

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the **ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, 79 Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 20th May 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. R. Turton (Chairman)
Miss K. Williams (Vice-Chair)
Mr D. Crellin (Lead Member for Environmental and Technical Services)
Mr J. Cherry (Lead Member for Properties and Amenities) ^(from 8pm)
Mr M. Macfarlane (Lead Member for Finance and General Purposes)
Mr A. Allen
Mr C. Quirk

In Attendance: Mrs L. Radcliffe (Chief Executive/Clerk)
Mr B. Price (District Surveyor)
Mrs S. Johnson (Finance Manager)
Mrs A. Gale (Senior Administrator)

C19/05/03/01
TO CHOOSE A PERSON TO PRESIDE IF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN BE ABSENT

Not necessary.

C19/05/03/02
BUSINESS REQUIRED TO BE DEALT WITH BY STATUTE BEFORE ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

C19/05/03/03
MINUTES

1. Ordinary meeting held on Monday 7th May 2019

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 7th May 2019, copies of which having previously been circulated, were considered.

(a) C19/05/02/03(a) – Chairman-Elect

Remove Mr Cherry from the proposal as he was late arriving at the meeting.

(b) C19/05/02/03 – Minutes

It was proposed by Mr Allen, seconded by Miss Williams, and **RESOLVED that the amendment be approved to change the word ‘altered’ to read ‘accepted’.**

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

(c) C19/05/02/04(1) – Chairman-Elect Debate

After discussion, it was agreed that the minute be redrafted and submitted for consideration at the next meeting of the Board.

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

2. Staff Minutes - Ordinary meeting held on Monday 29th April 2019

To be considered In Committee.

C19/05/03/04

BUSINESS ARISING NOT REFERRED TO IN THE MINUTES

None.

C19/05/03/05

BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE

1. IOM Municipal Association – 2nd Representative

It was proposed by Mr Allen, seconded by Mr Cherry, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that **Mr Chris Quirk be nominated as Onchan's second representative for the IOM Municipal Association.**

2. Education Representative – Onchan Schools

After discussion, the Board agreed that the role should be left vacant, as any interaction with the Schools should be driven by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and through the meetings of the Junior Commissioners.

C19/05/03/06

BUSINESS ADJOURNED FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

None.

C19/05/03/07

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 19/00464 Dr & Mrs D. Bull, 12 Tromode Green

Members were advised that the planning application was for the proposed replacement conservatory with a slightly larger one.

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Macfarlane and unanimously **RESOLVED** that **PA 19/00464 – 12 Tromode Green be recommended for approval.**

(ii) PA 19/00476 Mr M.G. Bennett, 34 Greeba Drive

Members were advised that the planning application was for the proposed alterations by installing external metal flue to gable wall of dwelling. New flue to be 1 metre higher than existing chimney level.

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Cherry, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that **PA 19/00476 – 34 Greeba Drive be recommended for approval.**

(iv) PA 19/00488 Forest Homes Developments Ltd, Clypse Cottage, Clypse Moar

Members were advised that the planning application was for the proposed erection of two dwellings. There is currently an approval for this project and this revised submission is identical to the current approval with the exception of double garages proposed in lieu of single.

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Allen and unanimously **RESOLVED that PA 19/00488 – Clypse Cottage, Clypse Moar be recommended for approval.**

2. **Planning Communications**

1. **Beehive Kindergarten**

Correspondence received dated 14th May 2019 from the Principal Planning Officer at the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture.

The District Surveyor gave a resume of the current position, advising that action was being taken on removing the access and footbridge at Briarfield Avenue. District Surveyor to give an update to the Board in four weeks.

The Board requested that a letter be issued to the Department of Health and Social Care regarding the registered numbers for the kindergarten.

C19/05/03/08

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

1. **Joint ODC and MHK Meeting**

The Chairman advised that the meeting has been postponed. A date will be rescheduled, commissioners to inform the Chief Executive/Clerk as to when they are not available.

2. **Commercial Rent Arrears**

To be considered In Committee.

C19/05/03/09

REPORT FROM THE CLERK OR OTHER OFFICER

1. **Building Regulations Update**

The report of the District Surveyor, dated 14th May 2019, having previously been circulated was considered.

The District Surveyor advised that, in his opinion, the proposed updates to the building regulations should mirror those set in England and Wales. The suggestion has been to adopt the United Kingdom regulations in their entirety or those from Jersey. He voiced concern over cherry picking the regulations, and felt it would be beneficial to adopt the U.K. regulations.

