

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the **ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, 79 Main Road, Onchan, on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7:00 pm

**Present:** Miss K Williams (Chair)  
 Miss Z Lewin (Vice Chair)  
 Mr A Allen  
 Mr D Crellin  
 Ms F Logan (Lead Member for Environmental and Technical Services)  
 Mr D Quirk (Lead Member for Finance & General Purposes)  
 Mr R Turton (Lead Member for Housing)

**In attendance:** Mr R Phillips (Chief Executive/Clerk)

**C22/11/03/01**

**TO CHOOSE A PERSON TO PRESIDE IF THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR BE ABSENT**

Not necessary.

**C22/11/03/02**

**BUSINESS REQUIRED TO BE DEALT WITH BY STATUTE BEFORE ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**C22/11/03/03**

**MINUTES**

**1. Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

Miss Williams advised the Board that the Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, had not been circulated due to staff illness.

Mr Quirk requested that the minutes of the meeting of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, be circulated earlier rather than waiting.

Miss Williams advised that the Minutes of the Meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022, will be circulated with the next agenda.

**2. Extra Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

To be considered In Committee.

**C22/11/03/04**

**TO DISPOSE OF ANY RELEVANT BUSINESS ARISING FROM SUCH MINUTES**

None.

**C22/11/03/05**

**TO DISPOSE OF ANY BUSINESS ADJOURNED FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING**

**None.**

**C22/11/03/06**

**TO DEAL WITH ANY BUSINESS EXPRESSLY REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO BE DONE**

None.

C22/11/03/07**PLANNING DECISIONS/COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE  
PLANNING COMMITTEE****1. Plans to the Board**

(a) The following plans were considered by the Board:-

(i) **PA 22/00767/B Rowany Limited – 104 Summerhill Road**

Members were advised that the planning application is for the conversion of four apartments into a single residential dwelling and the erection of a terraced residential dwelling (amended plans).

In answer to questions, the Chief Executive/Clerk advised that:

- No comments had been received from neighbouring properties; and
- The return date for the application is the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

After a discussion, it was proposed by Ms Logan and seconded by Mr Allen and unanimously **RESOLVED** that **PA 22/00767/B – 104 Summerhill Road be recommended for approval.**

C22/11/03/08**FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES**

None.

C22/11/03/09**REPORT FROM THE CLERK OR OTHER OFFICER****1. Capability Policy & Procedure**

The Authority's updated Capability Policy & Procedure, a copy of which having previously been circulated was considered and noted.

**2. Management of Sickness Absence Policy & Procedure**

The Authority's updated Management of Sickness Absence Policy & Procedure, a copy of which having previously been circulated was considered and noted.

C22/11/03/10**CONSIDERATION OF ANY RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCE****1. Cabinet Office – Local Elections Fees Order**

A copy of the correspondence dated 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022, received from the Cabinet Office regarding the consultation on Local Election Fees Orders, a copy of which having previously been circulated was considered and noted.

**2. Onchan Silver Band – Christmas Concert**

A copy of the correspondence dated 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022, received from the Secretary of Onchan Silver Band inviting Members and Staff to attend their Christmas concert on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 at Onchan Methodist Church at 6:30 pm, a copy of which having previously been circulated was noted.

Miss Williams gave her apologies.

### 3. **His Excellency & Lady Lorimer – Christmas Reception**

A copy of the invitation received from His Excellency and Lady Lorimer inviting Miss Williams to attend a Christmas Reception at Government House on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 6:30 pm.

Miss Williams confirmed that she would be attending.

### 4. **Local Authorities – Joint Press Release**

To be considered In Committee.

### **C22/11/03/11**

### **TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS ASKED UNDER STANDING ORDER 34**

Miss Williams confirmed that the following question was submitted by Mr Quirk:

#### 1. **Question**

How many complaints have been received from Members since you became Chairperson?

#### **Answer**

2 complaints have been received.

Miss Williams advised that the remaining questions which had been submitted by Mr Quirk would be answered in due course if they can be.

Mr Crellin asked the following:-

- can the questions be circulated;
- the questions need to comply with the Authority's Standing Orders;
- are the questions of a vexatious nature;
- questions submitted have to be in relation to which the Authority has powers or duties or which affects the district; and
- do the questions submitted meet the criteria.

