



Borough of Douglas

**MR COUNCILLOR STANLEY COLVIN CAIN, JP
MAYOR**

Town Hall,
Douglas,
5th June, 2014

Dear Sir or Madam,

You are hereby summoned to attend a MEETING OF THE COUNCIL to be held on WEDNESDAY, the 11th day of JUNE, 2014, at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER within the TOWN HALL, DOUGLAS for the transaction of the hereinafter mentioned business.

I am,
Yours faithfully

Town Clerk & Chief Executive

Order of Agenda

I - Election of a person to preside (if the Mayor is absent).

II - Any statutory business.

III - Approval as a correct record of the minutes of the last regular and any intermediate Meetings of the Council.

IV - Questions of which Notice has been given by Members of the Council, pursuant to Standing Order No. 39.

V - Consideration of the minutes of proceedings of the Council in Committee.

VI - Consideration of the minutes of proceedings of Committees of the Council in the following order:

- (i) The Executive Committee;
- (ii) The Pensions Committee;
- (iii) The Standards Committee;
- (iv) The Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee;
- (v) Any other Joint Committee;

VII - Consideration of the report of each Chair in the following order:

- (i) Housing and Property;
- (ii) Regeneration and Community;
- (iii) Environmental Services;

VIII - Consideration of such communications or petitions and memorials as the Mayor or Chief Executive may desire to lay before Council.

IX - Notices of Motion submitted by Members of the Council in order of their receipt by the Chief Executive.

X - Any Miscellaneous Business of which Notice has been given pursuant to Standing Orders.

The above Order of Agenda is in accordance with Standing Order No. 16(1); under Standing Order No. 16(2) it may be varied by the Council to give precedence to any business of a special urgency, but such variation shall not displace business under I and II.

AGENDA

III – Chief Executive to read minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 14th May, 2014.

VI(i) - The proceedings of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Friday, 30th May, 2014.

Members Present: Mr Councillor D.W. Christian (Chair), the Mayor, Messrs Councillors S.R. Pitts, D.J. Ashford, J. Joughin, R.H. McNicholl.

In Attendance: Chief Executive, Borough Treasurer, Borough Engineer & Surveyor, Assistant Chief Executive (for Clauses A8 and A11), Democratic Services Officer (for Clauses A10 and A11).

REPORT

PART A –

Matters within the scope of the Executive Committee's delegated authority

A1. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were submitted.

A2. Appointment of Vice Chair

Resolved, “That it be unanimously agreed that Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.”

A3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 28th March 2014 and the Special Meeting held on Friday 25th April 2014 were approved and signed.

A4. Matters Arising From Previous Minutes

Clause A10 – Civil Registration Services: it was noted that the Isle of Man Government’s Director of Public Services at the General Registry had contacted the Chief Executive, but was not yet in a position to progress this matter.

Clause A12 - Replacement of two electric street vacuums (‘Gluttons’): it was noted that these items of machinery had now been delivered to the Council.

Resolved, “That particulars be noted on the minutes.”

A5. Minutes and Referrals of the Environmental Services Committee

The Committee considered the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on Monday 19th May 2014, including the below items specifically referred to the Executive Committee:

Clause B13 – Acquisition of Can Balers: approval was sought for expenditure from the Plant Renewals Fund for -

- The purchase of two can balers at a cost of £17,500 (including shipping and installation);
- The purchase of a single conveyor to link the can sorting system to one of the new can balers at a cost of £2,500 (including shipping and installation); and
- The refurbishment of the existing T40 baler at an estimated cost of £8,000 (including shipping to the original manufacturer for the work), from the Plant Renewals Fund.

Clause B14 - Acquisition of Can Sorting System: approval was sought for expenditure from the Plant Renewals Fund in the sum of £33,800 for the supply, delivery, and installation of a can sorting system.

Resolved, “(i) That particulars of the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee be noted; and

(ii) That approval be given for expenditure from the Plant Renewals Fund as follows:

- £17,500 for the purchase of two can balers

- £2,500 for the purchase of a single conveyor to link the can sorting system to one of the new can balers
- £33,800 for the purchase of a can sorting system
- £8,000 approximately for the refurbishment of the existing T40 baler.”

A6. Minutes and Referrals of the Regeneration and Community Committee

The Committee considered the minutes of the Regeneration and Community Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20th May 2014, including the below item specifically referred to the Executive Committee:

Clause B5 – Fees and Charges (Douglas Golf Course): approval was sought to increase the age range of junior annual golf tickets from sixteen to eighteen years.

Resolved, “(i) That particulars of the minutes of the Regeneration and Community Committee be noted; and

(ii) That approval be given for the age range of junior annual golf tickets to be increased from sixteen to eighteen years, and for the Schedule of Fees and Charges to be amended accordingly.”

A7. Minutes and Referrals of the Housing and Property Committee

The Committee considered the minutes of the Housing and Property Committee meeting held on Wednesday 21st May 2014. There were no public items specifically referred to the Executive Committee.

Resolved, “That particulars of the public minutes of the Housing and Property Committee be noted.”

A8. Armed Forces’ Community Covenant

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Executive in relation to a proposal from the Honourable Mr Juan Watterson, MHK, the Isle of Man Government’s Armed Forces’ Champion.

Members were informed that a letter had been received by the Leader of the Council from Mr Watterson, advising that the Government’s Chief Minister had signed an Armed Forces’ Community Covenant. This was a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its service personnel, recognising the special role and contribution of those residents who served, or who had served, in the British armed forces.

Similar Covenants had been developed throughout the United Kingdom, however, it was noted, that there was no Isle of Man Government funding for the Armed Forces’ Community Covenant on the Island. It was also recalled that, in 2012, the Council had been invited to participate in a consultation by the Isle of Man Government regarding the introduction of an Armed Services’ Community Covenant for the Isle of Man, the Council’s response to this being that it did not believe there was a need for any party other than the Isle of Man Government to sign such a Covenant, with other organisations simply being asked to record their commitment to the principles set out in the document. It appeared, however, from a summary of responses to the consultation, that the majority of comments and suggestions were in favour of the introduction of an Armed Forces’ Community Covenant.

