

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the **ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, 79 Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 4th September 2017 at 7.04 p.m.

Present: Mr. Allen (Chairman)
 Mr J. Cherry (Lead Member for Properties and Amenities)
 Mr D. Crellin (Lead Member for Environmental and Technical Services)
 Mr M. Macfarlane (Vice-Chair and Lead Member for Finance and General Purposes)
 Mr C. Quirk
 Mr R. Turton
 Miss K. Williams

In Attendance: Mr T.R. Craig (Deputy Clerk)
 Mr B.T. Price (District Surveyor)
 Mr D. Vincent (Interim Finance Manager)
 Ms A.S. Dentith (Senior Administrator)

C17/09/01/01

TO CHOOSE A PERSON TO PRESIDE IF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN BE ABSENT

Not necessary.

C17/09/01/02

BUSINESS REQUIRED TO BE DEALT WITH BY STATUTE BEFORE ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

C17/09/01/03

MINUTES

1. Staff Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 22nd May 2017

To be considered In Committee.

2. Extra-ordinary meeting held on Monday 17th July 2017

The minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held on Monday 17th July 2017, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered.

Deputy Clerk advised that ratification of the minute regarding the Code of Conduct was required, as only part of the minutes had been approved at the meeting of the Board held on 24th July 2017.

In answer to comment, the Deputy Clerk advised that the approval of the minutes of the meeting of the 17th July would be open to those members who were present at that meeting.

It was proposed by Mr Macfarlane, seconded by Mr Quirk and unanimously **RESOLVED that the minutes be agreed as a correct record of proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.**

Mr Cherry did not vote as he was not present at the meeting.

3. Ordinary meeting held on Monday 24th July 2017

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 24th July 2017, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered.

It was proposed by Mr Cherry, seconded by Mr Macfarlane and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be agreed as a correct record of proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

Miss Williams, Mr Crellin and Mr Quirk did not vote as they were not present at the meeting.

4. **Ordinary meeting held on Monday 14th August 2017**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 14th August 2017, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered.

A number of amendments were requested as follows:-

- Attendances
 - Add in Mr C. Quirk to attendances.
- C17/08/01/04(1)(a) - Extraordinary meeting held on 17th July 2017
 - Page 3
 - 3rd paragraph - change to read **“were not breached”**.
 - 8th paragraph – change to read **“The Chairman stated the interpretation was different and was challenged”**.
 - 10th paragraph – last sentence change the word ‘felt’ to read **“stated”**.
 - Page 4
 - 1st paragraph, last sentence, change the word ‘felt’ to read **“stated”**.
 - 2nd paragraph, last line after the word received add in the word **“communication”**.
 - 4th paragraph delete the words **“he felt that”**.
 - 5th paragraph, first line change the word ‘felt’ to read **“said”**.
 - 5th paragraph, third line after the words ‘given was an’ add in **“a misleading”**.
 - 5th paragraph, third line change to read **“Orders”**.
 - 6th paragraph, first line delete ‘felt that what was undertaken’ and replace with **“stated the minutes taken”**.
 - 6th paragraph, last line, add in **“to take minutes as has previously been done”**.
 - 7th paragraph, the words ‘the minutes’ to read **“some minutes”**.
 - 9th paragraph, change the word ‘felt’ to read **“said”**.
 - Page 5
 - 1st paragraph, third line, change the word ‘felt’ to read **“stated.”**
- C17/08/01/05(1) – Land adjacent to Onchan School
 - Page 5
 - 9th paragraph, change the word ‘felt’ to read **“queried if”**.
- C17/08/01/06 – Minutes continued
 - Page 6
 - 4th paragraph, third line, after the word ‘debate’ add in **“by the Clerk”**.
 - 5th paragraph, at the end of the sentence, add in **“However, the purchase could not have been made by the District Surveyor, without giving him authority to purchase.”**
 - 8th paragraph, change the words ‘Chief Executive’ to read **“Clerk”**.
 - 8th paragraph, delete the word ‘officers’ and change to read **“his behaviour”**.

