

Town Hall,
Parliament Square,
Ramsey,
Isle of Man.

www.ramsey.gov.im

10th August, 2023.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The monthly **Public Meeting** of the Ramsey Town Commissioners will be held at 7.00 p.m. on **Wednesday evening next, 16th August, 2023**, in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Ramsey.

BUSINESS:

1. Apologies for Absence:

2. Minutes for Adoption:

page(s): 1 - 17

- Board Meeting held on 19th July, 2023; and
- Board Meeting reconvened 26th July, 2023.

3. Matters arising not included within the Agenda.

4. Matters for Information:

page(s): 18 - 22

- Action Tracker – August, 2023.
- Trackers - Budget Approved Projects

5. Finance and General Purposes:

page(s): 23 - 28

- Town Clerk Report(s):
 - Access to Cash Survey
- Finance Officer's General Report(s):
 - Accounts
 - Summary of Revenue Income and Expenditure
 - Rates

6. Works and Development:

page(s): 29 - 39

- Town Clerk Report(s):
 - Painting a Lamp Post (Artwork)
 - Statutory Nuisances
- Deputy Town Clerk Report(s):
 - Isle of Man Anti-Cancer Association Roadshow
- Technical Services Manager's Report(s):
 - Beach Cleaning
 - Planning Applications

7. Parks and Leisure:

page(s): 40

- Town Clerk's Report(s):
 - Library Quarter 2 - 2023

8. Any other Business:

page(s):

(by permission of Chairman)

- Matter(s) Raised by the Public
 - ❖ One Way traffic Christian Street – email containing a proposal that this street is made one way.
- Representative Report(s):
 - ❖ None received



T. R. K. Cowin,
Town Clerk & Chief Executive

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
[PUBLIC]

The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners was held in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 19th July, 2023, at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. A. J. Oldham, Miss L. L. Craine, Messrs. A. R. Beighton, G. S. Court, R. D. Cowell, S. R. Kelly, J. McGuinness, L. Parker, L. I. Singer and W. G. Young.

Apologies for absence Mr. F. B. R. Williams and Revd Canon N. D. Greenwood who has been granted leave of absence.

The Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Housing Property Manager, Technical Services Manager, and Minute Clerk were in attendance.

(2023/24:068) Minutes:

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 21st June, 2023, be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

(2023/24:069) Matters Arising:

The following matters, not specifically appearing within the Agenda were raised by members:

Clause 038 – South Foreshore – Mr. Singer again referred to the cleanliness and malodorous nature of the South foreshore and made reference to the frequent removal of seaweed in Douglas and asked that the Commission do the same in Ramsey.

Clause 041 - ...Consultation Low Value Coinage – Mr. Singer referred to the Board's submission to the consultation and asked if a response from Government had been received and if the Commission's comments could be conveyed for reporting to the media. The Town Clerk advised that there had been no response to the Commission's submission and he could see no reason why the details thereof could not be conveyed to the media.

Clause 052 – Car Parks – Mr. Singer queried the response of the Department of Infrastructure engineers on the condition of the surfacing of Station Road Car Park and that on the Mooragh Estate. The Technical Services Manager informed members that she had met the Department's engineer whose response is that the micro-asphalt is not the best nor the worst that he has seen; the surface will start healing but may mark elsewhere; the alternative to replace would be a full tar-macadam surface at a cost of approximately £500,000. Mr. Singer contended that the surface is dangerous and queried, despite the 2-year warranty, who would put the surface right? The Town Clerk advised that he would need to look more fully into the contract.

Mr. McGuinness referred to Mr. Singer's comments with regard to seaweed and queried what could be done and queried press releases? The Town Clerk advised that we could discuss action for the foreshore with DEFA and could see no problem with issuing press releases.

(2023/24:069) Matters Arising continued:

Mr. McGuinness then suggested that whilst he and other members submitted Notices of Motion and/ or formal propositions, Mr. Singer's requests seemed to be being progressed without either. Mr. Singer as a result formally proposed that the south foreshore be cleaned in seconding Mr. Cowell asked that the wording be amended to reflect when considered necessary.

Miss Craine referred to the foreshore at Port Erin, which has lots of seaweed, she stated that she had not noticed any smells and was unaware of any complaints about that beach either about seaweed or smells. The indigenous plants are part of a beach.

Mr. Kelly stated that weed used to be cleared each morning and could see no harm in so doing and therefore proposed an amendment Mr. Kelly that beach cleaning be looked into. Mr. McGuinness commented that it had not been defined how often, no costs are known and suggested that the amendment be adapted to that the Commission investigate the matter. Mr. Court suggested that the matter be looked into having regard to the opinions of DEFA, the Manx Wildlife Trust and the Swimming Groups. Mr. Young referred to nesting birds commenting that nesting sites had occurred because of lack of clearing the beach – the beach needs clearing at least once each week.

Mr. Kelly stated that he was happy to reword his amendment – that feasibility and costs of beach cleaning be investigated, and the Town Clerk report back. Mr. Parker seconded the amendment.

A further amendment was put by Miss Craine, seconded by Mr. Court that in addition to Mr. Kelly's amendment advice on the impact of clearing / cleaning be sought from DEFA and the MWLT. This amendment was put to the vote and carried 6 votes to 4 Messrs. Beighton, Cowell, McGuinness and Young voted against.

Clause 049 - ...Ramsey Sprintfest – Mr. Kelly referred to the survey or social media and proposed that the survey be further promoted and also drawn to the attention of the media. Mr. Cowell seconded the proposal.

Discussion ensued Mr. Parker commenting that media advertising is not free; Mr. Singer commenting that media attention should be reflected as a "news release". Miss Craine proposed an amendment that the Commission should vote on whether matters should be brought to the specific attention of the media. Mr. McGuinness seconded the amendment. Mr. Singer suggested the need of a "mechanism" to determine what matters to bring to the attention of the media. Mr. McGuinness commented that access to information is greater than it ever has been. Members were in agreement that the public should be aware of matters. The Town Clerk suggested that he submit a report on options that include the facility to bring matters to the attention of the media.

A further amendment was put by Mr. Oldham that the Town Clerk report further. This was seconded by Mr. Cowell and carried by 9 votes to 1, Miss Craine voting against.

Matters for Information:

(2023/24:070) Action Tracker July, 2023:

Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker” to 13th July, 2023, subject to the following and accepting that some matters may be referred to within other Clauses of these minutes:-

Mooragh Promenade Shelter – Public Art – in response to a query from Mr. McGuinness the Deputy Town Clerk confirmed he had been in contact with the School’s Head of Art about completion of the work.