Members were cognisant that the Council already had existing links and an excellent relationship with the Armed Forces via a number of routes, such as the annual commemoration of Remembrance Sunday, the granting of the Freedom of the Borough to the 12th Regiment, and the up-keep of the War Memorial. It was agreed, however, that by having its own version of the Covenant, the Council would be publicly demonstrating its commitment to the Armed Forces.

Resolved, “(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes;

(ii) That it be agreed that the Council should strengthen its existing support for the Armed Forces by signing an Armed Forces’ Community Covenant;

(iii) That Officers be authorised to enter into discussions with the Isle of Man Government’s Armed Forces’ Champion with a view to the creation of an Armed Forces’ Community Covenant for the Council; and

(iv) That it be not recommended that the Council appoints its own Armed Forces ‘Champion’; but rather any matters pertaining to relationships with the Armed Forces and the Armed Forces’ Community Covenant fall within the remit of this Committee.”

A9. Monthly Financial Review (March – End of Year 2013 / 2014)

The Committee considered a written report by the Borough Treasurer setting out monthly figures for various financial items during the 2013 / 2014 financial year. The report was required to monitor progress against Corporate Plan commitments, and it was noted that the closing balances remained subject to amendment during the year-end accounts closure process.

The Borough Treasurer advised that a debtor, with a debt of £1,598.66 relating to commercial bins, was untraceable, and sought authority to write off the debt.

Resolved, “(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes; and

(ii) That authority be given for the debtor write-off in the sum of £1,598.66.”

A10. Members’ Attendances and Allowances 2013 / 2014

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Town Clerk in relation to Members’ Attendance Allowance payments for the financial year ended 31st March 2014.

The Council was required by Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 1985 to publish a report detailing the number of meetings of the Council and its Committees, and the total sums paid to Members. It was also obliged to send a copy of the report to the Department of Infrastructure with a certificate by the Council’s auditors.

The schedule, setting out Members’ attendances at meetings and allowances paid, contained reference to the number of ‘sessions’ each Member had attended. It was noted that this could not replace the requirement for the number of meetings to be reported under the Act, but it was provided as additional information.

Resolved, “(i) That particulars of the report and the schedule setting out Members’ attendances at meetings and allowances paid during the year ended 31st March 2014 be noted on the minutes;

(ii) That approval be given for the submission of the schedule to the Council’s auditors with the annual accounts, and thence to the Department of Infrastructure; and

(iii) That the report be made available to the public through the Council’s website, as well as at the Town Hall Reception, and be circulated to all Members with the Council Agenda for the June 2014 meeting.”

A11. Land Adjoining No. 9 Harcroft Meadow, Douglas

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Town Clerk in relation to a request received from the Isle of Man Treasury for concurrence to a piece of land owned by the Council to be taken into private ownership.

Members were advised that The Treasury, on behalf of the Department of Health and Social Care, was seeking to sell the property No.9 Harcroft Meadow. The previous occupiers had, however, at some time, encroached onto an area owned by the Council (as well as an area set aside as highway), having erected a fence to enclose a small area of the land as part of the garden of the property. There was also a similar encroachment onto the highway.

The Council had taken possession of the land (along with several other plots in the area) in 2010, the Deed of Gift specifying that the land was to be used for no other purpose than public amenity. The plot was located alongside the turning head of the cul-de-sac and was basically waste ground, and, therefore, the proposal to allow the adjacent householder to have use of a small proportion of it seemed reasonable.

It was suggested, rather than transferring ownership, that a licence be granted to the new occupiers of No. 9 Harcroft Meadow, permitting them to have the fence on the land (together with an oil tank which had also been installed on the land) on condition that they would be removed should the Council decide so in future. This would facilitate the sale of the property by Government, while still retaining ownership of the land and enabling the Council to respond if any complaint should ever be received, or if the land was required for any public amenity purpose.

It was noted that, if this proposal was agreed, similar permission would be required of the Department of Infrastructure as the highways authority, as the encroachment also affected a small area of the verge.

Resolved, “(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes; and

(ii) That a licence be granted to the owners of No. 9 Harcroft Meadow, their successors and assigns, to enclose by fencing, the small area of public amenity space, subject to -

- All costs, including that of legal documentation to record the grant, being met by the grantees, and
- The licence being revocable on six months’ notice should the Council consider it desirable to do so in future for any reason.”

A12. Monthly Financial Review (April 2014)

The Committee considered a written report by the Borough Treasurer setting out details of progress made compared to key performance indicators in relation to the percentage of rates collected; the increase in the number of non-cash / non-cheque payments; and the percentage of sundry debtors collected within three months.

The Borough Treasurer advised that the Isle of Man Treasury was still in negotiations to arrange a borrowing facility for local authorities, and, to ensure that this facility continued to be available to local authorities, a contingency borrowing arrangement had been agreed with the Isle of Man Bank (the current provider). It was noted that the contingency was adequate to meet the needs until the end of 2014, and that, as soon as a new facility was in place, the Treasury would notify all local authorities. Members expressed concern that a new scheme had not yet been put in place.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes."

A13. Internal Audit Report

The Committee considered a written report by the Assistant Chief Officer (Finance) summarising the work carried out by Internal Audit (KPMG) during the 2013 / 2014 financial year.

The Internal Audit Report had been specially prepared for the Executive Committee and gave an overall assessment of internal control; a rating against each review; a review of the significant areas that KPMG wanted bringing to the Committee's attention; and noted the work planned for the following year. It was noted that the report on the Internal Audit was a requirement under the Internal Audit contract, and also a legal obligation under the Audit Act 2006, and that the remit of the Internal Audit function included a review to ensure the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were being complied with.

Of the forty-one areas audited, thirty-three (80%) were rated green ('no improvements needed'); seven (17%) were rated amber ('some improvements needed'); and one was rated as red. These ratings showed a clear trend of system control improvement.

Members considered in detail the findings and recommendations in relation to the 'amber' and 'red' areas, as set out in the Schedule appended to the written report (these findings were as at the point of audit, conducted between May 2013 and March 2014). An update of progress made by officers so far against the action plans in KPMG's report was also noted.

