**

The next Commissioner's surgery will take place on Thursday 24th January 2008, commencing at 6.30 p.m.

H07/12/01/18
REVIEW OF MINUTES/RESOLUTIONS

To decide upon any that are to be placed in the Private (In Committee) Section of the minutes. The Deputy Clerk will exercise discretion.

The meeting terminated at 8.55 pm.

Minutes of a meeting of the **WORKS & CLEANSING COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Thursday 3rd January 2008 at 6.55 pm.

Present: Mr B Stowell (in the chair)
Mr G.K. Astill
Mr S.T. Black
Mr D Crellin
Mr A.T.W. Norton, J.P.

In attendance: Mr P Sutton Waste Operations Manager

WC08/01/01
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2007 were approved as a true record.

WC08/01/02
PLANNING MATTERS

(a) PA 07/02237 – 44 Derwent Drive – Erection of conservatory to rear elevation

No objection was raised to this proposal, provided obscure glazing was used to the side elevation and residents at 42 Derwent Drive were notified.
Recommendation – Approval.

(b) PA 07/02252 – The Long House, Lag Birragh Drive – Erection of a car port on side elevation

After examination of the plans, a member was concerned about the use of the word “carport” to describe the proposed work. After consideration, members agreed there were no objections to this proposal. Recommendation – Approval.

(c) PA 07/02254 – 14 Howstrake Drive – Alterations to existing conservatory

No objections were raised to this proposal. Recommendation – Approval.

WC08/01/03
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

WC08/01/04
BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None.

WC08/01/05
WASTE MANAGEMENT AND OTHER CLEANSING BUSINESS

1. Officer’s Report

The Officer’s report was circulated and the contents noted.

Bin Collection

The Chairman and the Waste Operations Manager stated they had received numerous telephone calls from residents about labels with details of Christmas bin collections, not being stuck on the bins. Household waste collection times during the Christmas period had been published in the “Courier” newspaper, but a member said that the delivery service of the newspaper in some rural areas was not reliable, resulting in many people not knowing when to put out their bins. The Waste Operations Manager stated many operatives had spent time

looking for bins. A member suggested leaving leaflets with Christmas collection times attached to the bins. The Waste Operations Manager suggested leaving leaflets in the areas where the newspaper delivery was not reliable. The Chairman stated the matter should be discussed at the Works and Cleansing Committee meeting in September 2008.

Biodiesel

The Chairman stated there was a lobby in favour of biodiesel, but diesel injection vehicles/machines are not designed for the use of biodiesel. The Waste Operations Manager added the use of biodiesel would infringe the manufacturers' warranties. However he is waiting for the results of ongoing trials at DOT.

Green Waste Collection

The Waste Operations Manager stated he was looking for a viable solution with a reliable company and his enquiries had not yet reached the stage where he could put forward to the Committee a recommendation.

2. Any other cleansing business

None.

WC08/01/06

STREET LIGHTING, SIGNS, SEATS AND OTHER STREET FURNITURE

1. Officer's Report

The Officer's report was circulated and its contents noted. The Waste Operations Manager stated there were no outstanding issues regarding street lighting. He said when a report is received concerning a street light not working, it is dealt with as a matter of priority. The District Surveyor expects the contractor to carry out the contract as stated in the tender document and the contractor should check street lights as it states in the contract he should do.

The Chairman stated that photo sensors have been placed on the heads of street lights to stop them coming on during the day. Such lights do not need a time clock. Some street lights have both a time clock and a cell and a double "on" is required to turn on the light. If either of these fails, the light does not come on. He added one morning at 3.30 am half the street lights in Royal Avenue were off. Also some lights are expected to be on all night. It was his opinion the situation was not being managed.

The Waste Operations Manager stated there was a plan detailing which lights should be on all night. The Chairman said contractors do not seem to be doing supervisory checks and a member asked how the Authority knows the contractor is performing to his contract. The Chairman stated that the Authority must have the contractor performing to his contract. In answer to a member's question, the Waste Operations Manager replied that all contracts ended in March 2008. The Chairman stated that it must be identified when the street lights come on and go off and the time clocks must be set correctly.

The Chairman stated he wanted copies of the existing contract issued to members and asked if there was a specific street lighting map of the district. He would like the District Surveyor to have examined the situation and provide members with the details by the next Works and Cleansing Committee meeting.