Ramsey South Promenade Changing Huts – Mr. Kelly reported on submission of a plan of the proposed changing hut and proposed that the plans be approved subject to costings being provided. Mr. Cowell seconded the proposal. The proposal was put to the vote and carried by 8 votes to 2 Miss Craine and Mr. McGuinness voting against.

Mooragh Park Shelters Public Art – in response to a query from Mr. Cowell the Deputy Town Clerk explained the delays in this matter in that approval to the scheme needed to be in place prior to additional quotations being sought. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the grant had now been awarded

Seagulls in Mooragh Park – Mr. Cowell queried the provision of bunting suggested as a deterrent. The Technical Services Manager confirmed that the bunting is on order but that the delivery date cannot be confirmed.

(2023/24:071) Action Tracker Budget Approved and Proposed Projects:

Resolved: To note the Action Tracker of Budget Approved projects at 13th July, 2023 and that for proposals for 2023/24, subject to the following:-

Toilets Millenium Garden – Mr. Cowell referred to comments by the Chamber of Commerce suggesting that the proposals be repositioned by 90^o to afford greater privacy. The Housing and Property Manager reminded members that been asked to comment on the proposals prior to submission of the plans, an amended to the planning application would be required and the design is considered beneficial for use.

Festoon Lighting – in response to a query from Mr. Cowell the Technical Services Manager informed members that the first half of the festoon lighting had been replaced the previous evening.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2023/24:072) Finance Officer's General Report:

Resolved: To note and approve the Finance Officer's general report dated 12th July, 2023, subject to the following:-

Mr. Cowell, in his capacity as Lead Member, drew attention to the larger payments of rates and loan debts.

Works and Development:

(2023/24:073) Town Clerk's Report – Update – Powers Relating to Dilapidated Buildings:

Resolved: To note the Town Clerk's report dated 3rd July, 2023, updating members on the powers available with regard to Compulsory Purchase of property.

Mr. McGuinness proposed, and Mr. Kelly seconded that the item in Private comprising the Technical Services Manager's Report "Ruinous Properties" be brought into public at this point. The voting was split 5:5 Miss Craine and Messrs Court, Kelly, McGuinness and Parker voting for. The Chairman permitted the matter to be considered.

(2023/24:074) Technical Services Manager's Report – Ruinous Properties:

In considering the Technical Services Manager's report Mr. McGuinness referred to the need to deal with such matters fairly and consistently and therefore proposed that a Policy be agreed and if appropriate a budget level determined to ensure a clear public stance with regard to ruinous properties.

The proposal was seconded by Mr. Cowell and agreed unanimously.

(2023/24:075) Town Clerk's Report – Weekend and Overnight Parking in Residential Areas:

Members considered the Town Clerk's report dated 4th July, 2023, advising that the Commissioners' view are sought with regard to regulation of overnight and weekend vehicle parking. The Town Clerk suggested that the Commission might wish to consider the matter in detail at a special meeting and / or consider establishing a policy for the Town. Mr. Parker referred to the matter having been raised several years ago and the Commission had agreed it was not feasible for the town to implement restrictions; the problems did not overly affect Ramsey and he felt this was still the case. Mr. Oldham commented that applying restrictions only resulted in motorhomes moving elsewhere.

(2023/24:075) Town Clerk’s Report – Weekend and Overnight Parking in Residential Areas:

A proposal was put by Mr. Cowell seconded by Mr. Beighton that a special meeting be called. An amendment was put by Mr. Parker that the Commission do nothing. This was seconded by Mr. McGuinness with the addition that the Department be informed that in seeking the views of the Commission they are absolving themselves from any responsibility.

Mr. Singer proposed a further amendment that the Commission give a straight forward response as to why they do not wish to make recommendations but exclude the caveat suggested by Mr. McGuinness. This amendment was seconded by Mr. Young and, being the last amendment tabled was put to the vote and carried by 6 votes to 4. Miss Craine and Messrs. Beighton, Cowell and Kelly voting against.

(2023/24:076) Technical Services Manager’s Report - Planning Applications:

Resolved: To note the Technical Services Manager’s Report dated 11th July, 2023, May, 2023, detailing planning applications received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, under the planning consultation procedures, subject to the following:-

REF NO:	4090
P.A. NO.:	<u>23/00744/B</u>
PROPOSED:	Full approval for a residential development comprising up to 153 dwellings and community uses with associated highway and pedestrian access and infrastructure, drainage, landscaping and public open space together with approval in principle for a primary school on land at Vollan Fields together with enhancement of existing habitat on land to the east of Royal Park
NOTES:	P.A. in Detail
SITE:	Land At Vollan Field No's 131042, 131043, 135315 and 135318 Land East of Royal Park Field No's 131085 and 135140 Andreas Road Ramsey

Members discussed the above application. Miss Craine asked about the Environmental Consultants findings and report – the Technical Services Manager advised that she had only recently received a few days earlier and had not had time to go through the numerous documents. The Town Clerk advised the proposals included a wildlife area and there will be a mitigation measure included. Mr. Kelly asked if any complaints had been made about flooding – the Town Clerk responded that all new developments need a flood risk assessment. Mr. Beighton queried if there are any changes to the application in principle submitted – the Technical Services Manager advised that the layout has changed.

(2023/24:076) Technical Services Manager’s Report - Planning Applications Continued:

Mr. Cowell advised that he has been approached with regard to the flood risk and reference has been made to the lack of infrastructure and it has been suggested that the proposals are over-intensive.

Mr. Kelly proposed that the developers be invited to present their proposals at an open meeting with the public and to which the members of the House of Keys for Ramsey will be invited to answer questions about the services available or needed to support the development. Miss Craine queried a previous public consultation. The Town Clerk reminded members that the developers had staged a public exhibition at the Town Hall and had in addition held an open day. The Technical Services Manager confirmed that a report of the consultations has been included in the papers included with the application.

Mr. McGuinness queried how Mr. Kelly’s proposal would impact the planning process? The Deputy Town Clerk informed members that the Commission could request, with no guarantee of acceptance, a deferral of consideration by the Planning Committee. Mr. McGuinness commented on the need to inform the public of the proposals he expressed concern about the access road over the Stone Bridge and suggested that an observation about this and traffic and services be submitted as an observation. Mr. Kelly seconded Mr. McGuinness’s proposal

Mr. Cowell proposed an amendment that the Commission make an observation extending Mr. McGuinness’s concerns to include the infrastructure, flood risk and the need to include binding conditions for the provision of a nursery and playing fields. This amendment was seconded by Mr. Beighton, put to the vote and carried by 6 votes to 4 – Miss Craine and Messrs. Court, McGuinness and Young voting against.