The findings and recommendations within the Internal Audit Report were of an operational management nature, rather than a policy nature, and it was therefore the responsibility of managers to ensure that adequate systems of control were in place and that the Internal Audit recommendations were implemented.

It was noted that the report had already been presented to the Extended Chief Officers' Management Team, which would continue to monitor progress against the implementation of agreed recommendations.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report, including progress made, be noted on the minutes."

A14. Isle of Man Municipal Association – Minutes of Meetings

The Committee considered a written report by the Chief Executive in relation to the minutes of meetings of the Isle of Man Municipal Association.

Members noted, by way of background, that the Isle of Man Municipal Association had been established one-hundred years ago to provide a forum for local authorities on the Island. The main aim of the Association was to benefit the residents of the Island by local authorities working together; sharing ideas, strategies, and resources where possible; and to address any problems by raising greater awareness prior to decisions being made that had an economical, political, environmental, and social impact on the Isle of Man.

As at the present time, nineteen of the twenty-four local authorities were members of the Association, with Jurby, Andreas, Ballaugh, Bride, and Santon, being the exceptions.

The Association met on a monthly basis, on the last Thursday of every month, except at times of Local Authority or General Elections (when a meeting might be missed or the date changed), and there was no meeting held in December. The Annual General Meeting took place in May of each year. Local authorities – who were members of the Association – elected a representative to attend the meetings. Douglas Borough Council had two representatives on the Association, who were, for the Municipal Years 2014 / 2016, Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett and Councillor Mrs R. Chatel.

Resolved, "(i) That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes;

(ii) That the following documents be noted:

- the minutes of the Isle of Man Municipal Association meeting held on 27th March 2014;
- the agenda for the Annual General Meeting on 22nd May 2014; and
- the minutes of the World War I Commemoration Committee held on 10th April 2014; and

(iii) That the membership of the Isle of Man Municipal Association (as at 22nd May 2014), together with a list of dates for meetings during the 2014 / 2015 municipal year, also be noted."

A15. Items for Future Report

The Committee considered a written report by the Chief Executive identifying those issues on which further reports had been requested or which were outstanding, so that Members and officers were aware of them and could monitor progress.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and that it be considered and monitored at each meeting of the Executive Committee."

PART B –

Matters requiring Council approval

There were no matters requiring approval from the Council.

The Committee rose at 3.30pm.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / REGENERATION & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY – Minutes of Special Joint Meeting held on Friday, 30th May, 2014.

Members Present: Mr Councillor D.W. Christian (Chair), the Mayor, Messrs Councillors S.R. Pitts, D.J. Ashford, Councillor Mrs R. Chatel, Messrs Councillors J. Joughin, G.J. Faragher, Councillor Miss D.A.M. Pitts, Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl.

Apologies: Mr Councillor E.A. Joyce, Chief Executive.

In Attendance: Borough Treasurer, Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Assistant Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development), Assistant Borough Engineer, Assistant Democratic Services Officer.

REPORT

PART A –

Matters within the scope of the Joint Committee's delegated authority

A1. Strathallan Suite – Combined Stables and Tramways Development

The Joint Committee considered a report submitted jointly by the Assistant Chief Executive and the Borough Engineer and Surveyor on the opportunity to redevelop the Strathallan site to incorporate both stables and tramway operations.

The report recommended that as the redevelopment of the Promenade project is progressing together with the possible closure of the Tramway service for 2015, it is considered that there is a potential opportunity to redevelop the Strathallan site to incorporate both site usages. The Strathallan building is also faced with on-going deterioration together with the poor condition of the properties fronting the stables at Tramway Terrace.

It was suggested that funding for the proposed redevelopment could be assisted from the whole or partial disposal of the Tramway Terrace/stables site.

Members were presented with outline drawings of a combined operation at the Strathallan Site. In order to progress, Members were advised the scheme should ideally be developed to a detailed design stage which would require appointing a full Design Team.

To date, the report confirmed a total of £4,483.90 + VAT has been expended for architectural consultancy in respect of feasibility. A £20,000 sum was allocated to ascertain feasibility, now feasibility has been established it will be necessary to proceed to at least the Design Brief stage which would allow for a planning application to be submitted. The report estimated a cost of £50,000 to appoint an Architect and those members of a full Design Team as required to reach Design Brief stage.

Members queried how many horses and tram carts would be required for the reduced service and the Assistant Chief Executive advised that it was likely that operational changes would be required to combine the two functions into one site, together with a business case for any proposed development.

In relation to the plans circulated, a Member suggested removing the outside shelter as it is a luxury not a necessity. Members queried the storage of trams not in service and a Member stated that it was understood the Jurby Transport Museum would be acquiring further storage space. This together with potential rental of storage space would need to be further explored if the canopy was not included.

Resolved, “That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and;

(i) A design team be appointed to progress plans for redevelopment of the Strathallan site to Stage D1 (the design brief as defined in the Capital Procedure Notes for Construction Projects), to provide a joint tramways and stables operation is appointed;

(ii) A maximum sum of up to £50,000 (estimated figure based on standard rates and Architect's fee proposals) be set aside for this purpose from the Council's General Revenue Reserves;

(iii) The Tramway Terrace/stables site be actively marketed for sale.”

PART B –

Matters requiring Council approval

There were no matters requiring approval from the Council.

The meeting ended at 2.35pm.

VI(ii) - The proceedings of the PENSIONS COMMITTEE as follows:

PENSIONS COMMITTEE

PENSIONS COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 28th May, 2014.

Members Present: Mr Councillor J. Joughin, (Chairman), the Mayor, Messrs Councillors D.J. Ashford, C.L.H. Cain, R.H. McNicholl, Councillor Ms K. Angela, Mr A. Thomas (Independent Member).

In Attendance: Mr Mark Freeman, Scheme's Investment Advisor – Hymans Robertson, Mr David Chatel, Fund Manager – BlackRock (Item A10), Mr Simon Betteley, Fund Manager – BlackRock (Item A10), Mr Chris Bell, Fund Manager – Capital International (Item A11), Borough Treasurer, Assistant Chief Officer (Finance), Assistant Democratic Services Officer.