2. Any other relevant business

None.

WC08/01/07

DRAINAGE FUNCTION

1. Officer's Report

The report was circulated and its contents noted.

2. Any other drainage business

None.

WC/08/01/08

PLANNING MATTERS

1. Communications

A list was circulated to members and the contents noted.

2. Any other planning business

None.

WC/08/01/09

CAPITAL AND REVENUE PROJECTS

1. Officer's report

The Officer's report was circulated and comments invited.

(1) Port Jack Glen Refurbishment

A member commented that the glen is still closed, although the report states additional footpath works have been completed. The Waste Operations Manager replied the glen was closed while gorse was being cleared.

(2) Pennington Hall Rebuild

It was noted that works are underway, but there is some flooding.

(3) Sports Arena

A member noted the Officer's report stating the works have been completed at the Sports Arena, when in fact "ponding" is still taking place. The Chairman stated that the retention money should be withheld until the necessary work has been approved by the Works and Cleansing Committee. He also said that members did not expect a patched area of surface. The problem was the contractor's responsibility. He also stated that the District Surveyor should give the Committee a detailed appraisal of why the "ponding" is occurring and who has approved any payments.

2. Any other relevant business

WC/08/01/10

HIGHWAY AND TRAFFIC MATTERS

1. None.

A member raised the issue of the removal of the School Crossing Patrol lady at Royal Avenue and Main Road, Onchan. He said the Chief Executive had written to the Department of Transport and asked if there had been a reply. The Chairman stated a reply had not been received, but hoped that the Chief Executive would have a reply by the next public meeting of the Authority.

WC/08/01/11

NUISANCE ABATEMENT AND OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

1. Officer's Report

The Officer's reports were circulated and their contents noted.

86 Summerhill Road

The Chairman stated that members were pleased that progress is being made and wanted to thank the District Surveyor.

9 Queens Road, Onchan

In answer to a member's query about the need to make an informal inspection first, the Waste Operations Manager replied that the Authority usually obtains a good response from an informal inspection. The Chairman commented that the Community Officer's report does not state if the complaints were with or without foundation. He added when the reports come back to the meeting, the members need to see if there are grounds for a Section 14 Notice. The Waste Operations Manager said he will speak to the Community Officer about giving more details in his reports.

2. Any other relevant business

None.

WC08/01/12

ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS

None.

WC/08/01/13

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

1. To review outstanding matters

Department of Transport Matters – minor works

EW91/10/(4)R – Scollag Road – “ponding”

Members agreed this had been an issue for at least 9 years.

WC05/01/9(a) Pedestrian Crossings, Hillberry road (adjacent to Heywood Park)

The crossing would serve Manx Blind Welfare. Members agreed this work had been outstanding for years, but other pedestrian crossings had been completed. Blind people are crossing the road without the benefit of a crossing. The Chairman said he wanted the District Surveyor to state what is happening about this pedestrian crossing.

3. Street Lighting Matters

(1) Carry out survey to establish requirement for future schemes.

A member stated it appears a survey has not been carried out.

WC/08/01/14

MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES

1. None.

WC/08/01/15

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A member enquired about the cutting back of trees at the back of the pirate ship in Jubilee Park. The Waste Operations Manager stated that he would investigate the trimming of trees in this area.

WC/08/01/16

MINUTES/RESOLUTIONS

1. To decide upon any that are to be placed in the Private (In Committee) Section of the minutes

To be decided.

WC/08/01/17

MEETING DATES

1. **Next Ordinary Meeting** will take place on 4th February 2008 at 7.00 pm.
2. **Plans meeting** The next meeting will take place on 16th January 2008 at 9.30 am.

Meeting terminated at 9.50 pm.

Minutes of a meeting of the **LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE**, held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 7th January 2008 at 7.02 pm.

Present: Mrs W. Megson (in the chair)
Mrs J. Kelly
Mr S. T. Black
Mr A. T. W. Norton J.P.
Mr J. K. Watterson

In attendance: Mr B. Price (District Surveyor)
Mr P. Kelly (Administrative Officer)
Mrs S. Muir (Minutes Clerk)

LA/08/01/01

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd December 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered, agreed as a correct record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

LA/08/01/02

MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman raised the issue of Junior Board meetings, as the Board wanted clarification about them. The Administrative Officer said he had sent letters to the two Onchan schools and they telephoned confirming they would be interested in Junior Board meetings, when the schools undertake local studies.