Mr Allen asked Miss Williams to confirm when the complaints referenced will be resolved. Miss Williams stated that she is currently waiting for an update from the Authority's Legal Advisers and is conscious about what is discussed in the public domain.

Mr Allen stated that reputations have been tarnished publicly and that it is an important matter which needs to be resolved as soon as possible.

### **C22/11/03/12**

### **TO CONSIDER ANY MOTIONS**

None.

### **C22/11/03/13**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES**

None.

### **C22/11/03/14**

### **HOUSING MATTERS**

#### 1. **Housing and Communities Board**

The Report of the Housing Manager dated 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022, a copy of which having previously been circulated was considered and noted.

## 2. Income Thresholds for access to General Needs Housing

The Report of the Housing Manager dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, a copy of which having previously been circulated was considered.

After a discussion, it was proposed by Mr Turton and seconded by Miss Lewin and **RESOLVED that the following recommendations be submitted to the Department of Infrastructure:-**

- Agreement with the recommendation from Statistics Isle of Man to use the CPI rate taken from September 2022 and comparing this with the same rate from a year earlier in September 2021, which shows an increase of 14.5%;
- Agreement with the recommendation from the DOI to increase using the CPI rate as detailed above and rounded up to the nearest £500;
- Further that the policy be amended to add in that Income Limits will be reviewed annually to reflect the prevailing CPI as published annually by the Cabinet Office.

## 3. Income Thresholds for access to Older Persons Housing

The Report of the Housing Manager dated 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022, a copy of which having previously been circulated was considered and noted.

The Lead Member for Housing gave an overview and expressed his thanks to the officers who have been involved with compiling the report.

**C22/11/03/15**

### **CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### 1. Dates for the Diary

| Date                           | Organisation                     | Event                                 | Time                |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 | Onchan District Commissioners    | Board Meeting                         | 7:00 pm             |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 | St Peter's Church                | Christmas Fair                        | 11:00 am to 3:00 pm |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 | Onchan District Commissioners    | Board Meeting                         | 7:00 pm             |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 | The Friends of Onchan's Heritage | The White Boys                        | 7:30 pm             |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2022  | Onchan District Commissioners    | Commissioners Surgery – The Hub       | 10:00 am to 12noon  |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2022  | Onchan District Commissioners    | Commissioners Surgery – Heywood Court | 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm  |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2022  | Onchan District Commissioners    | Night of Light – Onchan Park          | 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm  |

**C22/11/03/16**

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr Crellin asked Miss Williams if she had reported Mr Quirk to the Local Government Unit for disclosing information discussed in a private meeting into the public domain at the Board Meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Miss Williams confirmed that she hadn't reported this to the Local Government Unit.

Mr Crellin stated that vexatious complaints were made against Members 6 months ago and asked when the matter will be concluded.

Miss Williams stated that she is conscious of the matter being discussed in the public domain and that further legal advice had been requested and that she was hoping that it would have been available for tonight's board meeting.

Mr Crellin asked Miss Williams if legal advice can be discussed in the public domain.

Miss Williams stated that she would not be taking the matter further in the public domain.

Mr Turton asked if letters in relation to the heating charges had been sent out to tenants. The Chief Executive/Clerk advised that the letters would be sent out this week.

It was further agreed that the Lead Member for Housing and the Chief Executive/Clerk would arrange a meeting to discuss heating charges with tenants.

***The Public session of the Meeting ended at 19:50 pm***

## **22/11/02/17**

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Board Meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Deferred to the end of the Meeting.

## **22/11/02/18**

### **CONSIDERATION OF ANY RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **1. Local Authorities – Joint Press Release**

The following was considered In Committee and transferred to the public domain.

After a discussion, it was proposed by Miss Lewin and seconded by Mr Quirk and **RESOLVED to accept and issue the joint press release.**

A counter proposal was received:

After a discussion, it was proposed by Mr Allen and seconded by Mr Crellin and **RESOLVED that the Authority to not issue the joint press release.**

**For: Miss Williams, Miss Lewin, Mr Allen and Mr Crellin**

**Against: Ms Logan, Mr Turton and Mr Quirk**

## **C22/11/03/19**

### **SUPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

It was proposed by Mr Quirk, seconded by Miss Lewin and **unanimously RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to conclude the business of the Authority.**

## **C22/11/03/20**

### **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

#### **1. Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Board Meeting held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

See Staff Minute Book.

***There being no further business the meeting closed at 22:05 pm***