REPORT

PART A –

Matters within the scope of the Committee's delegated authority

A1. Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford was unanimously elected Vice-Chairman for the 2014/15 municipal year.

A2. Minutes – 26th March 2014

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, 26th March, 2014, were approved and signed.

A3. Matters Arising – C9 – Employers ceasing to exist as part of the local Government Superannuation Scheme

In response to query, the Borough Treasurer confirmed the proposed settlement figured had been slightly increased in favour of the Council and approved by all parties.

Resolved, "That the matters arising be noted on the minutes."

A4. Training presentation – Scheme Governance and Future Monitoring of Managers

The Committee considered a training presentation by Mr Mark Freeman, of Hymans Robertson, on the scheme governance and future monitoring of managers.

Mr Freeman began by providing a portfolio update. Members were reminded that after June 2014 the number of investment managers is likely to increase from the current two with the addition of a new active global equity manager and a new index-tracking manager for UK equity, gilts and index-linked gilts.

Mr Freeman discussed a proposed meeting structure with the additional managers; it was felt that it would be difficult for the Committee to meet with all managers at quarterly meetings. The suggestion (assuming there will be three active and one index-tracking manager) was to meet each of the three active managers twice a year and the index-tracking manager once a year. Mr Freeman confirmed that all managers would continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis through Hymans Robertson's reports, and a fuller annual review. A possible meeting schedule was presented to Members.

In response to question, Mr Freeman confirmed the Hymans Robertson fee would increase in light of the additional work required to monitor the additional managers, the fee is yet to be agreed but Mr Freeman suggested it will be a modest increase and confirmed the monitoring of the absolute return fund had been absorbed in current fees.

Members requested that all managers produce a quarterly monitoring report for consideration by the Committee.

Mr Freeman went on to suggest the introduction of triggers. The Hymans Robertson quarterly report would include a series of triggers for active and index-tracking managers. Members were presented with a list of potential triggers for each manager.

Resolved, "That particulars of the presentation and discussion be noted on the minutes."

Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl left the meeting at 11.45am.

A5. Review of Investment Managers' Performance

The Committee considered a report by Hymans Robertson reviewing the Investment Managers' performance for the first quarter of 2014.

Mr Freeman began by providing an overview of the market during the first quarter and a total fund performance summary breaking down the BlackRock Multi-Assets and Capital International Absolute Return, it was highlighted that the performance summary was net of fees.

Mr Freeman advised BlackRock performed in line with its benchmark over a volatile quarter for equity markets while delivering an absolute return of 1.0%. The fund is now ahead of benchmark over the preceding 12 months, but has trailed over 3 years and has performed in line over the past five years.

Members noted stock selection added value over the quarter, contributing 0.3% relative to returns. This was offset by the negative impact of asset allocation, as the fund's overweight allocation to international equity detracted from performance. The fund's underweight exposure to fixed interest securities also proved detrimental to performance, as bond markets rallied in a global flight to quality.

There was a discussion surrounding the additional 10% contribution to an absolute return fund. BlackRock had expressed an interest in managing the investment through their diversified growth fund and Capital International has expressed an interest in the additional funds.

Members discussed BlackRock's strategies and queried their decision to be overweight in equities. Mr Freeman advised that generally overweight equities worked in favour of returns in the last 12 months.

Mr Freeman reported that Capital International delivered an absolute return of 2.0% over the quarter, outperforming the LIBOR +3% per annum performance benchmark by 1.1%.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes."

A6. Adjournment and resumption

The meeting adjourned at 12.35pm and resumed at 12.38pm with the same Members, officers and advisors present.

A7. Capital Market Service

The Committee considered a presentation by Mr Freeman on the quarter one 2014 market update.

A series of graphs were presented to Members demonstrating CPI inflation, Eurozone Government Bonds, S&P500 inflation adjusted earnings, MSCI price earnings ratios and the IPD monthly index.

Resolved, "That the presentation be noted on the minutes."

A8. Annual Review of the Pensions Risk Register

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Borough Treasurer to review the risk register for the administration of the Pensions Scheme and the help keep the Committee aware of risk management issues.

Members were presented with a table of thirty-two risks, each with an inherent risk score, calculated from impact and probability. Those with low risks highlighted green, moderate risks highlighted yellow, major risks highlighted amber and severe risks highlighted red. The same thirty-two risks also calculated a residual risk score with impact and probability calculated after a chosen action. The Borough Treasurer advised a total of eleven new risks had been identified and these risks were highlighted yellow in the first column of the table.

Members noted there were no risks rated severe however there were nine risks highlighted amber and three of those had a score of fifteen, for which it was recommended that further actions be developed. There were also three risks that had no Control Strength arising from the action chosen. These control actions had been agreed but it was not yet apparent what affect they have had and it was therefore recommended that these be monitored for further review.

Members congratulated the Borough Treasurer's Department for producing the detailed risk register.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minute and;

- (i) The pensions risk register and chosen actions therein be agreed;
- (ii) Further actions be developed for major risks with a score of fifteen;
- (iii) Risks that have no Control Strength be monitored to update the affect."

Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl joined the meeting at 1.05pm.

A9. Adjournment and resumption

The meeting adjourned at 1.07pm and resumed at 2.03pm.

A10. Investment Manager's Presentation – BlackRock

Mr David Chatel and Mr Simon Betteley of BlackRock joined the meeting to present a report on the investment manager performance for quarter one of 2014.

Mr Betteley began by providing a breakdown of overall performance which was in line with benchmark during the first quarter.

Mr Betteley discussed in detail UK equity performance during the quarter which outperformed the benchmark by 1.3%. Members were presented with the top UK equity performers during the period, detractors and the key transactions during the period. Mr Betteley advised the fund is currently heavily weighted in smaller companies and BlackRock intend to allocate back to an evenly weighted portfolio.

Mr Betteley went on to discuss overseas equities which underperformed the benchmark by -0.6% during the quarter. Mr Betteley explained what worked and what did not work well during the quarter and highlighted key trades during the quarter.