LA/08/01/03

MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

None.

LA/08/01/04

PLAYGROUND/PARKS

a) Playground Log Books

The District Surveyor stated he had been on leave, but he will confirm inspections have been made and the playground log books will be countersigned before the next meeting. There were no extraordinary items to report.

b) Amenities Officer's Report

The report had been circulated to members and comments invited.

Planters - Members examined proposed planters detailed in the report. The District Surveyor said the cost of hanging baskets would be in addition to the modular basket trees shown. The Chairman invited comments. Members thought they were too expensive. The Chairman thanked the Amenities Officer for his investigation.

Crazy Golf – It was noted that the boat feature to be sited at Onchan Park will be set in position before the end of January 2008.

c) Parks Foreman's Report

The report had been circulated to members and its contents noted.

A member stated that the hedges in the vicinity of Heywood Park are thick and could be a problem during grass cutting. The District Surveyor noted the comment. A member also said the public had been entering Port Jack Glen at the east side, despite the area being closed. The District Surveyor will instruct the Amenities Officer to seal off access from the dog exercising area to the lower part of the glen; make the closing off at the Millennium Shelter more secure and re-erect closed notices.

d) Community Officer's Report

The report had been circulated to members and its contents noted. A member asked the District Surveyor about what action has been carried out concerning youths and broken glass etc found in Onchan Park and the District Surveyor replied there is regular correspondence between the Community Officer and the police.

e) Playground Inspection by Insurers

The District Surveyor reported he had not been in touch with the Castletown Commissioners regarding the Pirate Ship as yet, but Lappset have done a risk assessment and a copy is awaited. He reported that urgent items of works have been completed or are being attended to.

f) Skateboard Park

The District Surveyor stated that this item is still pending subject to inclusion in the estimates.

g) CCTV

The Chairman thanked the Community Officer for his report and invited comments. A member stated a fixed system would be very expensive and the maintenance and running costs would be high and other members agreed. The Chairman asked if members wanted the Community Officer to do other reviews, but members agreed CCTV was not a viable option at present and they were satisfied with the role of the Community officer to prevent events happening.

i) Park Inspection

A list had been circulated to members and its contents noted. The Administrative Officer stated that the rear bearing for the rocking horse had been ordered. Realignment of fencing/entrance gates at the top end of the playground has not been started. On the list of inclusions for consideration in the budget estimates the Administrative Officer said the replacement junior slide has been allowed for.

j) Any other matters

None.

LA/08/01/05
OPEN SPACES

a) Amenities Officer's Report

A copy of the report was circulated to members and its contents noted. The District Surveyor said half the Christmas trees had been shredded.

c) Land for allotments – Molly Carrooins

The District Surveyor reported that he had not contacted the person who had telephoned enquiring about allotments to offer Molly Carrooin's rear garden. The Clerk is still making approaches for land at Blackberry Lane to be used for allotments.

d) Wembley Arena

The District Surveyor had spoken to the contractors about "ponding" at this facility and told them the Authority is not accepting the tarmacadam surface the way it is at present. The District Surveyor will speak to the contractors again next week. There was a retention figure of £5,00 on the contract.

e) Feasibility study Onchan Park

The District Surveyor stated this matter is still being progressed, but had nothing to report at present. He is seeking firms providing a free scheme.

f) Ballachurry Play Area

The District Surveyor said there is some overdue work and he will speak to the Amenities Officer to ask him to make improvements to the surfacing at the entrance by way of grass reinforcement before the next meeting.

g) Any other matters

None.

LA/08/01/06
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

a) Amenities Officer's Report

The report had been previously circulated. A member raised an issue about the Gentlemen's toilets in Main Road. A member of the public had informed him that if the toilet is in use and the door was opened by another person, the occupant could be seen from the pavement. The District Surveyor will investigate the matter.

b) Any other matters

None.