Appendix:

No comments were made on the Appendix.

Parks and Leisure:

(2023/24:077) Town Clerk’s Report – Consultation Heritage Railway Independent Review and Economic Impact Assessment:

Member considered the Town Clerk’s Report dated 3rd July, 2023, advising of receipt of a review of the Heritage Railway on the Island being undertaken by “Systra” The report included the questions put within the review.

The Deputy Town Clerk verbally reported on a meeting he attended on 18th July, 2023, main points arising being lack of promotion of and lack of local knowledge about tickets for railway services.

(2023/24:077) Town Clerk’s Report – Consultation Heritage Railway Independent Review and Economic Impact Assessment Continued:

Mr. Beighton referred to rumours circulating that it was proposed to stop the MER Service at Laxey. The Deputy Town Clerk responded that this was not in the terms of reference nor had it been mentioned at the review he attended.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Beighton, seconded by Mr. Singer and agreed without division that assurances be sought with regard to the continuation of the MER Service to Ramsey.

A further proposal was put by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Miss Craine and agreed by 8 votes to 2, Messrs. Cowell and Singer voting against, that the Commission write formally in response to the consultation conveying their belief that the MER Service to Ramsey is of financial and cultural benefit to the Town and having lost the steam railway service the Town cannot lose this as well.

(2023/24:078) Deputy Town Clerk’s Report – Christmas Events:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk’s report dated 13th July, 2023, advising of proposed events to be organised during the festive season 2023.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Court, seconded by Mr. Parker and agreed unanimously that the Commission reinstate a “Christmas Lights Event” on 25th November, 2023, and “Ramsey in Bling” possibly with sponsorship or with a partner and agree in principle to the organisation of Christmas Grotto for which volunteers will be required.

(2023/24:079) . Deputy Town Clerk’s Report – Shennaghys Jiu 2024:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk’s report dated 12th July, 2023, advising of request made by Shennaghys Jiu for logistical support for their Festival to be staged between 28th and 31st March, 2024, by way of use of the Town Hall and implementation of a road closing order.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Court seconded by Mr. Parker and agreed unanimously the support requested be provided.

Any Other Business:

(2023/24:080) Sundry Matters:

080a) Tynwald Day – Mr. Kelly referred to Manx Radio having referred to the incorrect Chairman of the Commission at the 2023 Tynwald Ceremony and expressed the view that Manx Radio should make an apology and write to the Chairman conveying such apology.

80b) Meeting with Members of the House of Keys for Ramsey – Mr. Cowell referred to the routine meeting with the Members of the House of Keys for Ramsey and queried the timing of the next meeting. The Town Clerk confirmed that the meeting is overdue and that he would schedule it with the MHK's and advise members accordingly.

It was proposed by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Parker and agreed by 6 votes to 4 that the Town Clerk's report entitled "Climate Change Fund – Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles, included within the Private Agenda be brought into public. Messrs. Cowell, Kelly, Oldham and Singer voted against.

(2023/24:081) Climate Change Fund – Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles:

The Town Clerk introduced the report advising that applications have been made for contributions from the Climate Change Fund for the provision of Street Lighting and Solar Panelling. The proposal for funding towards electric refuse collection vehicles will provide the cost of the difference between a diesel and an electric vehicle and it is probable that the application would be required to be considered by the Council of Ministers. Mr. Young queried if the Commissioners would be "guinea pigs" for use of an electric refuse vehicle on the Island – the Town Clerk stated he thought so. Mr. Singer queried the lifespan of refuse wagons and was informed 7 to 8 years.

A proposal by Mr. McGuinness that the Commission submit the application for Climate Fund Grant was seconded by Miss Craine, Mr. McGuinness emphasising the involvement of the Council of Ministers might assist the Commission in gaining access to the fund. Mr. Cowell agreed stating that the application might force the hand of the COM to make all or some of the funding applied for available. Miss Craine commented that Government must be made aware that local authorities are under pressure and any Government debate would be welcome.

Mr. Singer commented that he felt the Commission's application would open the flood gates and their belief that funding would be made available to them was foolish, he referred to local authorities in Cardiff cancelling their order for electric refuse vehicle and reverting to leasing diesel vehicles which are Euro 6 compliant. He stated that the Commission would know more at the "life-end" of the new vehicles and at which time the cost should be less than it is now.

Miss Craine commented that the Fund is there to be used; Mr. Cowell commented that we should ask Government to "put their money where their mouth is". The Technical Services Manager commented that the current refuse vehicle is Euro 6 compliant and that there are considerable infrastructure costs involved in the provision of electric vehicles. Mr. Kelly queried how long a charge would last and if an electric vehicle would have the power when fully loaded to travel to and from the refuse from waste site – the response to both was not known.

(2023/24:081) Climate Change Fund – Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles Continued:

An amendment by Mr. Singer that the Commission consider the purchase or lease of a diesel vehicle was seconded by Mr. Young. This was put to the vote and failed by 7 votes to 3, with only Mr. Oldham being in further support.

The original proposal was then put and was carried by 7 votes to 3 – Messrs. Oldham, Singer and Young voting against.

(2023/24:082) Further Sundry Matters:

082a) RNLI 200 Anniversary – Mr. Court reported that he had been approached by Ms T Shammon on behalf of RNLI. The organisation will be celebrating the 200th Anniversary of its formation and as part of the programme of events have asked if a commemorative flower bed can be provided in the Mooragh Park for which the RNLI will provide a design and assist with planting.

Resolved: That following a proposition by Mr. Court seconded by Mr. Cowell and agreed unanimously the request be agreed in principle.

082b) Charity Run and Swim – Mr. Court reported a request made by a local group “Morning Momentum” to hold a charity Fun Run and Dip based on the South Foreshore and in aid of “Isle Listen” and therefore seeking the Commission’s permission.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Court, seconded by Miss Craine that permission be granted. The proposal was carried unanimously.

082c) Christian Street – Mr. McGuinness sought an update on suggestions within the Department of Infrastructure’s Area Plan that Christian Street be redesignated “One Way”. The Town Clerk informed members of his understanding that this matter is “on the radar” but he will seek an update from the Department.