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Cherry, and unanimously **RESOLVED that the recommendation be put forward to accept the Building Regulation Update to mirror the United Kingdom Legislation in their entirety.**

2. **Replacement Pool Vehicle**

To be considered in Committee.

C19/05/03/10

LETTERS, PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

1. President of Tynwald – Constituency Boundaries

Chief Executive/Clerk advised in answer to correspondence issued, the President of Tynwald has advised that the Boundary Review Committee meet every 10 years and are not due to meet until after the 2021 General Election. There are two options which could be embarked on:-

- approach the Minister for Policy and Reform and the Minister for Infrastructure to seek a change in policy; or
- individual Members of Tynwald to table a parliamentary declaratory resolution in Tynwald

After discussion, it was agreed that correspondence should be issued to the Minister for Policy and Reform, the Minister for Infrastructure and the Onchan MHKs concerning the boundaries between Onchan and Garff.

The Vice-Chairman declared an interest, due to interaction of family with Garff MHKs.

Place on agenda for joint meeting with Onchan MHKs and the Board.

2. Department of Infrastructure – Parking Study

Correspondence received dated 8th May 2019, from the Network Planning Manager, Department of Infrastructure, for stakeholder meeting on the 23rd May 2019 at the Barrool Suite at 9.00 a.m. District Surveyor to attend and report back to the Board.

3. Department of Economic Affairs – Social Attitudes Survey

Email correspondence received dated 8th May 2019, having previously been circulated was noted. Arrangements will be made to post the link on the Commissioners' website.

4. Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture – Bathing Water Directive

Correspondence received dated 3rd May 2019 from the Environment Director, of the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture. After discussion, the District Surveyor was requested to complete and return the consultation with the Members comments.

5. Health Care and Social Care Review

Correspondence received from the Healthcare Review Manager dated 9th May 2019, having previously been circulated was considered.

The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that a copy was available to view.

6. Friends of Chernobyl's Children (IOM)

Letter of thanks received from friends of Chernobyl's Children (IOM) was noted. The Chairman and Chairman's lady indicated their attendance to the Farewell concert and party on Wednesday 7th August 2019.

7. Department of Infrastructure – Public Sector Eviction Operational Practice and Procedure Guidelines

Report of the Senior Administrator and Assistant Finance Manager having previously been circulated was considered.

In answer to question, the Chief Executive/Clerk advised that the discretion lay with them, but going forward will be considered by the Head of Department. However, any correspondence being issued on behalf of the Chief Executive/Clerk would be reviewed.

After discussion, Members advised that the Lead Member for Properties and Amenities should be consulted with regard to any Notice to Quits which are to be issued.

A Member expressed concern over people coming forward with complaints for anti-social behaviour in fear of retribution, and requested that a discretion element also be considered. It was acknowledged that evidence gathering is never simple and is time consuming.

The Chief Executive/Clerk confirmed that anti-social behaviour issues were considered on a case by case basis.

It was proposed by Mr Cherry, seconded by Mr Quirk, and unanimously **RESOLVED that the Public Sector Housing Eviction Operational Practice and Procedure Guidelines be adopted and published on the Commissioners' website.**

8. Department of Infrastructure – ICT Platform

To be considered In Committee.

9. Views Restaurant

To be considered In Committee.

C19/05/03/11
QUESTIONS

None.

C19/05/03/12
MOTIONS

None.

C19/05/03/13
ENVIRONMENTAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES MATTERS

1. Bonds Restaurant – Update

The District Surveyor advised that two benches had been returned to the area, and in answer to question, advised Members that no amended plan had been received.

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Cherry, and unanimously **RESOLVED that a letter be issued to the Planning Officer pointing out that the Bonds Restaurant access has not been built in line with the original plans which were approved, stating that complaints had been received.**

It was further agreed that

Members requested:-

- The District Surveyor writes to Bus Vannin asking why there is a delay in reinstating the bus shelter, and to ensure that the shelter is suitable for the needs of residents.
- The District Surveyor to confirm signage and, whether included in the planning application.

Report update back to the next meeting of the Board.

C19/05/03/14
PROPERTIES AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. Winter Wonderland – Onchan

To be considered In Committee.

