

The Monthly Meeting was held on Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 7.30pm at the Halley MacLiag. Present were Mr Cowin (Chairman), Mrs Edds, Mr Rae and Mr Cringle. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Berry. The Clerk was in attendance.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th January 2016 were confirmed as a true record and signed.

Risk Matters

The Clerk advised that Mr Berry and himself had met on 9th February and reviewed Edwin Robinson's annual report and actions taken to meet the issues raised. Notes from the meeting were received. There were no new matters to report.

Highways – Commissioners Responsibilities

The Clerk reported that the following work had been done since the last Meeting:-
Road sweeping – Duck Street Corner to Iron Spout & Ballacubbon, Ballabeg
Gulley cleaning at Spar Shop, Colby.

It was noted that the following work was planned for the next month: –
Gulley cleaning
Sweeping where necessary.

It was agreed to consider laying a weed-proof membrane and planting evergreen shrubs on the recently cleared verge by the pedestrian footpath into Cronk Cullyn.

New Local Authority Responsibilities

Mr Rae reported on meetings that he had attended over the past month and on the progress that had been made on the charging formula for waste disposal and other issues. He expressed some concern that he had gained the impression that the regionalisation of all refuse related matters remained the objective of some elements of central government.

It was noted that progress was being made, albeit slowly, on a joint waiting list for the southern housing authorities.

Streetlights

A letter was received from Manx Utilities (formerly the MEA), advising that six old electricity poles were to be replaced by five new poles in part of Colby, and offering, as part of the scheme, to replace the old streetlights on the poles with new LED lights at a total cost of £2,223 plus VAT. It was agreed to accept this offer.

Sundry Matters

- **War centenary memorial** - it was reported that the stone had been erected and that the railings and gate were awaited. An e-mail was received from Mr Alan Leece of T E Leece & Son Ltd, suggesting that the surface of the pavement in front of the memorial should be repaired, and indicating that Colas (IOM) Ltd would charge £800 to do this. It was agreed to have this work done. Mr Cringle suggested that the memorial might be floodlit and it was agreed to investigate whether this would be feasible.
It was decided to hold an unveiling/dedication event on a date to be agreed in mid April
- **Civic Service** – it was noted that preparations were almost complete for the service to be held on 21st February.
- **Grass cutting and spraying contract** – it was agreed to accept a tender, opened in the presence of the members, from Mr Stephen Booth, , for grass cutting and weed spraying during the coming growing season. It was confirmed that Edwin Robinson & Associates, risk advisors, were content with Mr Booth's response to the risk and competency questionnaire.

- **Tree cutting at Ballacubbon, Ballabeg** – in response to a resident’s request to have certain trees lowered, it was considered that, as the land in question and therefore the trees were still legally the property and responsibility of the developers of the estate, and in the light of the likely considerable cost involved, it would be inappropriate to spend ratepayers money on this.

Arbory and Rushen Amalgamation or Increased Co-operation

It was felt that further consideration of this matter should be left until the new boards were in place after the elections in April.

Planning Matters

The following applications were considered:-

- 1500678 – Thie ny Chibbyr, Glen Road – demolition & replacement dwelling (revised plans) – there was still concern felt over the loss of a large number of trees.
- 1600132 – Mar Rhenny, Upper Ballastrooan - first floor extension - no comments.

The following notification of an appeal was received:-

- 1500874 – Field 425058, Ronague – agricultural workers dwelling .

Accounts for payment

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

- Manx Telecom – telephone	53.82
- Jones Services Ltd – refuse collection - Feb	3,197.98
- IOM Government - Refuse disposal Jan	4,464.79
- Lawn & Order - clearing ground at Cronk Cullyn	455.00
- Quine & Cubbon Ltd – Letterheads & Civic Service invitations	74.88
- MEA - streetlights power	1,696.62
- MEA - streetlights maintenance	1,745.39

Sundry Correspondence & Other Matters

- **Henry Bloom Noble Library** – it was noted that Douglas Corporation was offering free membership for one year to all Island residents.
- **Consultation – Road Traffic Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2016** – no comments.
- **Invitation to Castletown Civic Service 10th April** – several members indicated that they would attend.
- **Invitation to Malew Civic Service 6th March** – several members indicated that they would attend.
- **Tynwald Advisory Council for Disabilities Newsletter** – noted.
- **Deep South Festival** – Mr Rae advised that he had been approached by the organiser of the Deep South Festival, who had indicated that the event was to be held at Colby Football Ground in early July, and who had requested that ten commercial size refuse bins be provided

and emptied. The Clerk advised that Jones Services Ltd had indicated that the cost of providing this service would be approximately £250. It was agreed to advise the organiser accordingly.

- **IOM Cyclefest** – information of the forthcoming event was received and noted.
- **Neighbourhood Planning** - information was received from Mr Graham Cregeen MHK, in connection with neighbourhood planning in the UK and a bill in this respect that he had been given permission to introduce in Tynwald. There were reservations over whether planning was best undertaken at the local level, and the general feeling was that the bill probably had little chance of progressing.
- **Armed Forces Community Covenant** – a letter was received from Mr Juan Watterson MHK in connection with the Army Reserves on the Island, inviting the Commissioners to sign up to the principles of a Community Covenant, supporting members of the armed forces. The implications of the covenant were not fully understood and, in any event, it was felt that this matter would be better discussed by the new Board after the elections in April.

Sundry Matters Raised by Members

The following matters were raised by members for attention:-

- the need to re-erect the name sign at Costain Close.
- the continued and worsening overgrown state of the late Mr McVerry's property at Ballastroan.
- a large fallen branch in the Colby River just below Colby Bridge.

The Meeting ended at 9.35 pm