Fixed income during the quarter was considered and the Fund was broadly in line with benchmark. While the duration positioning was a small negative due to an underweight duration exposure as yields fell in January, this was counterbalanced by an overweight position to credit risk.

Mr Betteley discussed the property fund which underperformed its benchmark over the quarter. Members were advised of property disposals over the quarter and Mr Betteley provided a breakdown of the portfolio vacancy by sector.

Mr Betteley concluded with a market outlook. Members were presented with a chart of leading economic indicators; Mr Freeman queried why the US has been added to the overseas equities considering they are listed as 'mid cycle slow down' in the chart.

Members were presented with graphs demonstrating the monetary policy driving investor behaviour. Mr Betteley expressed his views on the monetary policy in 2014 and advised on global inflation. Members were briefed on the emerging markets.

Members requested in future that the scheme profile include cash injections to the fund during the quarter.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and BlackRock detail cash injections into the Fund in future quarterly reports."

Mr Chatel and Mr Betteley were thanked for their presentation and left the meeting.

Mr Thomas left the meeting at 2.40pm.

A11. Investment Manager Presentation – Capital International

Mr Bell of Capital International joined the meeting to present the first quarter of 2014 investment review.

Mr Bell provided an insight into key economic and market themes for the quarter. Members were presented with key market charts demonstrating the FTSE100, the 10 year gilts yield and the gold prices from 1990.

Mr Bell went on to provide portfolio strategy thoughts for quarter one and quarter two of 2014. This was followed by details of the current asset allocation and recent activity. Mr Bell confirmed Capital International were comfortable with the current asset allocation.

Mr Bell finished by discussing economic and market thoughts.

Resolved, "That the report and presentation be noted on the minutes."

Mr Bell was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.

Mr Councillor C.L.H. Cain left the meeting at 3.17pm.

A12. Items for Future Reports

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Borough Treasurer setting out items that are to be considered at future meetings and to review any future training requirements. Where there has been a delay in reporting, the reason for this is outlined.

Resolved, "That particulars of the items for future report be noted on the minutes."

PART B –

Matters requiring Executive Committee approval

There were no matters requiring Executive Committee approval.

PART C –

Matters requiring Council approval

There were no matters requiring Council approval.

The Committee rose at 4.12pm.

VII(i) – The Proceedings of the HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE as follows:

HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE – Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 21st May, 2014.

Members Present: Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford (Chairman), the Mayor, Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner, Councillor Ms K. Angela.

Apologies: Councillors Mesdames S.D.A. Hackman, C.E. Malarkey.

In Attendance: Assistant Town Clerk, Assistant Chief Officer (Income), Assistant Chief Officer (Housing and Property), Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development), Housing and Property Manager, Democratic Services Officer.

REPORT

PART A –

Matters within the scope of the Committee's delegated authority

A1. Vice-Chairman 2014/2015

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner was unanimously elected to serve as Vice-Chairman for the 2014/2015 municipal year.

A2. Minutes – 19th March, 2014

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday, 19th March, 2014 were approved and signed.

A3. Quarterly Performance Data

The Committee noted the performance data report for the final quarter of 2013/2014.

A4. Matters for Future Consideration

The Committee considered the report on matters for future consideration and made minor amendments.

Resolved, "That the report be noted on the minutes."

PART B –

Matters requiring Executive Committee approval

There were no matters requiring approval from the Executive Committee.

PART C –

Matters requiring Council approval

C5. Willaston External Refurbishment

The Committee considered the business case for external refurbishment of housing properties in Willaston. The business case includes an increased specification to carry out work to bathrooms, and fencing in some properties. Whilst this will increase the costs, refurbishment is still cheaper than building new properties. Once approved by the Council, the business case will be forwarded to the Department of Health and Social Care and the Treasury Capital Projects Unit for concurrence and approval. This will allow the continued progression of the individual refurbishment phases up to 2017/2018; subject to separate approval for all capital funding requirements.

Resolved, "That the report be noted on the minutes, and approval be given to the business case for Willaston external refurbishments, as drafted. Approval is given for the business case to be forwarded to the Department of Health and Social Care and to the Treasury Capital Projects Unit for concurrence and approval."

The meeting ended at 11.18am.

VII(ii) – The proceedings of the REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE as follows:

REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

REGENERATION AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 20th May, 2014.

Members Present: Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher (Vice-Chairman), the Mayor, Councillor Mrs R. Chatel, Mr Councillor E.A. Joyce, Councillor Miss D.A.M. Pitts.

Apologies: Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts.

In Attendance: Assistant Town Clerk, Assistant Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Officer (Finance), Assistant Borough Engineer, Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) (Items A1 to A3 only), Head of Parks, Assistant Democratic Services Officer.

REPORT

PART A –

Matters within the scope of the Committee's delegated authority

A1. Election of Vice-Chairman

Mr Councillor G.J. Faragher was unanimously elected to serve as Vice-Chairman for the 2014/2015 municipal year and in the absence of the Chairman, it was unanimously agreed that the Vice-Chairman should chair the meeting.

A2. Minutes – 18th March 2014

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 18th March, 2014, were approved and signed.

A3. Douglas Carnival

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) updating on the preparations in relation to Douglas Carnival 2014.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) advised there were 19 confirmed entries for the Carnival, confirmed meaning the entry form had been received, and there were at least 40 entries in total. The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) ran through the list of confirmed entries.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) went on to discuss the 'Colour me Rainbow.' This is a separate charity event being organised by Hospice, Isle of Man, which involves runners dressed in white running along the Promenade. At certain specific locations along the route, members of the public will be able to purchase bags of coloured corn flour with which to douse the runners. The report confirmed the corn flour is safe, non-toxic and non-staining. The 'Colour me Rainbow' event will commence at 6.30pm immediately before the wheelie bin race and the Carnival procession.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) advised a wheelie bin race will take place prior to the Carnival procession, the Borough Engineer's Department has provided 20 wheelie bins that teams of three can apply for to convert and customise for the race. A full set of rules has been produced and a press release is currently being prepared.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) confirmed the Ben my Chree horn will signal the start of the Carnival procession and the Steam Packet has sponsored the 'best float' category which is the largest Carnival sponsorship package.