Subject to the above amendments, It was proposed by Mr Quirk, seconded by Mr Crellin and **RESOLVED** that the minutes be agreed as a correct record of proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

For: *Messrs Allen, Macfarlane, Crellin, and Quirk*
 Against: *Miss Williams, Messrs Cherry and Turton*

5. **Staff Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 14th August 2017**

To be considered In Committee.

6. **Staff Minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held on Monday 21st August 2017**

To be considered In Committee.

C17/09/01/04

BUSINESS ARISING NOT REFERRED TO IN THE MINUTES OF ANY SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None.

C17/09/01/05

BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE

None.

C17/09/01/06

BUSINESS ADJOURNED FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

None.

C17/09/01/07

PLANNING DECISIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING COMMITTEE

1. **Plans to the Board**

(a) The following plans were considered by the Board.

- (i) PA 17/00548 – 5 Briarfield Avenue – Amended plans showing a flat roof to the proposed extension rather than a pitched roof.

It was proposed by Mr Cherry, seconded by Mr Crellin, and unanimously **RESOLVED that PA 17/00548 – 5 Briarfield Avenue Road be recommended for approval.**

- (ii) PA 17/00882 – 10 Harbour View – Proposed increase in size of window to side elevation of lounge and replacement rear fence.

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Cherry, and unanimously **RESOLVED that PA 17/00882 – 10 Harbour View be recommended for approval.**

- (iii) PA 17/00895 – 1 Manor Park – Proposed fencing and gates to the existing road access to land adjoining 1 Manor Park.

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Cherry, and unanimously **RESOLVED that PA 17/00895 – 1 Manor Park be recommended for approval subject to a condition linking the land as garden space to 1 Manor Park.**

2. Planning Communications

(a) PA 16/00859/b – Land adjacent to Onchan School

The District Surveyor advised that the Authority had been notified of an appeal lodged for this planning application, and advised that he would submit a statement on behalf of the Authority.

The Chairman requested that the statement be considered by the full Board at the next meeting prior to submission to the Planning Committee.

C17/09/01/08

REPORT FROM THE CLERK OR OTHER OFFICER

None.

C17/09/01/09

LETTERS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

1. IOM Woodland Trust – Centenary Park

Invitation to attend the official opening of the Onchan Centenary Park – Legion Commemorative Wood to take place on Tuesday 12th September 2017 at 11.00 a.m. by His Excellency Sir Richard Gozney.

The Deputy Clerk advised of a meeting which he had attended with representatives from the Isle of Man Woodland Trust, together with delegates from the Royal British Legion. Those in attendance were definite in their understanding that they have had initial registration of the site as a recognised War Memorial. The Deputy Clerk informed Members, that for a site to be officially designated as a recognised War Memorial the application had to through a statutory process and at that point the Authority would be notified and this would give the Board an opportunity to state their opinion.

The Board Members had a brief discussion and continued to oppose the registration of the site as a War Memorial and reiterated their resolution from the previous Board meeting:-

- “Onchan District Commissioners do not accept the progression to register any area within Centenary Park as a war memorial within the meaning of the War Memorials Act.
- It is the understanding of Onchan District Commissioners that the ground is licensed to the Isle of Man Woodland Trust for purposes of creating an informal woodland.
- At no time was it contemplated that Onchan District Commissioners would take on any costs of further maintenance.
- Onchan District Commissioners will not be budgeting for any maintenance costs. “

In answer to question, the Deputy Clerk advised that a licence had been authorised and issued between Onchan District Commissioners and IOM Woodlands Trust for Centenary Park. He clarified that the Royal British Legion were not mentioned within the licence.

A Member expressed concern that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor may be given the wrong understanding and may include the mention of an actual war memorial in his address and this may create some precedent which would help the case of the IOM Woodland Trust in their registration application. This is a commemorative wood and that status is not likely to change to incorporate a war memorial on that piece of land for the reasons previously stated.

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk contact the appropriate bodies to give the Board’s clear position on the commemorative wood, copy to be issued to the Royal British Legion.

