

PUBLIC SESSION

Minutes of a Meeting of the Marown Parish Commissioners held in their Boardroom on Wednesday September 19th 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

In Attendance:	Mr A Toohey	Chairman
	Mrs A Lynch	Vice-Chairman
	Mr R Sloane	
	Mr T O'Hanlon	
	Mr T Miles	
	Mr I Maule	Clerk

1. **Apologies** – None

2. **Visitors** - IoM Post. Two officers (Lisa Duckworth, COO and Katharina Stewart) attended to discuss the consultation presently in the public domain and the challenges and strategy for the future. Ms Duckworth explained that IoM Post receives no financial support from Government and has to operate as a business. It recorded its first financial loss during the past year and has to address this. Use of post office counters has declined with such as TV Licences, Vehicle Licensing and the collection of benefits moving to the internet and direct debit or credit. Postal Orders and Dog Licences are no longer sold. Counters are subsidised to £350,000 per annum. New sub-postmasters are offered a contract based on transactions rather than a flat sum. Any new shop therefore has to be viable in its own right before it can consider taking on a post office counter. Members then raised the issue of a post office in Marown: the only one in the Middle Keys constituency presently (other than PO Headquarters) is at Union Mills. Attention was drawn to the proposed shop opposite the Crosby Hotel. There had been a kiosk in the pub, but this had been removed without apparent notice. Ms Duckworth said that it had been little used, but the post box has remained and is used. The only growth area for the post office counters is in returned items bought remotely by internet or post.

The postal side of the business is the largest revenue generator and has the largest cost. Price changes are related solely to cost changes and do not take account of volume changes. Attempts to generate use by discounts have not been successful. Although the aeroplane costs around £1m per annum, there is nothing to be gained by a higher charge for off-island mail as applying different prices of itself increases costs. Postage charges are the lowest in the British Isles for letters.

The current consultation suggests a 5-day delivery regime for letters (parcels to remain at 6 days) and this would have a significant saving in staff costs. The alternative is a significant increase in letter postage prices. IoM Post has an obligation under the Post Office Act to provide an island-wide service and suffers competition from courier services such as Hermes who have 30 “life-style” collection and delivery agents. The Commercial activities such as stamps and coins for collectors, printing and distribution (including for off-island customers) and foreign exchange are effectively subsidising the postal service. Next-day delivery services are not threatened.

A general discussion on postal services then took place after which the Chairman thanked the visitors for an interesting presentation and the visitors left the meeting.

3. **Previous Minutes**

- 3.1. Minutes of the meeting held on August 15th 2018 were approved. The Chairman then signed the Minutes as a true record.

4. **Matters Arising not on the Agenda** – None

5. Planning Matters

5.1. Completion Certificates – The following were noted.

- 08/07303 – Extension, Double garage, Realign drive and retaining wall at Curragh View, Crosby
- 10/07320 – Additional Living Room, Utility Room & 2 solar panels at 29 Ballagarey Rd, Glen Vine

5.2. Planning Committee – The following meetings have been notified:

5.2.1. September 3rd 2018 – Nothing in Marown

5.2.2. September 17th 2018 – Nothing in Marown

5.3. Planning Decisions

5.3.1. Approvals – The following to which no objection had been submitted were noted:

- 18/00454 – Convert sunroom to kitchen at 39 Ballagarey Road, Glen Vine
- 18/00558 – Replacement Conservatory Roof at Rose Cottage, Braaid Road, Braaid
- 18/00707 – Replacement Conservatory Roof at 18 King Orry Road, Glen Vine

5.3.2 Refusals – None notified

6.4 Appeals – Decision awaited on the following:

6.4.1 18/00329 – Retail Unit at Ballaglonney

6.4.2 18/00339 – Retail Unit at Ballaglonney

Appeal hearing held on September 12th with both matters being heard together. The Clerk attended and represented the Board and Mr Miles and Mrs Lynch attended. Members there present gave a report. An attempt had been made by the Appellant to submit new plans form a smaller (lower) building if the minister would prefer that. The feeling of the Inquiry had been that this was not appropriate as proper consultation would not have taken place.