Members were advised that Sure CW has sponsored the best band category and Sharkeys Cuts for Kids has also sponsored a category. It was noted that there are still a number of smaller categories that require sponsorship.

A draft Carnival poster and flyer was circulated to Members. The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) advised that the advertisements will be printed and distributed to shops and volunteers have offered to hand out the flyers in the main shopping streets.

The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) advised that the 'After Party' event will be relocated to the Bottleneck car park.

Members were advised of various competitions related to the Carnival. School children will be invited to create an official Carnival ice-cream, the winning ice-cream will be available at the Carnival and the full class of the winning student will receive a free ice-cream. There will also be a Segways competition

and a Trike competition. It was suggested that the Mayor, Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress travel on trikes in the Carnival.

In relation to charity collections it was proposed to allow collections alongside floats and at charity stalls only.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes."

The Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) was thanked for his attendance and left the meeting.

A4. Interments and cremations at Douglas and Lawn Cemeteries during TT race week

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Parks, following representation from funeral directors, to consider not offering interments and cremations during TT race week, 2nd to 5th June, 2014 and subsequent years.

The Head of Parks advised that a letter was received by the Council requesting that no interments or cremations are offered at Douglas and Lawn cemeteries during TT race week. In addition to the written request a meeting was convened with all the Island's funeral directors. During the meeting funeral directors agreed that it was a good idea to close the cemeteries to services during TT week.

The Head of Parks provided Members with figures for interments and cremations over the past five years. The figures suggested that services during TT week are low, the Head of Parks highlighted that the Friday of TT week is a bank holiday and therefore cremations would only take place Wednesday and Thursday and services are shorter on both days which is not usually appreciated by the families.

Resolved, That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and;

- (i) Interments and cremations at Douglas and the Lawn Cemeteries cease for the duration of TT race week (2nd to 5th June, 2014) and subsequent years;
- (ii) Provision be made for deferred interments and cremations for the 2nd to 5th June, 2014, if required, of one additional day prior and one additional day after TT race week and in subsequent years."

A5. Items for Future Consideration

The Committee considered a report by the Assistant Town Clerk regarding reports for future consideration by the Committee.

The Head of Parks advised that the Green Flag judges would visit the Island in June and asked if the Committee would be willing to meet with them. It was agreed that the Mayor's secretary would be approached to organise a reception.

Members requested an update on the relocation of the Library; Officers advised the search is on-going.

It was agreed Members would be invited to visit to the Nurseries.

Resolved, "That particulars of the matters for future consideration be noted on the minutes."

PART B –

Matters requiring Executive Committee approval

B6. Fees and Charges – Increasing the age range of the junior annual golf ticket from 16 to 18 years

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Parks, following representation to the Council by Douglas golf course professional, to increase the age range of junior annual golf tickets from 16 to 18 years.

Members noted that currently the maximum age for the purchase of junior annual golf tickets is 16 years with an annual charge of £54.60 applied. If over 16's wish to continue subscription, the ticket increases to an adult charge of £375 or if a full time student, £220.

The Head of Parks advised that the current number of subscribers for the age range of 16 to 18 is two and both are student subscriptions. Due to the current low subscription between the ages of 16 and 18 years, it is the view of the golf professional that introduction of the increased threshold will increase revenue income.

The report provided a list of junior fees and charges for other golf courses.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and;

- (i) The age range for junior annual golf tickets be increased from 16 to 18 years;
- (ii) The Executive Committee be asked to ratify the change as an amendment to fees and charges."

PART C –

Matters requiring Council approval

There were no matters requiring Council approval.

The meeting ended at 11.14am

VII(iii) – The proceedings of the ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE as follows:

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 19th May, 2014.

Members Present: Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl (Chairman), the Mayor, Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, Messrs Councillors C.L.H. Cain, W.M. Malarkey, Councillor Mrs E.C. Quirk.

In Attendance: Assistant Town Clerk, Assistant Borough Engineer, Building Control Manager, Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development), Senior Accountancy Officer, Town Centre Manager, Democratic Services Officer.

REPORT

PART A -

Matters within the scope of the Committee's delegated authority

A1. Vice-Chairman – 2014/2015

Mr Councillor W.M. Malarkey was unanimously elected to serve as Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2014/2015 municipal year.

A2. Minutes – 17th March, 2014

The minutes of the regular meeting held Monday, 17th March, 2014 were approved and signed.

A3. Minutes – 8th May, 2014

The minutes of the special meeting held Thursday, 8th May, 2014 were approved and signed.

A4. Matters Arising – Minute A3, 17th March, 2014

A Member asked if there were any update on the planning application 14/00219/B. Officers responded that there is no further information on the matter. There was a brief discussion of the traffic problems on Belmont Hill arising from the nature of the road, the speed of road users and parked cars.

Resolved, “That the discussion be noted on the minutes.”

A5. Report on Trial of Car Boot Sales in Shaw's Brow Car Park

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Town Centre Manager on the three month trial of charity car boot sales in Shaw's Brow Car Park. Car boot sales were held on Level 3 of Shaw's Brow Car Park on the last Sunday of January, February, and March 2014 as a trial period.

The objectives for this initiative were to raise awareness of the location and convenience of Shaw's Brow Car Park to increase Saturday usage; to raise awareness that the car park is free on a Sunday and give shoppers an incentive to visit the town centre on that day; and as a secondary objective to raise funds for local charities.

In order to determine whether or not these objectives were met, analysis was carried out of the footfall figures for the town centre and the car park transactions figures. The results were inconsistent and inconclusive. An increase in car park usage did not consistently correlate with an increase in footfall in the town centre, and there was not always an increase in car park usage. The three charities which held the car boot sales were pleased with the results of the fundraising.

Douglas Development Partnership, who sponsored the initiative, has paid event management fees in the region of £100 per event. As the trial did not clearly meet the objectives, there was a recommendation not to continue the initiative.

Resolved, “That the particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and the recommendation not to continue the car boot sales be approved.”

