

## Castletown Town Commissioners

### Ordinary Board Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2018

**Present:** Mr Leather (Chairman), Mr Ludford-Brooks (Vice Chairman) Miss Quine & Messrs. Cubbon, Horton, Mcaleer & Parnell.

Also, in attendance the Town Clerk, Mr Mackenzie

#### **AB/87.17 Statement in respect of rates**

Chairman of Castletown Town Commissioners Mr Colin Leather stated that

*"It is time to accept that if this town is to continue to improve itself, then rate rises are necessary and will likely be necessary in future years. I expect that this Board will have to make many difficult decisions over the forthcoming year, both financial and with regard to the use of amenity areas within the town, however I wish to send a message to all that Castletown is open for business.*

*With Manx CPI standing at 4.1% in December 2017 and increased charges being passed on from central government and partner agencies, my board has agreed to a general rate rise of 5%, equating to 16p in the pound, and an additional 5p in the pound specifically to finance the proposed acquisition of the Old Fire Station from the Department of Home Affairs.*

*My board are in agreement that the current rating system is unsustainable in the long term and continue to lobby Central Government with regard to a more equitable rating system for the Island. Castletown Town Commissioners do however recognise the contribution that members of the public from our neighbouring parishes make to the success of the town and are delighted to announce that provision has been made to make membership of Castletown Library and its associated community events and workshops free of charge to all island residents. We are delighted that the Isle of Man Constabulary are now based in the Town Hall and we continue to work with other agencies to bring services to the Town.*

*Provision has been made to continue with environmental improvements in the town. Whilst no specific provision has been made for the 2018/19 financial year, consideration will be given to bringing forward long overdue investment in the children's playparks around the town in future*

### **AB/88.17 Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Miss Quine proposed that the minutes of the meeting dated 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 be approved as read. This was seconded by Mr McAleer with all in favour. The minutes were duly approved.

### **AB/89.17 Matters Arising**

With regard to AB/85.17 - Memorandum of Understanding between CTC and the "Castletown Parks Charity", - Mr Cubbon raised his frustrations regarding the decision that was made at the last meeting. To the fact that he is embarrassed at the lack of progress

The clerk updated members with regard the advice from the lawyers.

Mr Horton proposed that Standing orders be suspended to allow the matter to be revisited and this was seconded by Mr Horton with all in favour

A discussion took place and members were of the opinion that for the MOU to be accepted it Must be clarified that the Commissioners hold the right to veto any proposals in the park. JH / RM

Mr Horton proposed that the MOU be supported if an appropriate amendment be made that the commissioners hold the right to veto. This was Supported by Mr McAleer with all in favour.

Mr Ludford-Brooks queried the makeup of the charity which was clarified by Mr Cubbon.

### **AB/90.17 Approval of Accounts**

The Clerk circulated accounts for payment.

Miss Quine proposed that the accounts be approved as detailed. This was seconded by Mr McAleer with all in favour. The accounts were duly approved.

### **AB/91.17 Correspondence**

A letter was received from the Creative network regarding proposals for an Art Trail Around Poulson Park and the Silverburn. Mr Leather stated that he felt it was a Fantastic idea.

Miss Quine proposed that the request be supported but ask that the group liaise with The towns gardener. Mr Ludford-Brooks supported this with all in favour.

The poor condition of the Millennium way leaving Poulson Park was noted and this would be raised with the DOI.

An email was received from Mr Bridson of the DECC requesting views on the redevelopment of the swimming pool at the CRHS site.

It was agreed that the Board have already made their views made to the Chief Minister via Mr Peake MHK

Mr Parnell considered that the email inferred that there were no plans, but please support them and should the proposed facility Near Janets corner not progress in the next 2 years, there is unlikely to be development in the next 10 years.

Mr Cubbon felt that the opportunity was in place for a real community hub to be created when CRHS is redeveloped rather than just a school site and the board should do all that the could to lobby to this effect.

### **Mr Ludford Brooks left the meeting @20:00**

#### **AB/92.17 Consultations**

It was agreed that members would submit their individual views to any consultations deemed relevant via the Consultation Hub

#### **AB/93.17 Planning Matters & Decisions**

The Following Planning matters and applications were considered with no objections being raised:

18/00085/B – 3 Raad Ny Gabbil – Alterations & Extension

18/00062/B – 39 Arbory Street – Installation of replacement front door

18/00052/B – Callows Yard - Conversions of Storage Area

18/00045/B – 3 Malew Road - Replacement of existing annex Roof

18/00035/B – 9 Scarlett road - Extension of Vehicular Access

18/00030/B – Westend Cottage - Alterations and extension

The relevant planning decisions were read out and there were no objections raised.

A query as received from Mr Tilleard of Lorne House requesting feedback from the board as improving the access to the site from Bridge Street. Members were broadly supportive but requested clarity on the proposal with regard to it being a pedestrian or vehicular access that was being sought.

### **Mr Ludford Brooks re-joined the meeting at 20.16**

**AB/94.17 Seasonal Arrangements for Market Square**

Mr Parnell proposed that the matter be deferred until March. This was seconded by Mr Cubbon.

**AB/95.17 Anti-Social Behaviour & Community Policing**

Mr Horton raised concerns regarding the latest increase in Anti-Social behaviour and his concerns that the police are aware of the perpetrators but are not taking action.

The Clerk to invite Sgt Dale to meet the board.

The Meeting Closed at 20.28