(2023/24:083) Telephone Kiosk Courthouse Grounds:

The Town Clerk informed members that the Commission has been offered the opportunity to purchase the disused telephone kiosk situated at the Courthouse Grounds for £1.00. The kiosk is a registered structure and does need some work to the door-strap and glass which Manx Telecom would undertake. The kiosk requires paintwork which the Commission will require to undertake. Members were reminded of the Commission’s wish to acquire the kiosk to site a defibrillator.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Cowell seconded by Mr. Young and agreed by 8 votes to 2, Messrs. Beighton and Parker voting against, that the kiosk be purchased at the requested sum of £1.00.

(2023/24:084) Use of Social Media – Complaints:

Mr. Cowell informed members of social media comments made and proposed that Standing Orders be suspended to permit the matter to be discussed. The proposal was seconded by Mr. Kelly and carried by 6 votes to 4 – Miss Craine and Messrs. Court, McGuinness and Parker.

Mr. Cowell referred to recent social media postings made by Miss Craine which contained unsuitable language and which he could not condone and therefore moved that a vote of no confidence in Miss Craine be taken.

Miss Craine commented that her remarks were made on her private social media page and queried any difference to other correspondence “which would appear to have been ‘squashed’”. The Town Clerk informed members that the correspondence to which Miss Craine alluded had been discussed with the Police and it had not been appropriate to pass it on. He added that Miss Craine’s comments had been very much in the public domain and complaints had been received about them.

Mr. Cowell added that a Code of Conduct was needed – the actions of Commissioners have ramifications whether in public or in the private domain.

Miss Craine commented that she considered the language she used to be acceptable and had received support via social media. She felt the words do not hide the problem – which she considers are due to her beliefs – she stated the language was part of a private exchange with another person repetition of them was likened to “eavesdropping”..

Mr. Cowell commented that because Commissioners cannot be reprimanded as such and that Miss Craine has made no full apology and if she is not apologetic there is no other choice than to take a vote of no confidence.

Reference was made to the lack of guidance to members. The Town Clerk reminded members that they are all supplied with extracts of “Codes of Conduct in Local Government” upon election; the Department of Infrastructure in 2022 produced an updated “Handbook” for Members and Officers and undertook to bring this to members attention. Reference is made within this about bringing an authority into disrepute. He also stated that the “Vote of No Confidence” was not recognised as any official sanction against a member, who was still entitled to be a member and attend meetings.

Mr. Court queried if an audit of all members’ social media accounts for the past 2 ½ years should be undertaken. Mr. Kelly referred to the social media training provided at which only 3 members were present. Miss Craine commented that she has seen other matters on members’ social media which could be considered offensive.

(2023/24:084) Use of Social Media – Complaints:

Mr. Singer made an impassioned appeal to Miss Craine to make a full apology – there was no excuse for her posting it had been widely read and the language used was extreme, offensive and reflected on others bringing the Board into disrepute – Miss Craine’s posted apology with a caveat which had he felt worsened the situation. He stated all constituents should be treated with respect.

Mr. Court referred to the good work undertaken by Miss Craine for the Commission at the Christmas Grotto and the Picnic in the Park, he commented that posting “had a short shelf-life” and people should be judged on their deeds not their words.

Mr. McGuinness proposed an amendment that the vote of no confidence be extended to any member who has a criminal conviction during the “life” of this Board. Mr. Kelly seconded the amendment. The Town Clerk commented that these matters do not fall foul of legislation but it is more how members felt.

Miss Craine commented that should the vote of no confidence go against her – she will go ahead as she now does and not change.

The amendment was put and failed by 6 votes to 3 – Miss Craine and Messrs. Court and McGuinness voting for.

The proposal of the Vote of No Confidence was put and carried by 6 votes to 4, Miss Craine and Messrs. Court, McGuinness and Parker voting against.

(2023/24:085) Deferral of Meeting

It was proposed by Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Mr. Kelly and agreed by 9 votes to 1, Mr. Parker voting against that consideration of the private business within the agenda be deferred.

The Town Clerk did ask for one further item to be conducted this evening, viz:

(2023/24:086) Presentation:

The opportunity was taken to make a presentation to Mrs. Chrystal to commemorate the occasion of her having completed 50 years employment with the Commission. Mrs. Chrystal thanked the members for their kindness in making the presentation and for the Town Clerk’s kind remarks..

The Chairman closed the meeting which stands deferred to a date to be notified at 9.45 p.m., giving a time for the payment of attendance allowances of 3 hours.

Chairman.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING - JULY, 2023.**

The Monthly Board Meeting of the Ramsey Town Commissioners adjourned on 19th July, 2023, was continued in the Boardroom of the Town Hall, Ramsey, on Wednesday, 26th July, 2023. At 7.00 p.m..

Present: Mr. A. J. Oldham, Miss L. L. Craine, Messrs. G. S. Court, R. D. Cowell, J. McGuinness, L. Parker, L. I. Singer, F. B. R. Williams and W. G. Young.

Apologies for absence Messrs. A. Beighton and S. R. Kelly and Revd Canon N. D. Greenwood who has been granted leave of absence.

The Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Finance Officer and Minute Clerk were in attendance.

The following items were considered in private the detail of which, having regard to data protection, matters affecting persons who cannot be named, etc., is not as extensive as that contained in minutes of matters discussed in public.

(2023/24:087) Minutes:

Resolved: To note and approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy Committee held on 16th June, 2023, subject to the following:-

The Town Clerk referred to the Special Leave Policy presented and advised that a request had been made that it be amended to reflect specific duties in that the policy differed from the "Employing Body in this case NJC" terms and conditions. It was noted that staff are employed under 3 different bodies who have different terms and conditions. The Policy aims to regularise the situation for all employees.

At the request of Mr. McGuinness it was agreed that wording be amended to reflect that special leave for specific duties remain is printed but the words "unless terms and conditions applied by 'employing bodies' state otherwise."

Matters for Information:

(2023/24:088) Action Points – Meeting Department of Infrastructure:

Resolved: To note the Action Points provided by the Department of Infrastructure following the meeting with the Minister and officers of the Department held on 9th May, 2023.

Quay Flood Defences: Mr. Singer and Mr. Cowell queried the delays and was referred to the letter 10th July, 2023, copied within the agenda papers, from Ms M. Pedhuru, Head of Highways Asset Management commenting on the scheme which was send back to the Department by Treasury [thought to because of budgetary concerns];. Ms Pedhuru commented that public consultation can now be arranged.