6.5 Enforcement –

6.5.1 Operational policy for Planning Enforcement discussed.

6.6 **Building Control** – Nothing to record.

6.7 **Planning Conditions** – No matters notified.

6. Consultations – The following were discussed:

6.1. Eastern Area Plan

6.1.1. Submission acknowledged. The target for the next stage of the process is before April 2019.

6.1.2. Facilitated Local Government Leadership Workshop – Four members were ultimately able to attend part or all of the session and Mrs Lynch and Mr O'Hanlon gave a report. The feeling was that the approach had been poor with members being expected to comment on other authority submissions. All agreed that the timing of the session (1700 – 2000 on a Friday) was not conducive to attendance.

6.2. **IoM Post** – Following the presentation, members felt that a common Board response was not appropriate and it was resolved that members should make individual responses.

6.3. **Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Bill 2018** – Deferred to next meeting.

6.4. **Outdoor Visitor Survey** – Noted.

6.5. **Expenditure and Revenue Sharing Arrangement** – Survey noted.

6.6. **Consultations on the Government website not notified** – It was resolved to make no comment on the following:

6.6.1. Possible expansion of Class 6 Regulated Activity (Crowd-funding Platforms)

6.6.2. Proposed Civil Aviation (Charges) Scheme 2019

- 6.6.3. Red Ensign Group Yacht Code Part A,
- 6.6.4. Contempt of Court Bill 2018
- 6.6.5. Charities Registration and Regulation Bill
- 6.6.6. Dormant Assets Bill 2018
- 6.6.7. 5th Quantitative Impact Study for Non-Life Insurers
- 6.6.8. Business Agency - Sector Survey

7. General Matters and other Correspondence

- 7.1. **WW1 Commemorations** – A meeting is scheduled for September 24th 2018. In the mean time, it was resolved to send out invitations to all invitees from 2017 for the Remembrance Day Service.
- 7.2. **Western Housing Authority** – Nothing to report.
- 7.3. **Patrick Civic Service** – The Chairman would represent the Board.
- 7.4. **Year of our Island** – Event schedule noted.
- 7.5. **Civic Service** – The Chairman confirmed final arrangements.

8. Highway Matters

8.1. Heritage Trail – Complaint relating to signage permitting use by motor-cycles during TT and MFP road closures from resident and correspondence with Mrs Lynch were discussed. Following representations to Dol, the sign has been removed. It was resolved to complain to the Minister about the sign and the failure to even consult. Doubt was expressed whether the Road Traffic Order affecting the Heritage Trail had been altered or under what authority the sign had been erected.

Mrs Lynch also reported that apparent drainage work was under way west of Crosby making the footpath all but impassable, Again, the Board has not been consulted and it was resolved that this matter also be subject of complaint to the Minister.

- 8.2. Hedges and Weeds** –. The Chairman has made contact with Dave Noble who will attend to the outstanding matters on his return from Holiday.
- 8.3. Ballavitchel Road** – Complaint from resident discussed. It was resolved to pass to Dol with a copy to Howard Quayle MHK.
- 8.4. Glen Vine Drive** – Request for Street-lighting discussed. The road currently has no street-lighting and no suitable MU power supply poles. It was resolved to seek advice on installation and prices from Manx Utilities.

9. Community Issues

- 9.1. **Ballagarey Open Spaces Adoption Process** – With Advocates.
- 9.2. **Website and Social Media** – Nothing to report.
- 9.3. **Ballawilleykilley Play Area** – The Planning Application for a bridge across the stream has been submitted and is out for public consultation.
- 9.4. Dog Fouling and Dog Bins** – The Clerk reported that 4 dog bin bag dispensers and a supply of bags had been received. Richard Devereau had been informed and had not yet collected a supply of bags.

10. Any Other Business - None

11. Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday October 17th 2018 in the Hall Caine Pavilion at 7pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the public session at 2030

Signed
Chairman

Date.....