LA08/01/07

LIBRARY

a) Librarian's Report

The report was circulated to members and its contents noted. Many members agreed the Librarian does an excellent job and the library is very well run. The Chairman commented that computer usage had increased last year compared to 2006. A member raised the issue of the library staff's awareness of the differing needs of persons with a disability and thought that Disability awareness training may be considered appropriate. The Chairman thought training was a good idea and the Librarian could be asked if there was such a need. The District Surveyor advised that a Health and Safety Committee meeting was due and he would raise the issue therein.

b) Amenities Officer's Report

None,

c) Any other matters

None.

LA/08/01/08

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE

a) Amenities Officer's Report

The report was circulated and its contents noted. The Chairman said members would like some feedback from the leaders of the Youth Club.

b) Youth Development Fund – Details of funds/advertising

A memorandum from the Booking Clerk was circulated to members and noted. The Administrative Officer advised that a revised financial figure has now been received from the Finance Officer.

c) Any other matters

None.

LA/08/01/09

PROMOTIONS

a) Web site – statistics

A list of statistics for Onchan Online for November 2007 had been previously circulated to members. It was noted that the numbers of page views and visits had declined in November 2007 compared to 2006. The Administrative Officer stated that the latest minutes available for viewing online were dated May 2007. The Chairman will investigate this matter, but said the website was very informative.

b) Enquiries

The Administrative Officer had received 2 enquiries. Firstly, a lady had thought her grand uncle had set up the original Funfair at Onchan Head and the Administrative Officer had investigated and was able to confirm this was the case. Secondly, a lady had enquired about taking an apartment in the former Coutts Bank building and information had been passed to her regarding contacting the developer.

c) Farmers' Markets

A member had been in touch with Mrs Sheila Gould of the Association of Farmers' Markets and said that farmers now have sites but contact Onchan if they ever wish to have a market there.

d) Public Art – Squash Court Walls

The District Surveyor stated he had not received any response from the Arts Council and the Youth Service following his telephone calls.

f) Onchan's Community Christmas

The Chairman said that she felt the Community Christmas festivities had gone very well, bearing in mind the circumstances especially the adverse weather conditions, and many families had attended the event. The Administrative Officer was thanked for organising the event and the Commissioners were also thanked for volunteering at the event.

g) Christmas Lights Competition 2007

The Administrative Officer stated that Mr and Mrs Hunt from Ashley Park and Mrs Cartmell at Kerrowdhoo Farm had won the domestic and commercial properties section of the competition and received presentations. The Chairman thanked the Commissioners for going around the various districts and said both prize winners were thrilled to win. For the next competition the Administrative Officer will split Birch Hill Ward to separate off Lakeside Gardens and reduce the area for inspections. Photographs of the prize presentations had appeared on the website the same day but the lights at night had not been photographed.

h) Any other business

None.

LA/08/01/10

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

A list had been circulated to members and noted with the following matters being discussed further:-

LA/07/05/5(m) - The District Surveyor was still investigating the matter of obtaining a free scheme from UAC for revamping Onchan Park.

LA/07/12/04(n) – The Parks Foreman is still investigating the implementation of a Sensory Garden.

LA/06/11/18 - The Booking Clerk is still to provide information concerning considering restructuring the charges for hire of YCC rooms etc before September 2008. The Chairman will look into this matter.

LA/07/12/05(e) - The District Surveyor is progressing work regarding a Nature Trail at Groudle, and in answer to a member's enquiry, he stated a manhole has been made safe.

LA/08/01/11

MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES

None.

LA/08/01/12

CORRESPONDENCE OR OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The Administrative Officer said that Mr Whitehead had seen him regarding opening the Go Karts attraction for Good Friday. The Pleasure Park will be open to coincide with the school Easter holidays. The Administrative Officer stated that the Authority advertises the park's opening times each year in the newspapers.

LA/08/01/13

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 11th February 2008 at 7.00 pm. Mr Watterson advised that he may be off Island on that date.

b) Departmental Estimates

The District Surveyor stated there had been no changes.

c) Any other relevant matters

None.

Meeting terminated at 10.05 pm.

Minutes of a meeting of the **POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Monday, 14th January 2008, at 5.30 p.m.

Present: Mr E.D.R. Killey (In the Chair)
Mr A.T.W. Norton, J.P.
Mr M.J. Kennaugh
Mr B. Stowell
Mrs W. Megson

Apologies: Mr C.D.C. Clague (Chief Finance Officer)

In Attendance: Mr P.M. Hulme (Chief Executive/Clerk)
Ms A.S. Dentith (Personal Assistant)

PF08/01/01
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

PF08/01/02
BUSINESS ARISING

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

PF08/01/03
BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

PF08/01/04
OUTSTANDING MATTERS

None.

