



## Borough of Douglas

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Town Hall,

Douglas,

11<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the BOROUGH OF DOUGLAS, duly convened and holden at 2.30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2020, in the COUNCIL CHAMBER, within the TOWN HALL, at which Meeting the following Members were present, that is to say: -

The Mayor

**MR COUNCILLOR JONATHAN JOUGHIN, JP**

Councillors

Miss N.A. Byron

Mrs H. Callow

Mr S.R. Pitts

Mrs R. Chatel

Mr I.J.G. Clague, MBE

Mr D.W. Christian, MBE, JP

Mrs C.E. Crawley

Mrs C.L. Wells

Mr A.J. Bentley

Mr F. Horning

Mr R.H. McNicholl

Mr J.E. Skinner

Ms K. Angela

Mrs E.C. Quirk

Ms J. Thommeny

No apologies for absence were received.

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Environment and Regeneration and the Assistant Chief Officer (Housing and Property) were in attendance.

1. **Minute Silence**

The Council observed a one minute silence as a mark of respect for Mr Bill Malarkey, MHK and Mr George Moughtin, former Members of the Council, who recently passed away.

2. **Minutes – 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

The minutes of the monthly Council meeting held on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, were approved and signed.

3. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*Where is cardboard that is taken to the Civic Amenity Site sent for recycling?*

*How much by weight is currently being recycled and is all cardboard taken to the site recycled?*

*How much cardboard (by weight) has been sent for recycling in each of the last three years?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*Brown cardboard taken to the Civic Amenity Site is currently processed at the Council's baling area in Ballacottier.*

*In 2019/20 so far, 64.770 tonnes have been processed at the baling area in Ballacottier. 117.820 tonnes had been processed elsewhere. The disposal route will depend upon the cost of disposal and the price obtained for cardboard and can change several times throughout the year.*

*In 2017/18, 214.280 tonnes of brown cardboard were sent for recycling from the ECAS;*

*In 2018/19, 201.064 tonnes of brown cardboard were sent for recycling from the ECAS;*

*In 2019/20 so far, 182.590 tonnes of brown cardboard have been sent for recycling from the ECAS.*

4. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*On 14th November 2019 members were informed by email of works being carried out by the Department of Infrastructure in the Bottleneck Car Park which would last for one week. Currently there is no evidence of any work being carried out which would suggest that the proposed works have been completed.*

*Why for the past twelve weeks have two spaces had barriers erected around them effectively making them unusable?*

*Who was responsible for the erection of the barriers, why are they still in place and has there been any communication between Officers and the DoI regarding them and their removal?*

*How much revenue has been lost due to these two spaces being unusable for the past twelve weeks?*

*When will the two spaces be given over to car parking again?*

Reply by the Chair of the Environmental Services Committee:

*The two spaces have been fenced off to allow large Manx Utility Authority (MUA) vehicles to exit from the pumping station (following any emergency access MUA require to the pumping station). This exit facility is required as the current exit onto Loch Promenade is currently under construction and inaccessible. This access will be required until construction in this area is complete.*

*The barriers were erected by the Contractor working for the Department of Infrastructure (DoI). There has been communication between the DoI and officers of the Council explaining their need. Part of the discussion has been the raising of an invoice to charge the DoI for the use of these spaces. The invoice will be issued once the spaces have been returned and the full timeframe is known.*

*If we assume the maximum daily charge of £6.90 for 6 days per week plus £2.00 for Sundays over the twelve week period indicated, the maximum loss in revenue for the two spaces would be £1,041.60.*

*In the DoI's last written communication on the issue, they advised the spaces would be needed for 'several months'. Officers are monitoring the use of the spaces for invoicing purposes.*

5. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Chair of the Housing Committee:

*With regard to the new £12 million flats complex under construction on Peel Road why was no one from the Council present at the Planning Committee Meeting on Monday 2nd March 2020 when the planning application for such an important and major development was considered?*

*Given the investment, scale and importance of this new development why were the Members not informed of the Planning Committee's decision?*

*How many charging points for electric vehicles have been included with the development?*

