

MINUTES OF BRADDAN PARISH COMMISSIONERS
using internet conferencing
at 2pm on Thursday 9th April 2020.

In Attendance

Mr A Jessopp	Chairman
Miss C Corkill	Vice Chairman
Mr D Dentith	
N Mellon	
Mr J Quaye	
Mr J C Whiteway	Clerk
Miss M J Radcliffe	Deputy Clerk & Finance Officer
Mrs T Beattie	Housing Officer
Mr P Parker	Community Warden

20/203 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

20/204 Declaration of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

20/205 Issue of Summons / Agenda

It was noted that all members had received the Summons/Agenda at least three clear days before the date of the meeting.

20/206 Deferral of Matters on the Agenda to Private

There were no matters deferred to Private.

20/207 Minutes of previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 5th and 26th March 2020 were **unanimously approved** as correct records of proceedings.

20/208 Matters Arising

(i) Area Plan for the East – Minute: 20/182(i)

The Chairman advised that he had been in contact with the Cabinet Office and had been able to discuss with them the Commissioners' concerns over the Inspectors report.

They advised that further discussions between officers in the Cabinet Office would take place and they would report back to the Commissioners.

The subjects discussed were:

- Green gaps (being of insufficient size in Braddan)
- Coalescence with Douglas
- The desire for no major development in Braddan
- The wish for Ballafletcher not to be developed, but concession would be considered for a small extension of Tromode Woods
- Reserve sites not to be released
- The split between residential and commercial land on Vicarage Road
- The possibility of allowing some part of the Snugborough Valley (ie from Braddan Bridge past the Gas storage facility) to be rezoned for residential and possibly a wildlife corridor.

It was **unanimously approved** to note the matter.

(ii) Accommodation for the Homeless – Minute: 20/182(ii)

The Clerk advised that he had again raised the matter with the Department who remained very much against the idea of releasing public sector houses to the homeless during the pandemic period as they would be avoiding the present established allocation process.

However, it was felt that before a further discussion could be held and any decision made, the scale of the problem had to be established.

Mr Shimmins suggested that Mr Thomas MHK should be contacted to determine this figure.

It was **unanimously resolved** to await this information.

(iii) Covid 19: Maintenance of green spaces

It was **unanimously resolved** to note that the Community Warden was due to contact the gardening contractor to agree areas that justified being cut on health and safety grounds, such as the grassed area in Grianagh Park that could be subject to dog fouling if not kept low.

(iv) Mobile Vendors Minute 20/200 9(i)

The Chairman asked the Community Warden if there had been any developments on the matter relating to the Street Traders licences.

The Community Warden advised that the Police had been in contact with those companies still trading to ensure they were adhering to the social distancing guidelines.

It was **unanimously resolved** to note that the Community Warden had asked the traders to submit their risk assessment for dealing with Covid19 policy when returning their renewal application form.

20/209 Matters for Consideration from Section 2

There were no items for consideration

20/210 Questions from Members of the Public

The Chairman welcomed Mr Shimmins MHK to the meeting and discussions were held on the following matters:

- The potential length of the “lockdown”
- Government’s recovery strategy
- Covid19 testing and tracing
- The position of the Manx Solidarity Fund
- The national praise for NHS staff
- The ability of people to pay their rate demands.

After these discussions Mr Shimmins advised that he would take the opportunity to remain at the meeting.

20/211 Environmental Issues

There were no matters for discussion.

20/212 Lewin – Bankruptcy

The Chairman advised the members that he had been able to confirm that Mr Lewin had passed away over the recent days.

The Clerk confirmed he had been in touch with Craig Mitchell who advised that he would be seeking a copy of Mr Lewin's Last Will and Testament to determine if he had declared in the document any assets that could be recovered.

However it was **unanimously resolved** that the Board still wished the Trustee in Bankruptcy to pursue Mr Lewin's partner in an attempt to recover the money he had given to her to avoid paying the money to the Commissioners.

20/213 Mullen Doway – Update

There had been no developments on the project.

20/214 Strang Corner Field – Update

The matter was deferred for discussion later in the meeting.

Section 1

20/215 Invoices for approval

It was **unanimously resolved** to approve the following invoices in excess of £2k that required the authorisation of the Board:

- Arragon Properties – schedule of forthcoming rental payments

20/216 Payment of Rates – 2020/21

The Finance Officer advised that, to date, the payment of rates had followed the pattern of previous years and there appeared to be no delay in receiving the money.

However, it was **unanimously resolved** to continue to monitor the situation and that the matter should be included in forthcoming meeting agendas.

20/217 Refuse – Covid 19

The Clerk advised that he had organised a media campaign on the three radio stations promoting the safety of the waste operatives and asking people to clean their bin handles, keep the lids down and leaving no side waste.

A discussion was had on the policy from Peel Commissioners which asked all residents to notify them if a member of the household had the virus.

After a lengthy debate it was **unanimously resolved** not to adopt this policy so that all residents waste was treated in the same manner.

20/218 Tenders – Strang Corner Field

The Chairman advised that three tender documents had been opened on 6th April 2020, but all were in the region of £7 million which was much more than envisaged.

The Chairman took the opportunity to ask Mr Shimmins MHK whether there would be any support available from Central Government.

Mr Shimmins explained that Central Government were considering schemes that would rejuvenate the islands economy at the end of the pandemic, and if the Commissioners felt this was a scheme that they considered to be in the "national interest", a business case should be submitted to the Department as a matter of urgency.

The Chairman advised that a valued engineering exercise should take place with all three contractors to examine why the cost had been so high and whether there were any opportunities to reduce the cost.

It was **unanimously resolved** to await the results of this exercise.

20/219 Agreement for Management of Housing Stock – DOI – Cronk Grianagh

The Clerk advised that the Department had offered a further one year extension to the management contract on the existing terms and conditions.

After discussion it was **unanimously resolved** to accept the offer.

Planning

20/220 Planning Applications

There were no applications for consideration.

20/221 Planning Approvals

It was **unanimously resolved** to note the following Planning Approvals:-

- PA20/00132/B Replacement of existing conservatory roof with tiles – 2 Glen View, Main Road Union Mills IM4 4NE

It was **unanimously resolved** that an appeal against the approval would be submitted as it was felt that no additional signage was necessary and such signs would lead to the proliferation of signage in the area when there was already a notice board for this purpose that had been provided by the Commissioners.

- PA20/00062/D Cu-plas Callow (IOM) Ltd – Erection of non-illuminated signage board- Cu-Plas Callow- Snugborough Trading Estate Union Mills IM4 4LG

20/222 Section 2

There were no matters for consideration under Section 2

20/223 Any Other Business

1. The Clerk advised that the office cleaning contractor did not wish to transfer his services to the Foodbank as this was outside the existing terms and conditions of his contract.
2. The Finance Officer advised that Crowe Isle of Man LLC had been appointed by the Treasury as the local authority auditors

20/224 Date of Next Meeting

The date for the next meetings was set for:-

16th April 2020

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 3.45 pm.

Signed

Date