(2023/24:088) Action Points – Meeting Department of Infrastructure Continued:

Net-Zero Climate Change and Local Authorities Access to funding – Mr. Singer commented that this scheme will be very expensive.

(2023/24:089) On-Going Matters “Action Tracker”:

Resolved: To note the “Action Tracker” to 12th July, 2023.

(2023/24:090) On-Going Matters - Register of Ruinous Property, Unightly Land and Buildings:

Resolved: To note the “Register of Ruinous Property ..” to 12th July, 2023, subject to the following:-

Britannia Hotel – Mr. Williams asked for an update with regard to this property. The Town Clerk informed members that despite emails and telephone calls no update was available – he will continue to try and contact the Brewery.

Finance and General Purposes:

(2023/24:091) Finance Officer’s Report:

Resolved: To note Finance Officer’s report dated 12th July, 2023, subject to the following:-

Estimates and Revenue Expenditure - the Finance Officer drew attention to the simplified reports and reminded members that full graphs will be included quarterly and that any member with queries was welcome to contact him for further information / explanation.

Bank Balances – the Finance Officer informed members that the balances quoted within the report have changed since the receipt of further income and the General Revenue account is now in better funds than at this time last year in that loan funding has been received.

Rent Arrears – it was reported that the amount of rent arrears is slowly coming down. There will be seasonal “dips”. Reference was made to the debtor appearing 37th in the list, who is also on the aged debtors’ list member were informed that the situation is being monitored as closely as possible.

Aged Debtors – since compilation of the report some of the debts have been paid. The debtor listed 6th in the list is being approached with regard to arrangements being put in place to clear this debt by instalments. Recovery of several debts is being progressed through the Small Claims Court.

The Finance Officer reiterated his availability should members wish to discuss any aspects of his report, including the Rent Arrears of Aged Debtors lists.

(2023/24:092) Technical Assistant’s Report – Byelaws Moveable Dwellings:

Members considered the Technical Assistant’s Report dated 11th July, 2023, concerning owners of motorhomes sleeping in vehicles whilst parked in a public place without having the prior written permission of the local authority and having regard to fewer camper permits issued. Discussion ensued and members were informed of the different number of campervan permits issued to the end of June last year and to the same date this year.

Resolved: That the Commission maintain the status-quo with regard to on-street parking of motorhomes as has prevailed in recent years.

Concern was expressed about persons “campers” disposing of their waste cassettes down drains and over sea walls which they believe to be an offence and against whom action will be taken.

(2023/24:093) Technical Assistant’s Report – Fixed Penalty Notices - Appeals:

Members considered the Technical Assistant’s Report dated 11th July, 2023, advising of the appeal made in respect of a fixed penalty littering notice issued.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Singer, seconded by Mr. Parker the appeal be accepted because of sufficient doubt as to the offender. The proposal was defeated by 5 votes to 4 Mr. Court and Mr. Young also being in support of the proposal.

Mr. Williams requested that details of appeals again include photographs if available.

Works and Development:

(2023/24:094) Technical Services Manager’s Report – Street Lighting Timings:

Resolved: To note the Technical Services Manager’s report dated 6th July, 2023, concerning the timing of street lighting and the replacement of cells on the lamps.

Mr. McGuinness commented, that whilst appreciating there was a degree of urgency in this matter, the report was not what was requested, namely deferral of consideration and provision of further costings. The Town Clerk apologised indicating that he had acted having regard to the urgency in association with the ongoing decision of spend to save. Mr. McGuinness further commented that the action could have been progressed by email with such decisions being then sanctioned.

Housing and Property:

(2023/24:095) Housing and Property Manager’s Report – Cronk Elfin Refurbishment Update:

Resolved: to note the Housing and Property Manager’s report dated 11th July, 2023, June, 2023, providing an update on the refurbishment works progressing at Cronk Elfin subject to the following:-

Mr. Singer referred to “potential non-performance... which poses a risk of delayed completion”. Mr. Oldham suggested that this might be because of difficulties in obtaining materials. Mr. Parker, as Lead Member was requested to discuss the Commission’s concerns with the Housing and Property Manager for discussion at a future Design Team Meeting.

(2023/24:096) Housing and Property Manager’s Report – Upper Queen’s Pier Road External and Bathroom Refurbishment:

Members considered the Housing and Property Manager’s report dated 11th July, 2023, advising of the deadline for submission of businesses cases to the Department of Infrastructure for Government’s 2024/25 budget consideration, namely 1st August, 2023, and seeking authority to progress the proposed external and bathroom refurbishment of properties at Upper Queen’s Pier Road, following a pilot scheme completed in 2020.

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Williams and agreed by 8 votes to 1, Mr. McGuinness voting against, that the Housing and Property Manager progress the scheme.

Mr. Cowell commented that the suggested use of the same architects, quantity surveyors, etc., might not be appropriate. Mr. Parker commented that he understood that this was because of their known record in other schemes, but approval to do so would ultimately be given during the Petitioning process.

(2023/24:097) Technical Assistant’s Report – Town Hall Car Park:

Members considered the Technical Assistant’s report conveying a request from the Isle of Man Constabulary for the provision of additional reserved parking spaces for use by the Isle of Man Constabulary at the Town Hall Car Park.

A proposal was put Mr. McGuinness, seconded by Miss Craine that two spaces be provided. An amendment was put by Mr. Cowell that 2 permits be provided. Mr. McGuinness seconded the amendment, which was carried by 8 votes to 1, Mr. Singer voting against.

Parks and Leisure:

(2023/24:098) Deputy Town Clerk’s Report – Ramsey Rocks Concessions:

Members considered the Deputy Town Clerk’s report dated 13th July, 2023, advising of submissions received to provide catering services by concession at Ramsey Rocks which takes place on 27th August, 2023.

Resolved: That, following a proposal by Mr. Court, seconded by Miss Craine and agreed by 8 votes to 1, Mr. McGuinness voting against that 2 concessions be granted – the matter having previously been delegated to the Lead Member to progress.

Any Other Business:

(2023/24:099) Correspondence for information:

Members noted 3 letters provided by the Town Clerk in response to on-going matters, subject to the following –

099a) Letter 4th July, 2023, Minister DEFA – Re: Registered Structure “Swing Bridge” and Planning Breach Investigation – correspondence noted.