Reply by the Chair of the Housing Committee:

*Council officers had already prepared a planning statement which was included with the planning application and the Developer had confirmed that they would be in attendance at the Planning Committee Meeting to answer any queries.*

*The formal planning approval notice was issued by the Government on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and distributed to the Members of the Housing Committee on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020.*

*No electric charging points have been included in the development. Public charging points are not yet available from the Manx Utilities Authority, however, the required ducting has been included in the development so that public charging points can be installed when they become available.*

**6. Standing Order 41 – Urgent Business Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner asked the Leader of the Council:

*Will the Leader make a statement regarding what provisions are*

- (a) In place,*
- (b) To be put in place*

*In order to ensure that all front line services provided by Douglas Borough Council particularly and most importantly housing emergency repairs, refuse collection, crematorium operations and many other Council services are to be maintained in the event of COVID-19 virus finding its way to the Island resulting in officers and staff having to self-isolate and take time off work should they become infected by the virus?*

Reply by the Leader of the Council:

*Thank you Mr Mayor, and I thank Mr Councillor Skinner for putting the Urgent Business Question forward today. During the course of last week I had discussions with the Chief Executive who had already instigated discussions with other senior officers, I had a further meeting with Chief officers yesterday afternoon where we discussed in more detail what the Council is putting in place or is proposing.*

*(a) In relation to what provisions are in place, during the past week, the following steps have been taken in relation to coronavirus:*

- Information and advice from the IOM Government website on the virus has been made available to all staff*
- Updates will be issued to staff as and when new advice is available or if the situation changes*
- Staff have been made aware of who to contact if they have a cough, fever or shortness of breath or if they have been to any of the listed countries recently*
- Staff dealing with housing issues/emergency repairs are already provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), any other staff having to attend sites where public may have Coronavirus will be provided with the same equipment*
- Staff have been reminded of the need to exercise proper hygiene routines and to wash their hands frequently*
- Hand gels and wipes have been issued and continue to be sourced*
- Additional staff currently being trained in the operation of the crematorium. Mr Mayor this is required because there is every likelihood that when the virus hits the Isle of Man there will be a significant increase in the hours at the crematorium, we have to ensure that we have sufficient staff to cover maybe working seven days a week and we have to ensure we have staff trained should I own regular staff that work up there fall ill to the virus so by the end of this week I think we are going up to about 12 staff who are trained in operation of the crematorium and that will remain under review*
- The IOM Government website is being monitored on a daily basis for any updates*

- *The Crisis Management Working Group has met and begun business continuity planning in case of a change in status of the illness*
- (b) *In relation to what provisions are to be put in place:*
- *If infection reaches the IOM social distancing may be implemented and this will include staff working from home*
  - *Policies will be reviewed and staff training requirements identified and appropriate training provided to ensure staff are familiar with operational procedures relating to various equipment/vehicles*
  - *A business continuity plan is being developed and implemented taking into account relevant legal and regulatory obligations and to ensure critical services (crematorium, waste collection, sheltered housing and housing emergency repairs) to ensure that these can all be maintained*
  - *Conflicting essential services will be effectively prioritised and managed*
  - *Contractual risks will be managed*
  - *Visitors to public buildings will be restricted. As Members are aware there are a number of events planned in the coming weeks and months through the Town Centre Management and organised by the Council these may be cancelled at very short notice depending on the advice that is available at the time*
  - *Financial arrangements will be managed*
  - *Wider operational risk will be managed*
  - *Face to face meetings could be suspended and Skype/Facetime or something similar implemented*
  - *Douglas Borough Council will continue to follow the advice issued by the IOM Government as it would not be appropriate to act independently*
  - *Douglas Borough Council will monitor and respond to developments as they happen*
  - *IOM Government has been updating advice regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) on a daily basis.*
  - *As of Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March as from the Isle of Man Government, 19 concluded tests have taken place with 0 confirmed cases on the island*
  - *IOM Government at the present time continues to place the risk to the public of the Isle of Man as low.*

**7. Executive Committee – 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, seconded by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained report of meeting held on Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**8. Pensions Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Motion moved by Councillor Ms K. Angela, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**9. Standards Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020 – Clauses A1 to A3**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.E. Crawley, seconded by Councillor Miss N.A. Byron, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Standards Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A3 inclusive of report of meeting held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**10. Standards Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020 – Clause C4**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.E. Crawley, seconded by Councillor Miss N.A. Byron, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Standards Committee, as contained in Clause C4 of report of meeting held on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2020, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mrs H. Callow, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr I.J.G Clague, Mrs R. Chatel, Mr D.W. Christian, Mrs C.E.

