

**MINUTES OF ISLE OF MAN MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING
HELD AT BRADDAN COMMISSIONERS' OFFICES AT 7PM ON THURSDAY 29
MARCH 2018**

PRESENT

Tim Kenyon	Garff Commissioners	President
Vivien Quane	Lezayre Commissioners	Chairman
Alison Lynch	Marown Commissioners	Vice Chairman
Andrew Jessopp	Braddan Commissioners	
Neal Mellon	Braddan Commissioners	
Carol Malarkey	Douglas Borough Council	
Betty Quirk	Douglas Borough Council	
Bob Pilling	Malew Commissioners	
Chris Quirk	Onchan Commissioners	
Alan Jones	Peel Commissioners	
Peter Gunn	Rushen Commissioners	
Graham Connor	Secretary	

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting including Daphne Caine MHK and Jennie Wheeler from Cabinet Office.

Speaker – Daphne Caine MHK

Daphne and Jennie spoke to Members about the plans for Year of our Island 2018 which was now intended to run until March 2019. More information was available on the Facebook page and was being regularly circulated to Local Authority clerks. They expanded on:

1. Information Pack

This contained the following headings

- 2018 Year of our Island
- UNESCO Biosphere Isle of Man
- More to our Island
- Explore More
- Do More
- Share More
- How to get involved
- Funding applications
- More information and contact details

2. Calendar of events.

- January - Dark Skies event attendance was over 200 people.
- March/April – a series of walks planned for over the Easter period aimed at encouraging both local and visitors to explore
- May/June – plans for an Island Expo exhibition at the Villa Marina with “big name” motivational speakers to encourage entrepreneurship and business start-

up. Also, an Arts Festival trail and creativity workshops run by the University College of Mann in conjunction with the Sayle Gallery.

- July/August – working with Culture Vannin, a garden show with each school being offered a part of a plot at St Johns with the aim of creating gardens which reflect different areas of the Island. Also, perhaps some hosting of garden parties at specific locations.
- October – a major event focussing on Hop-tua-naa.
- Other events would be announced.

3. Isle of Man Rocks

- An Isle of Man Glen based treasure hunt which has its own Facebook page.
- Painted rocks are being placed for people to discover, photograph and replace.
- The aim is to encourage people to visit the glens – there are prizes involved!

4. 2018 Trail Booklet

- A booklet of 12 straightforward short walks had been produced in collaboration with DEFA and MNH.
- The intention is to obtain details of further local walks and produce a booklet for 2019. Local Authority contributions would be welcomed.

Our Speakers mentioned that there were grants of up to £6,000 available to support new events (and £3,000 for established events) which were considered relevant although there were deadlines for submissions of applications for funds. Information was contained on the Facebook page and circulated. The Secretary asked if he could be included on the circulation list.

Members were interested to hear the plans and wished the project success. There were comments and queries about the need to ensure pathways were adequately maintained, plans surrounding the development of the courtyard at Knockaloe, and the need to resurrect the Community Pride sub-committee as part of this initiative.

Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Adrian Cowin (Arbory), Raina Chatel (Douglas), Alex Toohey (Marown), James Cherry (Onchan), Michell Haywood (Port St Mary), Lindsay Ridley (Patrick), Eddie Convery (Peel), and Andrew Cowie (Ramsey).

Minutes of February 2018 meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 February were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from minutes

There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report

The report had been circulated and was noted.

Accounts to 31 December 2017

The accounts to the 31 December 2017 were reviewed and accepted. These would be put forward for ratification at the Annual General Meeting in May. Alan Jones asked that thanks

to both the Treasurer and Auditor be included in the minutes for their application and efforts in producing audited accounts. **AP Secretary**

Secretary's Report

The report had been circulated and was noted.

Annual General Meeting

This would be held at Milntown on 24 May 2018 7pm for 7.30pm prompt. Members approved the menu. The Secretary advised that he would issue invitations within the next week. **AP Secretary**

Potential rule changes

Members had considered the draft document provided and were largely content with the proposed revisions. It was felt that the proposed new item 30 (reproduced below), which was also part of the old rules should be omitted as the Municipal Association was not a decision-making body. This was agreed, and the revised rules will be placed on the agenda at the AGM for ratification. **AP Secretary**

30. A quorum at any meeting of the Association shall be deemed to be one-half of the membership plus one of the members as defined by way of Rule 2 reviewed on an annual basis.

Richmond Hill Consultative Committee

Andrew Jessopp led a discussion regarding the current position. Members were disconcerted that the objective seemed to be to replace a simple and straightforward body within the far more complex structure of a Waste Management Group. It was not clear where RHCC fitted within the proposed new structure. It was also noted that despite assurances that up-to-date details of emissions etc would be on the DEFA website the information on there was 18 months old. It was suggested that Freedom of Information requests for newer details might be appropriate. Members were uneasy that the suggestion by the department to contact the Chief Officer about any possible problems did not constitute a valid regulatory strategy.

Andrew advised that he would shortly speak with Simon Renton and provide an update at the next meeting.

Waste Management issues

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

Zero Waste Mann and Beach Buddies seminar

This was now likely to take place in September with a date to be agreed shortly. There would be two elements:

1. A presentation by a representative from Zero Waste Scotland which would concentrate on waste management strategies in Highland and remote areas.
2. A talk by Beach Buddies Isle of Man looking at issues arising from the shift of waste between countries caused by natural events e.g. tides, wind etc.

Local Authority Generic Records Retention & Management Policy

The Secretary referred to guidance received from Angela Skitt at the Public Records Office. Her interpretation is that the Municipal Association does not fall within the definition of a public body under the Public Records Act 1999, which means there is no legal obligation to work with the PRO to preserve records.

Hence, this simply left the question of whether recent records should be released to Manx National Heritage for them to combine with the historic Municipal Association records which they already held. Members were content to do this and asked that the Secretary liaise with Wendy Thirkettle, the archivist at MNH. **AP Secretary**

World War I Commemorations

There was nothing further to report at this stage.

Any other business

There was no other business, and the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Date of next meeting: **Thursday 26 April 2018 at 7pm.**

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....