The Town Centre Manager was thanked for her attendance and left the meeting at 10.11am.

A6. Use of Car Parks for Douglas Carnival 2014

The Committee considered a report submitted by the Assistant Chief Officer (Corporate and Development) seeking approval for the use of the Bottleneck Car Park, and to allow free car parking in Shaw's Brow Car Park for Douglas Carnival on Saturday, 19th July, 2014.

The report detailed the plans for the Rainbow Run, the Fun Day, Carnival and After-Party all of which are scheduled to take place on the Promenade. A number of events are planned to take place on the Bottleneck Car Park, and closure of it is crucial to the current planning. The Carnival organisers are seeking ways to reduce the amount of traffic in Douglas whilst at the same time, encouraging attendance at the event. It is hoped that one way to achieve these objectives is a proposal to have Shaw's Brow car park free from midday until midnight on Carnival Day.

Members discussed the cost of implementation of these proposals, as the cost will not be an amount expended, but expected revenue lost. There was disquiet that these costs are in addition to the amounts already included in the Council budget for the event. Question was raised about the amount of additional street cleaning which will be required for the event. In discussion it was agreed that as this is a revival of an event which has not been held for many years, costs cannot be completely identified. It was also agreed that after the event there is a need to carefully analyse the total overall costs of the event and take these into consideration in planning any future events.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes and approval be given to

- (i) The closure of the Bottleneck Car Park from 8.00pm on Friday, 18th July, 2014 to 2.00pm on Sunday, 20th July, 2014 to enable the area to be used for the Douglas Carnival on 19th July, 2014; and
- (ii) That free car parking is provided in Shaw's Brow Car Park from midday until midnight on Saturday, 19th July, 2014 in order to encourage use of that car park by those attending the Carnival."

A7. Nuisance Abatement Notice – 3 Princes Avenue, Douglas

The Committee considered a report on the external appearance of 3 Princes Avenue. The front elevation of the property is in an unsightly condition. The owner has submitted a statement of mitigation stating that there is an inability to fund the required works. The owner has not asked the Council to carry out the work, only that information be provided about grants which may be available and some assistance in applying for them. Attached to the report were photographs of the property and a draft copy of the Notice to be served.

The Building Control Manager advised that once a Notice is served, the owner will be required to carry out the work within the time limits set out in the Notice. If the work is not done, then the owner is taken to Court and prosecuted for failure to comply with the Notice. A prosecution in the court is a criminal matter.

The owner has been sent an advisory booklet explaining the Notice process. The Committee discussed the likelihood of the work being done when the owner has limited means, the Notice process, the options available to the owner and to the Council, the desire to improve the overall appearance of the town, and the opportunities for further dialogue with the owner.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report and discussion be noted on the minutes, and approval be given for service of a Notice on the owner of 3 Princes Avenue, under section 24 of the Building Control Act 1991."

A8. Unsightly Properties

The Advisory Committee considered the lists of unsightly properties being dealt with on behalf of the Council by the Building Control Section and by Environmental Health Officers. Members reviewed the schedule and discussed a number of issues related to specific properties.

Question was raised about the expiry date for the Notice served on the owners of the Imperial Hotel, Central Promenade. The Building Control Manager reported that the owners had lodged a formal appeal against the prosecution for failure to carry out the required improvement works. The owners had also applied for a Demolition Order, but as the property lies in a conservation zone, the Order would only be granted if firm plans were in place to replace the building. As the building is not to be demolished in the near future, work must be done to ensure it remains structurally safe. The Court adjourned the matter for one month in order to give the owner the opportunity to confirm a programme of works to ensure structural safety. The owner has lodged the programme with the Council, and the work will be completed by the end of October, 2014. The Committee agreed that the owner be granted an extension until the end of October, 2014 to complete the required work.

Resolved, "That the schedule and discussion be noted on the minutes."

A9. Public Rescue Equipment

The Committee reconsidered the report submitted to the Committee in March, 2014 together with a further report regarding public rescue equipment (lifebelts) in Douglas. The types of public rescue equipment and locations had been reviewed in a risk audit carried out by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) on behalf of Douglas Borough Council. The audit report suggested a number of

changes that could be made to the types and locations of public rescue equipment taking into account the nature of the beach and shore, and the rescues that may be needed. The report before Committee recommended changes to the type of lifebelt and the location where these were provided, based on the RNLI assessments. The report did not recommend a reduction in the overall number of lifebelts on the Promenade.

The further report gave detail on the Beach Safety Group which was convened as recommended in the RNLI report, and the establishment of which was reported to the Executive Committee in May, 2013. The Beach Safety Group is comprised of Council officers and representatives from the Coastguard, Department of Infrastructure and the Police. The Beach Safety Group has met once and agreed that there would only be very limited benefits in having regular, structured meetings, so meetings will be called in cases of extraordinary use of the promenades, foreshore and beach or for debriefing purposes after an event affecting those locations. Multi-agency officer meetings of this nature maintain communication and co-operation between organisations at an operational level. The Beach Safety Group does not have a budget and any matters requiring expenditure will be brought forward for Committee and Council approval as needed.

The report detailed the cost of the implementation of the recommended changes; which is £2,513 including installation costs of £540.

Resolved, "That the report be noted on the minutes and

- (i) approval is given to changes to the location and size of public rescue equipment on Douglas Promenade, with no change to the overall number of installations to bring these into line with the recommendations in the RNLI report; and
- (ii) approval is given to expenditure of £2,513, which includes installations costs of £540 to carry out the required works."

A10. **Street Signs**

The Committee considered a report setting out a comparison between the street signs produced by the Council's current supplier and alternative signs produced by N Sign Ltd, a company based in England. This report was further to previous reports on the matter. A sample sign produced by N-Sign is currently on trial to assess durability, clarity and visibility. The sample sign includes a channel or frame to protect the edges and prevent water penetration. The signs currently in use throughout the Borough do not include a frame or channel as the bonding agent currently used does not peel, so an additional protective edging is not required. The trial has shown that dust and debris collects in the channel and affects the clarity of the signage. The sign on trial includes posts which are unique to this signage system and so are not interchangeable with existing posts.