099b) Letter 3rd July, 2023, Head of Maintenance, Department of Infrastructure re: Regeneration Area Lanes and Table Tops and Quayside Flood Protection:

Resolved: That following a proposal by Mr. McGuinness seconded by Mr. Court and agree without division that the Department be informed that the Commission do not believe that the lighting in the lanes is ducted and that they did not anticipate the transfer of an “insufficient product”; a timescale for completion of temporary repairs carried out to the table tops is to be requested. Comments about Quayside Flood Protection was considered previously Clause 088 refers).

099c) Letter 10th July, 2023, Head of Highway and Assessment Management, Department of Infrastructure re: Ramsey Quayside and Flood Prevention – Clause 088 refers.

Matters of Establishment:

(2023/24:100) Minutes Establishment Committee:

Resolved: To note and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Establishment Committee held on 16th June, 2023, subject to the following:

Mr. Singer referred to proposed changes in the administration of the C.A. Site – members were informed that the matter had not been progressed because the procurement system had been flawed.

Mr. McGuinness referred to an application for re-grading - members were informed that discussions between officers were ongoing – Mr. McGuinness commented that he felt there were no changes in circumstances to warrant regrading.

(2023/24:100) Minutes Establishment Committee Continued:

Mr. Parker referred to operation of the C.A. Site, particularly the disposal of lithium batteries and future disposal of plasterboard. The Town Clerk advised members that he was not aware of any issues with regard to disposal of lithium batteries but he would make enquiries. The Finance Officer informed members that plasterboard waste currently goes to “Wright’s Pit” or “Turkeyland” and that Government will advise in due course of its future disposal as it cannot be accepted at the incinerator.

Mr. McGuinness stated that the Commission’s concerns in these matters should be brought to Government’s attention.

(2023/24:101) Sundry Matters:

101a) Meeting with Members of the House of Keys; The Town Clerk informed members that the routine meeting with the Members of the House of Keys for Ramsey is being arranged.

101b) “Fibre Communications Provision: Miss Craine queried progress on the provision of “fibre” and was informed that a delay is being encountered because of difficulties in obtaining 2 quotations.

At Mr. McGuinness’s request the Finance Officer and Minute Clerk were instructed to withdraw from the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

A further staff / Establishment discussion took place.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m. giving a time of 1 ½ hours for the payment of attendance allowances.

No matters were recorded in private.

Chairman.

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
	Adoption of Land Traie Twoaie	The developer has a proposal to add parking spaces within the area delineated for public open space. As per minute 2019/20:197 TC to clarify the matter and progress.	TC meet the developer on 11/3/22. He agreed to mark out the parking spaces and prepare the hand over of the site. TC chased 5/4/22 and 11/5/22, 30/5/22. The developer is to mark out the land after TT. Contacted 8/7/22, and 28/7/22,5/9/22,2/11/22 no response. Chased 11/1/23. TC proposes that the developer is left to cut the grass and maintain the area at his cost for 2023.Developer contacted our advocate proposing the POS is transferred (April 23). The car parking spaces are still not delineated, no further action to be taken until car parking spaces are delineated.	FGP	TRKC	Sep-23	
	Ramsey North Prom changing huts	Bathing water status has been confirmed as Good. Planning is in place for shelters close to slip way at end of North Shore Road. Note the planning approval for the changing facilities expires in 2024.	At a meeting with the swimming groups on 6/3/23 they stated that they do not want a changing facility on the Mooragh prom, and that the focus should be south beach facilities.	PL	SB	Sep-23	
	Mooragh promenade shelter public art.	4 shelters are complete, minor works required to the school shelter, the school has been contacted and asked to complete the work.	The school have been contacted about the missing sea gull!	PL	SB	Apr-23	
	Planning Enforcement Gladstone Park, 2 Industrial units used for retail.	Reported for investigation update awaited. Town Clerk has provided property ownership details to Planning Authority as occupier has not submitted appropriate application despite request to do so. Meeting with Enforcement Officer sought to be held on date to be advised. Further property report for alleged breach 25/2/21 and update requested. PEO advise regulating application to be submitted.	Planning contracted 21/7/22 re planning enforcement re SMS trading, they had not but will take enforcement action. Planning confirmed suspected breach is actively being progressed (13/9/22).Chased Dec 2022 and Feb 23- no change. TC wrote to DEFA Minister, and response given to members at July 2023 board meeting.	WD	TRKC	Jun-23	

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
	Boundary Extension (Commission to make application for revision of Town Boundary under S6 Local Government Act 1985).	Petition for a Public Inquiry went to March 2022 Tynwald. Tynwald agreed the Inquiry could be held. Draft Order has been prepared. Meeting took place with Lezayre and Garff in August. Lezayre and Garff have submitted responses to the revised RTC document.	Advocate and planning specialist appointed awaiting date for inquiry from the DOI. A Chairman for the inquiry has been identified. Public Consultation currently open on the Government Consultation hub (closes 9th August).	FGP	TRKC	Sep-23	Green
	Empty Pubs	Concern regarding vacant properties and potential for deterioration in condition. DTC has engaged with the Property Manager at the Brewery. Special Board meeting took place 22 June when the Brewery presented ideas and plans for the buildings.	Asked for an updated status for the properties 5/9/22,3/11/22, The Stanley is currently in the process of being sold and the brewery have submitted a planning application for the Britannia. The Britannia planning application has been revised July 2023.	WD	SB	May-23	Red
	Fibre Broadband (request for easement for service poles)	It is envisaged that there will be 285 houses that require poles in Ramsey. Fibre Broadband will not be complete in Ramsey until June 2024.	Manx Telecom report March 2023 board pack.	FGP	TRKC	Jun-24	Green
Nov-21	Bicycle Shelters (3 planned for Ramsey)	Shelter at Town hall complete, planning application for tram station submitted (by DOI), revised planning application being prepared for Station Road.	Undertake works under permitted development.	WD	MC	Sep-23	Yellow
Dec-21	Adoption of land at Auldryn Walk, Ramsey	Petition approved by DOI Feb 2022, playground received planning approval 25/2/22. Legal transfer of land can only take place following completion of the playground.	Dandara have started work on the playground. Dandara have changed the contractor doing the works on the playground. Still to be completed.	FGP	TRKC	Jun-23	Red
Jun-18	War Memorial (repair and renovation)	Memorial added the Register of Protected Buildings 2021. TSM to meet the War Memorial committee representative to discuss cleaning of the memorial and future works 10/2/21. No costs have been included in the RTC 2022/23 budget. War memorial committee want minimal intervention and work on the memorial (it is about maintenance and not restoration).	Clean the memorial. Prepare project and costs for repairs to the memorial 2023/24 financial year. Drain survey undertaken 5/9/22, drains go to soakaways, one of which appears to be silted up. The memorial was cleaned prior to 11/11/22.	WD	BW	Repairs 23/24	Yellow