Crawley, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr F. Horning, Mr J.E. Skinner, Ms K. Angela, Mrs E.C. Quirk, Ms J. Thommeny, the Mayor – **15**

**Against:** Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl – **1**

Motion carried.

**11. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clauses A1 to A3**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A3 inclusive of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**12. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clause C4**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in Clause C4 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**13. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clause C5**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in Clause C5 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

*Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985 Councillor Mrs C.E. Crawley declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.*

**14. Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clause C6**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Eastern District Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee, as contained in Clause C6 of report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mrs H. Callow, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr I.J.G Clague, Mrs R. Chatel, Mr D.W. Christian, Mrs C.E. Crawley, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr F. Horning, R.H. McNicholl, Mr J.E. Skinner, Ms K. Angela, Mrs E.C. Quirk, Ms J. Thommeny, the Mayor – **15**

**Against:** Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells – **1**

Motion carried.

**15. Housing Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.L. Wells, seconded Councillor Mrs C.E. Crawley, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Housing Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

**16. Regeneration and Community Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clause A6**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor Mrs H. Callow, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clause A6 of report of meeting held on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

*Under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1985 Mr Councillor A.J. Bentley declared an interest in the item and retired whilst it was considered.*

17. **Regeneration and Community Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clauses A1 to A5 and A7 to B12**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor Mrs H. Callow, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in Clauses A1 to A5 and A7 to B12 inclusive of report of meeting held on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

18. **Environmental Services Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in report of meeting held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

19. **Adjournment and Resumption**

The meeting adjourned at 4.30pm and resumed at 4.47pm with the same Members and officers present.

**IN PRIVATE**

20. **Standing Order 39 – Question – Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner**

Mr Councillor J.E. Skinner a question asked a question for response by the Leader of the Council which was noted for the minutes.

21. **Executive Committee – 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor D.W. Christian, seconded by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Executive Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

22. **Pensions Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clause A1**

Motion moved by Councillor Ms K. Angela, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in Clause A1 of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

23. **Pensions Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 – Clause C2**

Motion moved by Councillor Ms K. Angela, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Pensions Committee, as contained in Clause C2 of private report of meeting held on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received, approved and adopted by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

24. **Standards Committee – 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020**

Motion moved by Councillor Mrs C.E. Crawley, seconded by Councillor Miss N.A. Byron, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Standards Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and there voted **For** the Motion, Councillors: Miss N.A. Byron, Mrs H. Callow, Mr S.R. Pitts, Mr I.J.G Clague, Mrs R. Chatel, Mr D.W. Christian, Mrs C.E. Crawley, Mrs C.L. Wells, Mr A.J. Bentley, Mr F. Horning, Mr J.E. Skinner, Ms K. Angela, Mrs E.C. Quirk, Ms J. Thommeny, the Mayor – **15**

**Against:** Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl – **1**

Motion carried.

25. **Regeneration and Community Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor S.R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor Mrs H. Callow, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Regeneration and Community Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

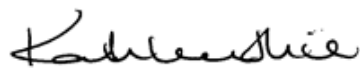
Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

26. **Environmental Services Committee – 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020**

Motion moved by Mr Councillor R.H. McNicholl, seconded by Mr Councillor F. Horning, “That the minutes of proceedings of the Environmental Services Committee, as contained in private report of meeting held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, be received by the Council.”

Question put on Motion, a vote was taken electronically, and the Motion was carried unanimously.

The Council rose at 5.42pm.



Town Clerk & Chief Executive