F06/01/05
CLERK'S REPORT

There were no matters for consideration in public.

F06/01/06
FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

1. Rates Collected

It was noted that the total estimated collectable rates and cash received in the current financial year to 8th January 2008 compared with the previous financial year were as follows:-

2007/08 estimated amount collectable including arrears brought forward £1,670,647.00
2007/08 collected to 8th January 2008 less refunds £1,644,586.00(98.44%)

Comparative figures

2006/07 estimated amount collectable including arrears brought forward £1,586,988.00
2006/07 collected to 8th January 2007 less refunds £1,544,721.00(97.34%)

2. Revenue Account Payments

The lists of payments from revenue account during the month of December 2007 copies of which having previously been circulated were considered. Following discussion, it was subsequently *RESOLVED that the said payments from revenue account as detailed on the list attached to the minutes be endorsed.*

PF08/01/10

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PF08/01/08

MATTERS REFERRED BY COMMISSIONERS/OTHER COMMITTEES

None

PF08/01/09

RECOMMENDATIONS WITH POLICY OR FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

None.

PF08/01/10

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

PF08/01/01/11

REVIEW OF MINUTES/RESOLUTIONS

To decide upon any that are to be placed in the Private (In Committee) Section of the minutes. The Deputy Clerk will exercise discretion.

PF08/01/12

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next ordinary meeting of the Committee be held at 5.30 pm on Monday 18th February 2008.
There being no further business the meeting terminated at 7.05 p.m.

IN PUBLIC

Minutes of a meeting of the **RURAL COMMITTEE** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Wednesday 9th January 2008 at 5.15pm.

Present: Mr J.K. Watterson (in the Chair), Messrs D. Crellin, B.H. Moore (from 5.39pm), W.A. Skillicorn and B. Stowell

In attendance: Peter Kelly (Clerk to the Committee) and B.T. Price (Surveyor) (until 6pm)

R/08/01/1
MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2007, copies of which having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

R/08/01/2
PLANNING MATTERS

a) **Planning Decisions**

The following planning decision had been received from DOLGE.

PA 07/1653 Demolition of existing Tuck Mill and erection of a dwelling, Ballacottier, Hillberry for Clypse Farms Limited

– **Refused** on the grounds that whilst Planning Circular 1/2000 specifically refers to the conversion of existing mill into living accommodation, and planning approval exists for such conversion, the erection of a new build dwelling is not provided for in the Planning Circular nor complies with Isle of Man Strategic Plan 2007. The proposals therefore represent unwarranted development contrary to policies contained in both documents as well as being contrary to the provisions of Environment Policy 1 Housing Policy 4. **Noted.**

b) **Appeals**

The Surveyor advised as to the following :-

PA 07/1302 Retention of car park, field 534369 adjoining Creg-na-Baa Public House, Mountain Road for Mr D.H. Teece

Written submissions to be made by 5pm on 24th January 2008.

PA 07/1635 Approval in principle for erection of dwelling to replace former smithy and meeting hall, field 534119 Abbeylands for Mr Michael Harvey

Notification of Appeal request received on 18th December 2007; request for further submissions not yet received from Chief Secretary's office.

IN PUBLIC

c) New Applications

PA 07/2312 Proposed creation of three ponds with associated planting, field 534193, Slegaby Hillberry for Clypse Estates Limited

Mr Skillicorn declared an interest in the matter and took no part in the discussions.

Members viewed the application and noted that the ponds were to pick up water from existing ditches and watercourses and then it would pass away also via existing ditches towards Glenville. It was noted that the land in question was already marshy and not suitable for agriculture. Comment was made on the acceptable intention of encouraging wildlife.

RESOLVED “to recommend to the Planning Committee of DOLGE that the application be Approved”.

PA 07/2332 Proposed additional garage, Highfield, Bibaloe Beg Road for Mr & Mrs P. Richards

Members viewed the proposal of constructing a single garage to the side of the existing integral double garage. The flat roof was to be screened behind a parapet wall. After consideration it was

RESOLVED “to recommend to the Planning Committee of DOLGE that the application be Approved”.