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS - ACTION TRACKER - PUBLIC

Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
Apr-22	Ramsey South Prom changing huts	Location for hut agreed with the DOI (as this area is all highway) and RNLI. DTC has consulted with DOI, RNLI, MSCC and representatives of swimmers/beach users.	See 2023-4 project list. Lead member is progressing the shelter with the swimming group.	PL	SB	Sep-23	Green
May-22	Bus services	DTC wrote to Bus Vannin 21/4/22 regarding TT bus service and evening bus services towards the west. TC wrote to the new DOI Minister June 22. Reply received from Bus Vannin reported to Board.	Retain on tracker for future reference, no action required currently.	FGP	SB	Apr-23	Green
Jul-22	Ramsey bags for life	The 2 designs of bags are being sold at the Town Hall.	Monitor sales of bags, 25 of the new bag design have been sold.		SB	Jul-23	Green
Jul-22	Mooragh Park shelter public art.	Funding secured for art work. Funding application submitted for assistance for works to the structures.	DFE Grant available and works to shelters to prepare them for the art is to start August 2023. Housing and Properties liaising with the contractors.	PL	SB	Jun-23	Red
Aug-22	Recycle conference	The main UK Recycle conference in Sept.	TC booked to attend.	PL	TRKC/ BW	Sep-23	Green
Oct-22	Seagulls in Mooragh Park	Agreed that bunting will be put up to deter seagulls.	Instructed	PL	TRKC/ BW	Jul-23	Yellow
Nov-22	Railway Line	Plots are being sold on the railway line. Awaiting quote from our advocate	Quotes received and forwarded to the potential purchasers. Now with the advocates.		TRKC/ BW	Sep-23	Yellow
Feb-23	Move from weekly to monthly pay	Met with HR advisors and preparing option appraisal ahead of a plan. There will be consultation with the workforce.	Unions, MRS and workforce have been informed.		TRKC/ NC	Dec-23	Green
Jul-23	Sprintfest 2024	Survey to be issued by 15/7/2023. Report on options to be tabled at August 2023 meeting.	Survey still open, closing 18th August. Report to September's meeting.		SB	Dec-23	Green

No.	Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Last Update	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
3	Mar-22	Station Road Car Park re surface	Almost complete area outside front of store yet to be completed.	Complete works (after TT).	WD	Jun-23	BW	Apr-23	
7	Mar-22	Street Lights replacement heads	Quotation received. Loan petition approved.	Fittings ordered install June/ July 2023.	WD	Jun-23	BW	Mar-23	
8	Mar-22	Street Lights Lezayre Road	Quotation received. Loan petition approved.	Complete	WD	Jun-23	BW	Mar-23	
9	Mar-22	Street Lights upgrades	Quotation received. Loan petition approved.	MUA undertaking works.	WD	Jun-23	BW	Mar-23	
16	Mar-22	Coronation Park Toilets	Works being developed but requires planning due to proposed changes to the roof.	Planning application currently on display.	HP	Jun-23	RK	Mar-23	

There were originally 19 projects, once complete and shown complete for a month they are removed

Projects 2023-24

No.	Date started	Item	Current position	Action	Area	Officer	Target Completion Date	RAG Status
1	Feb-23	Toilet Millennium Garden	Planning application submitted and yellow notice is being displayed.	Awaiting planning approval.	HP	MC	Apr-24	Green
2	Feb-23	Town Hall Solar Panels	Confirm specification.	RTC have applied to the Climate Change Fund for grant support.	HP	MC	Jul-23	Orange
5	Mar-22	Town Hall rear entrance			WD	MC	Apr-24	Green
7	Mar-22	Vehicle Trackers	Considering alternatives		WD	BW	Jul-23	Green
8	Mar-22	Tree Survey	Order placed		WD	BW	Dec-23	Green
9	Mar-22	Street Name Plates	Confirming supplier		WD	BW	Dec-23	Green
10	Mar-22	Decorative Lighting (festoon)	Order placed	Complete	WD	BW	Jul-23	Green
11	Mar-22	Fleet replacement	3 vans have been ordered.	1st vehicle here, the other 2 vehicles are due for delivery in early Sept.	WD	BW	Sep-23	Green
12	Mar-22	South Prom Changing Facility	Feedback from planning authority has been received.	Design is agreed and awaiting final permission from the DOI.	HP	SB/MC	Sep-23	Green
13	Mar-22	North Prom Changing Facility	Confirm position after meeting on 22nd Feb. Swimming group do not want a facility on the north prom.		WD	SB/MC	Sep-23	Green

There were originally 13 projects, once complete and shown complete for a month they are removed.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
ACCESS TO CASH SURVEY
AUGUST 2023 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

There is an Access to Cash Survey currently live on the Isle of Man Government Consultation hub it can be found here:

<https://consult.gov.im/economic-development/access-to-cash-survey/>

Following the closure of the HSBC branch in Ramsey the DFE approached the Commissioners seeking views on the provision of cash here in Ramsey, with 3 cash machines in Ramsey there was no concern about the availability of cash in Ramsey. The content of the survey is enclosed for members' information.

Recommendation : For noting and members to submit personal responses to the consultation.

31st July 2023.

T. R. K. Cowin
Town Clerk

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
FINANCE OFFICER'S GENERAL REPORT
AUGUST 2023 - PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The following documents are appended for review and / or information:

1. A summary of accounts paid and suppliers used in July 2023 – Appendix 1.
2. Tabulated summary of the Income and Expenditure for the period to 31st July 2023 – Appendix 2.

Accounts

Accounts of £746,071.45 were paid via the General Revenue Account and accounts of £29,838.87 were paid via the Northern Civic Amenity Site Account in July 2023. Details of the accounts paid and the suppliers utilised are attached at Appendix 1.

Recommendation : To be noted.

Summary of Revenue Income and Expenditure

A summary of the 2023-24 Income and Expenditure from 1st April to 31st July 2023 is attached at Appendix 2.

Certain elements of capital expenditure incurred have been paid through the Revenue account and are to be financed by way of capital loans. They are not disclosed as part of Appendix 2, the 2023-24 Income and Expenditure figures, and they are:

New refuse collection vehicle	£206,845.
Tipper vehicles	£65,311.
New mowers & equipment	£28,963.
Cronk Elfin refurbishment – prof. fees, materials & works	£373,328.
Professional fees re Close Woirrey & Albert Road sites	£109,149.
Replacement windows – Gladstone Av. & Vernon Rd.	£31,500.
New street lighting – LEDs	£72,246.
New festoon decorative lighting and equipment	£12,257.