C17/09/01/10
QUESTIONS

None.

C17/09/01/11
MOTIONS

None.

C17/09/01/12
ENVIRONMENTAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES MATTERS

1. Main Road – Highway Works

The District Surveyor advised that plans had been circulated regarding alterations to the Main Road, advising that there will be an open evening at Onchan Hub on 5th September from 6.30 p.m. for Members of the public to view the plans.

In answer to question, the District Surveyor advised that after consultation, he would assume the plans would need to be accepted by the Department of Infrastructure and that the scheme would be implemented once funds were available.

The Deputy Clerk also advised, that the monthly Commissioners' Surgery will be at Onchan Hub at 6.30 p.m. on the same evening.

2. Eastern Civic Amenity Site – Replacement Equipment

The Deputy Clerk advised of correspondence that he had received advising that the 8 skips operated by the Eastern Civic Amenity Site have been condemned and need to be replaced. He informed Members that he was awaiting a copy of the minutes from the Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee held in July to confirm the details

The Deputy Clerk advised that under the Joint Agreement, the Authority's proportion is 18% of the overall cost.

The Chairman requested that consideration be carried forward to the next meeting of the Board. He stated that the Board would make their contribution, but required firm costings rather than an estimate.

C17/09/01/13
PROPERTIES AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. C17/08/1/19(1) – Kenyon's Café

Mr Macfarlane declared an interest.

The Deputy Clerk advised that the Clerk had contacted the Trustees of Kenyon's Café forwarding a draft proposal for their consideration. Correspondence had been received that the proposal has not been considered to date, however, indications have been given that equipment is being parred down in anticipation of a move.

The Chairman asked the Deputy Clerk to contact the Trustees of Kenyon's Café to request that the proposal is considered and the outcome communicated to the Deputy Clerk prior to the next meeting of the Board on 18th September 2017. This would enable matters to be progressed as quickly as possible.

C17/09/01/14**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS****1. Attendances**

2nd September – Queens Baton Relay at Onchan Park
30th August – King Edward Golf Club presentation of Chairman's Cup

2. Dates for the Diary

5th September – Commissioners Surgery
7th September – Summary Reading Scheme, Prize Presentation in Onchan Library
17th September – Onchan District Commissioners' Civic Sunday
20th September – Ashley Park Community Engagement
21st September – Joint Board Meeting.
25th September – Quarterly MHKs meeting.

C17/09/01/18**ANY OTHER BUSINESS****1. Onchan Park Café Ltd**

The Chairman advised of email correspondence received from the Director of Onchan Park Café Limited with regard to a proposal to manage attractions in Onchan Park over the autumn and winter season.

The Deputy Clerk advised that the proposal has no details with regard to potential costs or outlay to the Authority. There would be a limited range of facilities available as:-

- o The Bowling Greens and the Pitch and Putt lay fallow over the winter months to preserve the turf;
- o The Motor Boats are stored away at the end of the summer season, and the boating lake drained to minimise frost damage.
- o Tennis Courts are available to residents all year round;
- o Kiddi Cars require regular charging, and a member of staff to ensure that they are stored away at the end of each day, and put out at the start of each day.

In answer to comment, the Director of Onchan Park Café Ltd advised from the Public Gallery that the email proposal also detailed plans for using the Arcade. The Board were advised that the public are aware that the Onchan Park Café will be remaining open over the winter season. On a trial basis, there would be no charge to the Authority for the provision of the extra facility.

The Deputy Clerk was requested to gather further details and bring the proposal back to the next meeting of the Board.

C17/09/01/19**MINUTES**

The following matter was considered *In Committee* and transferred to the public domain.

After discussion, it was agreed that an extraordinary meeting of the Board to be held on Thursday 7th September at 6.00 p.m. to consider the following matters:-

1. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of:-
 - Staff Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 22nd May 2017
 - Staff Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 14th August 2017
 - Staff Minutes of the extra-ordinary meeting held on Monday 21st August 2017
2. Matters arising from such minutes.

It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk should attend the extraordinary meeting to take the minutes.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10 p.m.