

## **Castletown Town Commissioners**

### **Ordinary Board Meeting Minutes**

May 8, 2018

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

Also, in attendance the Town Clerk, Mr Mackenzie

#### **AB/001.18 Chairman's Statement**

Mr Leather thanked members for the confidence that had been shown him by his fellow board members, it was a great responsibility and he had thoroughly enjoyed the past year although it had required a great deal of hard work. It was only right that he should extend his thanks to the workforce for their continued efforts. All the board should be rightly proud of the work that has been done since their election with limited resources.

Me McAleer echoed the chairman's comments and considered that the proof was in the private investment that had taken place around the town during the last 12 months.

#### **AB/002.18 Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Mr Leather proposed that the minutes of the meeting dated 9<sup>th</sup> April be approved as read subject to an Amendment that Mr Ludford-Brooks has sent his apologies. This was seconded by Mr Parnell with all in favour. The minutes were duly approved.

#### **AB/003.18 Matters Arising**

The Clerk confirmed that Mrs Lord-Brennan MLC was to attend the scheduled meeting with Highways.

Mr Leather informed members that he was due to have a meeting with representatives of Castletown Heritage to discuss the planned Secret Gardens event.

#### **AB/004.18 Approval of Accounts**

The Clerk circulated accounts for payment.

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

## **AB/005.18**                      **Correspondence**

Invitations were received for the Chairman to attend the following events:

Onchan Civic Service 20th May

Monas Queen Memorial 29th May

Borough of Douglas Civic Service 10th June

Tynwald / Garden Party

KWC Founders Day

Southern Agricultural show

A letter was received from Mr & Mrs Brown expressing concerns about the suitability of the planters outside the Old House of Keys. Members noted the comments and confirmed that consideration be given to the improvement of the area.

Correspondence was received from the MUA advising the estimated cost for excavating a column that a resident considered was obstructing a driveway in Y Vaarney Yiang and trenching 5m to the other side of the driveway, extending the mains cables and replanting the column would be **£1,602+VAT**. Members considered that the lighting column was in place before the property was purchase and the column needed replacement.

## **AB/006.18**                      **Consultations**

It was agreed that members would submit their individual views to any consultations deemed relevant via the Consultation Hub. The Clerk informed members of the live consultations.

## **AB/007.18**                      **Planning Matters & Decisions**

The Following Planning matters and applications were considered:

18/00323/C – Use of Premises as either offices or retail. **OBJECT**

Mr Cubbon proposed that the board Strongly oppose the use for anything other than retail. This was seconded by Mr Ludford-Brooks with all in favour.

A discussion took place regarding the planning enforcement matter on Bank Street in relation to a large advertising hoarding. It was noted that the sign had been removed in recent days, however members expressed disappointment in the way the matter had been dealt with.

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

18/00363/D - Erection of advertising hoarding on Northern Platform

18/00382/B – Enlargement of Existing Bowling Green Club House

NB – It was noted that support for 18/00382/did not constitute approval of work taking place without further discussion between the Board and club.

### **AB/008.18      The Old Castletown Police Station**

Mr McAleer proposed that the board resolve to support Mr Moorhouse MHK's movement in Tynwald and consider that the Old Police Station should remain in public ownership. This was seconded by Mr Ludford-Brooks with all in favour.

### **AB/009.18      Public Protests**

Mr Horton expressed his concern that protest groups can turn up without prior notice to disrupt public events. The targeting of school children was highly inappropriate.

Mr Cubbon felt that the matter was provoking behaviour and the police could have, and should have taken action.

Mr Ludford-Brooks proposed that the board resolved to write to Jason Moorhouse MHK to outline their concerns and detail complaints received. This was seconded by Miss Quine with all in favour.

### **AB/010.18      Concrete Riding Bowl**

Mr Parnell noted that the board has given a commitment to make a contribution towards the building of a replacement skate park and given the scope of the proposal considered that I recommend that the board petitions the treasury for consent to borrow 50,000 over 25 years, with capital and interest payments to come out of the existing parks budget. We are looking in the region of 2,200 per year repayment.

Before looking at additional capital expenditure on the facilities in the park we agreed that we have to take steps to make the park more usable all year round by exploring options for low level airport friendly lighting around an enhanced perimeter track. I recommend that the board petitions the treasury for consent to borrow 50,000 over 15 years to fund the provision of low level airport friendly lighting around the perimeter track, with capital and interest payments to be funded from an explicit increase in the town rate next year. This would be in the region of 3,300 per year repayment.

Mr Leather proposed that Mr Parnell's recommendation be accepted and was seconded by Mr Leather.

A vote took place with the majority being in favour. Miss Quine and Mr Ludford-Brooks voted against the motion.

**AB/011.18      Royal Wedding**

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Castletown Over 60's club were organising an event and live screening in the Community Hall and all were welcome.

**AB/012.18      Youth Cafe**

Mr Horton informed members about the Youth Café that was being trialled with assistance from Youth Workers and wondered if the Commissioners may consider assisting with funding. The Clerk raised concerns that money was again being sought to support central government functions without consideration during the budgeting process.

Mr Leather felt that it was down to the board to ensure that there was sufficient surplus in budgeting to be put to use for the benefit of the town.

**AB/013.18      Appointment of Street Scape Architect**

Members agreed that the Clerk continue discussions in respect of the appointment of a street scape architect with regard to potential improvements of Malew and Arbory Street.

**AB/014.18      Matters for future discussion**

- Suggestion with regard a Castletown clean-up day in connection with Beach Buddies
- Mr Leather wished to investigate the possibility of making Castletown a world heritage site.