It should be noted that the refuse vehicle, Cronk Elfin refurbishment, Close Woirrey & Albert Road sites redevelopment and the new LEDs are all funded by capital loans approved and received.

Petitions to borrow for the Tipper vehicles and Replacement windows have been submitted and await Treasury approval.

Recommendation: To be noted.

Rates

During July 2023 £2,028,789 rates income was received from Treasury re the 2023-24 financial year. This is the third instalment for the 2023-24 financial year (in July 2022 £1,913,796 was received in respect of the 2022-23 financial year).

At 31st July 2023 the total 2023-24 rate income receipts were £2,705,051 (2022-23 £2,551,728).

Finance Officer's General Report
August 2023 - Public Continued:

Treasury has supplied a 2nd Supplemental Rating List for 2023-24 which indicates some slight changes in the gross and rateable values for the Town as follows:

	Gross	Rateable
	£	£
Existing list	852,395	738,080
Valuations to be added	2,809	2,247
Valuations to be cancelled	<u>(180)</u>	<u>(144)</u>
Revised list	<u>855,024</u>	<u>740,183</u>

Recommendation: To be noted.

4th August 2023

N.Q. Cannell, FCCA
Finance Officer

Ramsey Town Commissioners

Accounts paid during July 2023

Appendix 1

Payee	Description	Amount (incl. VAT)
General Account		£
Staff	Wages, salaries, ITIP, NI & superannuation	180,794.35
IOM Government	Waste disposal at EFW Plant	106,100.97
Various	Housing property repairs, maint. & safety checks	81,744.43
Various	Cronk Elfin refurbishment scheme	79,757.88
Various	New vehicles	78,372.82
NCAS	Quarter 2 contribution	69,730.80
Various	Street lighting maintenance	46,287.83
Manx Utilities	Electricity supply	29,624.38
Various	Legal & professional fees : housing	14,594.16
Various	Commission property repairs, maint. & safety checks	12,971.58
Various	Park goods & materials	9,129.02
Ellan Vannin Fuels Ltd.	Fuel & heating oil	6,587.72
Various	New decorative lighting re Regeneration Claim	4,950.00
Various	Office expenses - post, printing, stationery etc.	4,607.80
Various	IT costs	4,273.45
Various	Refuse materials & equipment	2,754.89
Various	Contract cleaning	2,000.00
Banks	Bank & debit card charges	1,444.50
Account transfers	Rent refunds and R & N DHC rents collected by card	1,436.13
Various	Town events	1,350.00
IOM Newspapers Ltd.	Vacancy advertising	1,307.67
Manx Telecom Ltd.	Phones	1,280.86
Various	Security & safety	1,071.54
Various	Library books, materials & IT licences	1,042.02
Various	Vehicle maintenance, repairs & licences	906.83
Various	Machinery repair & maintenance	683.57
Various	Gift vouchers	350.00
R D Cowell	Attendance Allowance	152.50
A J Oldham	Attendance Allowance	152.50
W G Young	Attendance Allowance	127.50
A R Beighton	Attendance Allowance	121.25
J McGuinness	Attendance Allowance	102.50
L L Craine	Attendance Allowance	98.75
F B R Williams	Attendance Allowance	78.75
L I Singer	Attendance Allowance	60.00
Rev Canon Greenwood	Attendance Allowance	22.50
		746,071.45
Northern Civic Amenity Site		
IOM Govt.	Waste disposal costs	18,629.28
Mann Waste Recycling Ltd.	Skip haulage	6,056.13
Various	Recycling charges	4,743.67
Various	Plant & machinery servicing & repairs	308.40
Worldpay (UK) Ltd.	Debit card reader charge	79.03
Bank	Charges	20.33
Various	Office expenses	2.03
		29,838.87

Ramsey Town Commissioners

Suppliers utilised during July 2023

Appendix 1

Access UK Ltd.	UK	J P Corry (formerly Jewsons)	IOM
Argon Business Systems Ltd.	IOM	J Wood Tree & Garden Services Ltd.	IOM
Argon Office Systems Ltd.	IOM	Magnet IOM Ltd.	IOM
Askews & Holts Library Services Ltd.	UK	Mannin Retail Ltd.	IOM
Ayre Mowers Ltd.	IOM	Mann Waste Recycling Ltd.	IOM
Axis Consulting Engineers Ltd.	IOM	Manx Business Solutions Ltd.	IOM
Ballaneven Compost & Horticulture Ltd.	IOM	Manx Glass & Glazing Ltd.	IOM
Best Evidence Technology Ltd.	UK	Manx Telecom Ltd.	IOM
BHW Print Group Ltd.	IOM	Manx Utilities	IOM
Brew & Corkill Ltd.	IOM	Martin & Watson Ltd.	IOM
Brunel Engraving Co. Ltd.	UK	Modus Architects Ltd.	IOM
B.P.D. Ltd.	IOM	Neil Elder	IOM
C E Richmond Ltd.	IOM	Northern Men in Sheds	IOM
City Electrical Factors IOM Ltd.	IOM	Outdoor Power & Plant Ltd.	IOM
Cleervu Aerial Specialists Ltd.	IOM	P & M Window Cleaners Ltd.	IOM
Crossroads Manx Workshops	IOM	Paul Wheeler Ltd.	IOM
CuPlas Callow IOM Ltd.	IOM	Phoenix Windows Ltd.	IOM
David Perry Electrical Contractors Ltd.	IOM	Propero Facilities Services Ltd.	IOM
DQ Advocates Ltd.	IOM	Quadient UK Ltd.	UK
Edmundson Electrical Ltd.	IOM	Ramsey Automotive Centre Ltd.	IOM
Event Lighting Services Ltd.	IOM	Ramsey Shipping Services Ltd.	IOM
Electric Avenue Leeds Ltd.	UK	Ramsey Skips	IOM
Ellan Vannin Fuels Ltd.	IOM	Screwfix Direct	UK
Equi-Ag	IOM	Signrite IOM Ltd.	IOM
Exceed Business Services Ltd.	IOM	Specialist Coatings Ltd.	IOM
Feltons Ironmongers	IOM	Suez Recycling & Recovery IOM Ltd.	IOM
Galvanised Specialists Ltd.	UK	Swales Electrical Ltd. & