

Minutes of the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of the **ONCHAN DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS** held in the Boardroom, Hawthorn Villa, Main Road, Onchan, on Tuesday 3rd May 2022 at 7:10 pm

Present: Mr A Allen
Mr D Crellin
Miss Z Lewin
Ms F Logan (Via Microsoft Teams)
Mr D Quirk
Mr R C Turton
Miss K S Williams

In attendance: Mr R Phillips (Acting Chief Executive/Clerk)
Mrs S Johnson (Finance Manager)
Miss A Crellin (Executive Officer/Assistant0)

The Acting Chief Executive/Clerk took the chair for the commencement of the Annual General Meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

The Acting Chief Executive/Clerk advised member of the public that recording of the meeting and the taking of photographs are prohibited.

The Acting Chief Executive advised Members of the Board that in accordance with the Local Government Act 1985 is allows for Board Member to attend Board Meetings and vote remotely.

C22/05/02/01

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE 2022/23 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Acting Chief Executive/Clerk invited nominations for the election of Chair of Onchan District Commissioners for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.

The following nominations were received:-

1. Miss Kathryn Williams proposed by Mr D Quirk and seconded by Mr R Turton
2. Mr Anthony Allen proposed by Mr D Crellin and seconded by Mr A Allen

Each nominee was invited to make a presentation to the Board.

Mr Allen made the following statement:

“The last year has been a difficult one for the ratepayers and staff of Onchan.

The Board has at times fallen short with weak leadership, poor judgement and bad decisions that have put the Authority at serious risk.

Some Commissioners have lost the respect of both the staff and ratepayers, putting self-interest above duty. Expert, accurate advice has been repeatedly ignored demonstrating a lack of understanding that is unacceptable.

This year I have committed a great deal of time consistently advising the Board that had proven to be correct when facing difficult decisions.

My respect for the staff is mutual and the decisions made have always been in the best interests of the ratepayers of Onchan.

The Chair is an important position within the Authority and when casting your vote do so impartially in the interests of the ratepayers and staff”.

Miss Williams made the following statement:

“I have been asked on a couple of occasions to consider standing for Chair, up until this point I have not felt it appropriate to do so. I have 10 years’ experience as a Commissioner and it is now time to say if I don’t do it now, when will I?”

I know it is a commitment and I believe that I can help build on the work of the Board so far. In terms of public perception, there is more work to be done. I believe in the staff and the Board we have. We can work together to build a better Onchan, which is what everyone on the Board has been elected to do. It is important to respect each other given that we all have difference of opinions.”

Mr Crellin asked the Chair if he would allow him to speak. The Chair confirmed that Mr Crellin could.

Mr Quirk requested a point of order. The Chair refused.

Mr Crellin made the following statement:

“I am unable to support Miss Williams as Chair, her judgement, together with two other Commissioners at a meeting of the Authority disregarded legal advice. This necessitated the Authority’s Legal Advisers attending a special meeting and reiterating the previous legal advice and if not acted upon would put the Authority at risk. They then changed their original vote, confirmed in minutes and caused double expenditure.

It is essential policy and procedures should be followed and standing orders adhered to”.

The Chair [ODC 16/05/2022] advised that in accordance with Standing Orders if more than one nomination is received for the position of Chair, voting is to take place by a secret ballot.

The Chair [ODC 16/05/2022] advised the Board that a majority vote had been reached and **that the duly elect Chair for the 2022/23 Municipal Year is Miss Kathryn Sian Williams.**

The outgoing Chairman, Mr Robin Turton invested the Chain of Office to Miss Williams.

Miss Williams thanked Mr Allen for putting his nomination forwarded and made the following acceptance speech:

“Thank you to the Board for their support.

Thanks to Mr Turton for his work, he will be a hard act to follow.

I know that this is a privilege and I am one of a very few women to have held the position. Given that I have been a Commissioner for ten years I feel ready and experienced enough for the challenge ahead. I don’t know what kind of Chair I will be but I do know that no-one gets everything right or wrong. I will do the role to the best of my ability. As a Board, we need to continue to move forward and I am confident that by working together and with the staff we have, we will achieve this and Onchan will remain a great place to live”.

C22/05/02/02

APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR THE 2022/23 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Chair invited nominations for the position of Vice Chair to the Board.

The following nominations were received.

1. Miss Zara Lewin proposed by Mr Quirk and seconded by Ms Logan
2. Mr David Quirk proposed by Mr Crellin and seconded by Mr Allen

Mr Quirk declined as he has no aspiration to be Vice Chair.

Mr Crellin asked Miss Lewin to give her vision for the next twelve months.

Miss Lewin stated that she has only been a Member of the Board for a short period of time and that she feels she has hit the ground running to a certain degree. Going forward she hopes to support the Chair. She has the determination and with the support of the Board it should allow a smooth future for the Authority.

The Chair asked if there were any further nominations for the Vice Chair.

No further nominations were received.

It was **RESOLVED** that **Miss Zara Lewin be elected as Vice Chair for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.**

C22/05/02/03

ELECTION OF LEAD MEMBERS – 2022/23 MUNICIPAL YEAR

1. Environmental and Technical Services

The Chair called for nominations for the role of Lead Member for Environmental and Technical Services

1. Miss Fenella Logan proposed by Mr Quirk and seconded by Miss Lewin

No further nominations were received.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that **Miss Fenella Logan be Lead Member for Environmental and Technical Services for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.**

2. Housing

The Chair called for nominations for the role of Lead member for Housing.

1. Mr Robin Turton proposed by Mr Quirk and seconded by Ms Logan.

No further nominations were received.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that **Mr Robin Turton be Lead Member for Housing for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.**

3. Lead Member for Finance and General Purposes

The Chair called for nominations for the role of Lead member for Finance and General Purposes.

1. Mr David Quirk proposed by Mr Turton and seconded by Miss Lewin

No further nominations were received.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that **Mr David Quirk elected as Lead Member for Finance and General Purposes for the 2022/23 Municipal Year.**

C22/05/02/04

REPRESENTATIVES 2022/23

1. Isle of Man Municipal Association

It was proposed by Miss Lewin and seconded by Mr Quirk, and unanimously **RESOLVED** that Ms Fenella Logan be appointed as Onchan District Commissioners' representative to the Isle of Man Municipal Association.

With regards to the reserve representative, Mr Turton proposed Mr Crellin.

Mr Crellin thanked Mr Turton for his confidence in him but declined the position.

A counter proposal was received by Mr Crellin who proposed Mr Turton.

Mr Turton commented that he has sufficient work to undertake a Lead Member for Housing.

It was agreed that the matter would be brought back to the next Board Meeting.

2. Education Representative – Onchan Schools

It was proposed by Mr Quirk and seconded by Ms Logan unanimously **RESOLVED that Miss Lewin be appointed as Onchan District Commissioners' Education Representative – Onchan Schools.**

3. Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee

It was proposed by Miss Lewin and second by Miss Williams and unanimously **RESOLVED** that Ms Logan be appointed as Onchan District Commissioners representative on the Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee.

C22/05/02/05

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Next Meeting

The next Board Meeting would be held on Monday 16th May 2022.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 19:46 pm