There was discussion on the types of signs used in the town centre and on residential estates, as well as comment on points where traffic mirrors might be useful.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and approval be given to the recommendation to continue to use the current supplier of street signs, Bridson & Horrox of Print House, Hills Meadow, Douglas."

A11. **Items for Future Consideration**

The Committee considered a report setting out items on which there are reports outstanding.

The Committee asked for information on the recycling being carried out within the Town Hall.

The Committee requested an update and copies of the correspondence with the Department of Infrastructure regarding Departmental signage attached to Council lighting columns on the Promenade.

The Committee requested a report on radios in Council work vehicles.

The Committee requested information on the installation of LED lightbulbs in Shaw's Brow car park.

Resolved, "That the report be noted on the minutes."

A12. **Special Meeting**

The Committee noted that a special meeting has been called for Thursday, 29th May, 2014 at 10.00am in the Committee Room. Mr Councillor W.M. Malarkey gave his apologies for that meeting.

PART B –

Matters requiring Executive Committee approval

B13. **Can Balers**

The Committee considered a report on the possible acquisition of two can balers with associated conveyors and a proposal to refurbish the existing T40 baler.

Both pieces of equipment would be used to compress and bale metal cans, for shipment to metal recycling facilities in Britain. One baler would be used for steel and the other for aluminium. The balers will increase the automation and efficiency of the recycling process. As these machines do not require baling wire to secure the bundles produced, there will be an operational savings. An additional conveyor is required to link the can sorting system to one of the new can balers. The existing conveyor will link the other new can baler to the sorting system. The two conveyors will fully automate the can sorting and baling system.

The existing baler, once refurbished, would be moved to the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site where it would be used for baling waste materials, including cardboard. As the site operator, Douglas Borough Council is continually striving for greater efficiencies at the site such as those available through the use of this baler.

The report detailed the capital costs. The purchase of the two can balers, to be funded from the plant renewals fund, will cost £17,500 including shipping and installation. The purchase of the single conveyor, to be funded from the plan renewals fund, will cost £2,500 including shipping and installation. The refurbishment of the existing T40 baler, to be funded from the plant renewals fund, will cost an estimated £8,000 including shipping to the original manufacturer for the work. In response to query, officers confirmed that the refurbishment should be carried out by the original manufacturer.

There was discussion about the role of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee in relation to siting of this equipment at the site. It was noted that Douglas Borough Council is the operator of the amenity site and so responsible for its efficient running.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and

- (i) approval is given to the purchase of two can balers at a cost £17,500 including shipping and installation; and
- (ii) that approval is given to the purchase of a single conveyor at a cost of £2,500 including shipping and installation; and
- (iii) approval is given to the refurbishment of the existing T40 baler at an estimated cost of £8,000 including shipping; and
- (iv) that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee for approval of the expenditures from the plant renewals fund."

B14. Can Sorting System

The Committee considered a report on tenders received for the purchase of a can sorting system, otherwise known as an eddy current separator. The piece of equipment is used to mechanically sort steel from aluminium and plastics. After appropriate checks were carried out, three companies were invited to submit quotations for the supply, delivery and installation of the equipment. Two companies submitted quotations. Both were within the budget estimate and complied with the Council's specifications.

Resolved, "That particulars of the report be noted on the minutes and

- (i) approval given to acceptance of the quotation submitted by Portable Conveyors Limited, being the lowest amount quoted, for the supply, delivery and installation of a can sorting system (eddy current separator);
- (ii) that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee for approval of the expenditure from the plant and renewals fund."

PART C –

Matters requiring Council approval

There were no matters requiring Council approval.

The meeting ended at 12.20pm.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Minutes of Special meeting held on Thursday, 29th May, 2014.

Members Present: Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl (Chairman), the Mayor, Councillor Mrs C.A. Corlett, Messrs Councillors D.W. Christian (as an observer), C.L.H. Cain, Councillor Mrs E.C. Quirk.

Apologies: Mr Councillor W.M. Malarkey.

In Attendance: Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Assistant Town Clerk, Assistant Borough Engineer, Senior Engineering and Waste Services Manager, Senior Accountancy Officer, Democratic Services Officer.

REPORT

PART A -

Matters within the scope of the Committee's delegated authority

A1. Beach Management Contract 2014/2017

The Committee considered a report on tenders received for the beach management contract 2014/2017. The report detailed the three tenders received by the deadline. There was a thorough discussion of the specifications for the beach management contract which had been approved at the special meeting of the Committee held on 8th May, 2014.

There was discussion of the levels of the beach and whether these are best controlled through regular smaller-scale works or infrequent large-scale work to shift the sand. There was suggestion that a one-off exercise to lower the beach and mark on the seawall the desired sand heights could provide a benchmark for the contractor to ensure that the beach levels remain consistent. It was suggested that funding for these works could be provided from the overall budget for beach management. There was no written report before the Committee regarding the suggestion. There was some discussion of a timetable for the works, which could not start until after the Peveril Motorcycle Club event on the Beach on Tuesday, 3rd June, 2014.

Resolved, "That the report be noted on the minutes and the lowest tender for the beach management contract for the period 9th June, 2014 to 31st March, 2017, which was submitted by Waterworks Limited be accepted."

Further resolved, "That the discussion on works to lower the beach levels be noted on the minutes and approval be given for a one-off contract to lower the levels of the sand on Douglas Beach, and to mark the appropriate sand levels on the seawalls prior to the start of the beach management contract on 9th June, 2014; and that the Chair and Vice-Chair review the prices received and authorise the works, which are to be funded from the existing beach management budget." For: 3 – Against: 1.

The meeting ended at 10.50am.

IX - MOTIONS, of which Notice has been given by Members of the Council under Standing Order 26:

MOTIONS

1. Mr Councillor D.J. Ashford to move:

“That all votes on items in Council, save for those where Standing Orders provide for a secret ballot, shall be automatically taken by electronic means and the division list for each item recorded in the minutes, without the need for a division to be called.”

Under Standing Order 30, the Motion, upon being moved and seconded and without debate, shall stand referred to the Executive Committee for consideration and report.