2. Housing Allocation – 15/34

To be considered In Committee

3. Void Costs 2018/19

To be considered In Committee

C19/05/03/15
CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Civic Sunday

The Chairman gave thanks to those who attended the Civic Sunday and took part in the civic service, which was very enjoyable.

2. Dates for the Diary

Date	Organisation	Event	Time
22 nd May 2019	Onchan District Commissioners	Roadshow - Onchan 15 Year Road Map Draft. Messrs Crellin, Turton and Miss Williams.	11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
23 rd May 2019	IOM Municipal Association	AGM and Dinner	7.00 p.m.
1 st June 2019	Onchan District Commissioners	Commissioners Surgery Mr Quirk and Mr Macfarlane	11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
4 th June 2019	Onchan District Commissioners	Commissioners Surgery – Heywood Court Miss Williams and Mr Quirk	2.30 p.m.
9th June 2019	Douglas Borough Council	Civic Sunday	10.30 a.m.
10 th June 2019	Onchan District Commissioners	Board Meeting	7.00 p.m.

C19/05/03/16
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Apologies

Mr Cherry tendered apologies for the meeting to be held on 10th June 2019 as he will be arriving late.

2. Standing Order 12(2)

Discussion arose with regard to Standing Order 12(2) which was moved to In Committee.

The public section of the meeting closed at 8.19 p.m.

C19/05/03/17
MINUTES

1. **Staff Minutes - Ordinary meeting held on Monday 29th April 2019**

To follow.

2. **Chairman-Elect**

See Staff Minute Book.

C19/05/03/18
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE MATTERS

1. **Commercial Rent Arrears**

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

The report of the Finance Manager dated 15th May 2019, having previously been circulated was considered noted.

It was proposed by Mr Macfarlane, seconded by Mr Cherry and **RESOLVED that the two historic commercial rent arrears detailed be written off.**

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

After discussion, it was agreed that further **engagement be organised with the two remaining debtors to discuss plan of action.**

An update to be brought back to the Board.

C19/05/03/19
CONSIDERATION OF REPORT FROM THE CLERK OR OTHER OFFICER

1. **Replacement Pool Vehicle**

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

The report of the District Surveyor dated 9th May 2019, having previously been circulated was considered. The District Surveyor advised that the vehicle was not economically viable to repair.

After discussion, the District Surveyor to investigate the comparisons between purchasing, lease hire, electric vehicles, and nearly new vehicles rather than the large outlay for a new vehicle. Report to be brought to the next meeting of the Board.

C19/05/03/20
CONSIDERATION OF ANY RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCE

1. **Department of Infrastructure – ICT Platform**

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

Correspondence received dated 29th April 2019, having previously been circulated was considered. The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that this is an update for information regarding the framework for the ICT Platform.

C19/05/03/20
PROPERTY AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. **Views Restaurant**

The Chief Executive/Clerk gave the Board an update with regard to the current position.

The Chairman agreed to the following items being rearranged in the order of business.

2. **Housing Allocation – 01/35 – 3 Bed House**

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

It was proposed by Mr Cherry, seconded by Mr Crellin and unanimously **RESOLVED to offer a five year fixed term tenancy to HA 3841 of 15/34.**

C19/05/03/21
SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was proposed by Mr Crellin, seconded by Mr Allen, and unanimously **RESOLVED that Standing Orders be suspended to allow business to be concluded on the agenda to no later than 10.20 p.m.**

C19/05/03/22
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. **23 and 23a Main Road**

The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that the original accepted offer had been withdrawn.

A second offer had been received which was below the asking price, the Chief Executive/Clerk was instructed to liaise with purchasers to reconsider their offer.

C19/05/03/23
PROPERTY AND AMENITIES MATTERS

1. **Void Costs 2018/19**

The report of the Chief Executive/Clerk dated 15th May 2019, having previously been circulated was considered.

The Chief Executive/Clerk stated that the costs detailed were for the last financial year. The appendix details the void and responsive repair costs for the last five years. This shows that due to the void works undertaken that the responsive repair costs are reducing and going in the right direction.

2. **Winter Wonderland**

Members considered the proposal to operate a Winter Wonderland at The Hub, School Road, Onchan. Members were in favour of the proposal, but requested that the Chief Executive/Clerk, Finance Manager, and District Surveyor to meet with the organiser to discuss the details of the plan and costs for hire of the centre.

C19/05/03/22
ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.