PA 07/2368 Proposed conversion of barn into separate dwelling, Sunnyside, Laxey Road (off Whitebridge) for Mrs Pam Druggan

It was noted that the proposed conversion was to form a separate entity from the existing dwelling despite being extremely close to it. Existing openings facing the house were to be built up and have false doors and window shutters. The property was to be extended on the Onchan side and this would have windows looking into part of the land retained by Sunnyside. Reference was made to the Local plan and Strategic Plan with particular regard to redundant status as it was understood the outbuilding was still used. After prolonged discussion it was

RESOLVED to advise the Planning Committee of DOLGE that “there is no objection to the application subject to the Planning Committee being satisfied that the redundant building qualification required by Planning Circular 3/89 and the Strategic Plan is met”.

d) Other Planning Matters

Mr Moore enquired whether the planning appeals decisions had yet been received in respect of the application for an additional building at the laser blast complex in Lower Ballakaighen Farm. The Surveyor advised that he did not think it had arrived but would investigate and circulate a copy. The Chairman commented this course of action had been discussed at a previous meeting but had not been actioned.

IN PUBLIC

R/08/01/3
MATTERS ARISING

The following matters were arising from the minutes:-

a) **Meeting regarding Future of Onchan District Commissioners**

It was confirmed that notification of the meeting had been received and the meeting was to take place on Tuesday 15th January 2008. Mr Moore presented his apologies as he had a parents' evening at school on that evening. Noted.

b) **Road Closure – Rallies**

Letter read as sent to the Clerk of the Course, Manx Autosport Limited in respect of the Black Horse Finance Stages Rally. The letter had been sent on account of the adverse comments made at the previous meeting. Mr Moore advised that the Clerk to the Course had since contacted the two residents in question and apologised for the oversight. Mr Moore was of the opinion that the residents were now happy. Noted.

c) **Brandish Corner – Speed Counts**

The Administrative Officer referred to a reminder letter sent on the 12th December 2007 in respect of the original letter to the Network Planning Section of the Department of Transport of 6th November 2007 regarding the speed count figures and also the request for a further speed count to be undertaken close to the entrance of Ballaskelly Farm. To date no response had been forthcoming. Members expressed concern and Mr Skillicorn advised that he had again contacted a local MHK who was a member of the department in an effort to expedite matters. The Administrative Officer informed members that he understood from Mr Hannay at DoT that the MHK in question had in fact approached him on Monday morning of that week in an effort to push along the matter. Further concern was expressed by members that they were of the opinion that there was a potential accident likely to occur in view of the increased speeds following the alterations to Brandish Corner and the department were apparently ignoring the matter. Reference was made to other matters not affecting the Rural Committee whereby the commissioners were still awaiting replies from officers within the Department of Transport. After further consideration members resolve that a letter should be sent to the Minister drawing this unsatisfactory position to his attention.

R/08/01/4
OUTSTANDING MATTERS

The list of outstanding matters had been circulated prior to the meeting and were noted without further comment.

R/08/01/5
MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

IN PUBLIC

Brandish Corner Railings

Mr Skillicorn reminded members of their previous concern over the works at Brandish Corner whereby the approved plans showed railings to be erected as were previously in this location. This had not been undertaken and the advice received was that railings were not to be put in position. He was of the understanding that the railings were in fact now to be reinstated. Noted.

R/08/01/6

MATTERS REFERRED BY BOARD/OTHER COMMITTEES

None for consideration in public.

R/08/01/7

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) **Time and Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 13th February 2008 at **5pm**. Messrs Crellin and Moore presented their apologies as they would be off island.

b) **Fly Tipping**

Mr Skillicorn referred to a recent case of fly tipping in a field entrance gateway at Clypse Beg. He understood the commissioners had sent men to clear away what had been deposited but the property owner was then billed in the sum of £15. He further added that they were originally quoted £10 for this service but expressed his concern and queried what was the policy of the commissioners. It was noted that previously when fly tipping took place on private land the commissioners requested the landowner to have it removed. Of more recent times it would appear that the commissioners' staff remove it but Mr Stowell made reference to one instance of which he was aware where the landowner was not billed for having a mattress removed. After discussion it was agreed that the matter should be brought to the attention of the Board for clarification in respect of the policy.

Meeting terminated 6.58pm.