

**MINUTES OF an EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of BRADDAN PARISH
COMMISSIONERS**

**held in Commissioners Office, Close Corran, Union Mills, Braddan at 2.30pm on
Thursday 4th October 2012**

In Attendance:

Mr A Jessopp Chairman
Mr P Halsall
Mr C Slinn
Mr J C Whiteway Clerk

12/329	Apologies Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Hodge and Mr Quaye. Mr Jessopp took the Chair.
12/330	Declaration of Interest There were no declarations of interest.
12/331	Issue of Summons / Agenda It was noted that all members had received Summons/Agenda at least three clear days before the date of the meeting.
12/332	Minutes of Recent Meetings The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6 th September were to be considered at the next full meeting of the Authority.
	Section 1:
12/333	Scope of Government Consultation The Chairman advised that the meeting had been called due to the fact that a response to the Consultation document was required by Friday 5 th October and the next full meeting of the Commissioners had been set for 11 th October. The Commissioners response was to be considered in conjunction with the following Reports: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Review of the Scope and Structure of Government in the Isle of Man. September 2006 2. A Review of the Scope and Structure of Government in the Isle of Man (An Independent Report to the Council of Ministers) March 2012 3. The Government's Rebalancing Strategy (Some Comments from the Review Team on the Scope of Government). March 2012 4. Council of Ministers Consultation on Scope of Government. August 2012 It was unanimously resolved that the following responses would be submitted in response to the questions asked, the essence of which precedes the reply.
12/334	Question 1 "it would it be beneficial reduce the range of Government activities" Response: Agree Question 2 "deliver through alternative means of service delivery" Response: Agree and Government should explore the functions that Local

Authorities can perform.

Question3 “alternative means embodied in a statement of policy and principles issued by CoMin”

Response: Agree. Strong leadership is required from the top.

Question4 “models of Outside Agencies”

Response: Privatisation, Corporatisation, Contracting Out, Public Social Partnerships are models that could be used depending on circumstances, but the principle of Public Private Partnerships is a concern.

Question5 “.....recommendation on types of Outside Agencies for different public services”

Response: The majority of the suggestions seem suitable for consideration, but the system of Executive Agency should only be used for regulatory bodies such as Environmental Health services. The NSC and the bus service services could be investigated as local authority functions.

Question6 “...politicians to concentrate on strategy”

Response: Agree. Politicians in Tynwald Court should be looking at the bigger picture and not local issues. This can be achieved by increasing the powers of local authorities and their scope of work. There is of course a consequence in that, if politicians are dealing with central strategy and policy, not as many are required and perhaps Tynwald would consist of ten or less representatives who would be elected on national and not local issues.

Question7 “Government should look at Executive Agency model....”

Response: Agree, but only for regulatory bodies.

Question8 “Prison and Social Security should be Executive Agencies.”

Response: Disagree, these are not regulatory bodies.

Question9 “ devolve functions to Local Authorities..”

Response: Agree as soon as Local Authorities are of a suitable size and structure.

Question10 “functions should not be devolved until reform has been undertaken”

Response: Agree

Question11 “.....list of functions that could be devolved.....”

Response: Environmental Health is a regulatory body and should be an Executive Agency. We agree the following functions could be delivered by local authorities :

- Housing
- Building Regulations
- Town and Country Planning (although Planning Policy should remain with central government
- Pest Control
- Street cleaning
- Car parks
- Waste Management

Perhaps the Highway Agency could deal with main roads and LA's could deal with minor roads.

Question12 “prior to reform.....devolved to Executive Agency”

Response: Agree

Question13 “Government should commit to restructuring of local government....”

Response: Agree , but the changes should be grant aided whilst a review of funding of local government functions is complete i.e. taxation, rates , VAT.

Question14 “ Government should examine costs.....being met from a form of local taxation.

Response: Agree see response to Q13

Question15 “.....Government to commit to external benchmarking”

Response: Agree

Question16 “ transferring present terms and conditions to private sector would be reduce the attractiveness of the proposal”

Response: Agree

Question17 “.....develop transfer arrangements to mimic TUPE legislation.

Response: Disagree. Staff should move directly to the new employers terms and conditions.

Question18 “...Government to introduce TUPE.....”

Response. Disagree. See response to Q17

Question19 “ Governmentseek to limit its exposure to high redundancy costs..”

Response: Agree. We should cut our cloth accordingly.

Question20 “Government should establish a Department of Corporate Development....”

Response: Disagree. Change should be accommodated within present structure and resources.

12/335

Date for next meeting

A date for the next meeting had been set for 2pm on Thursday 11th October 2012.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 15.30 pm.

..........Signed

.....11th October 2012.....Date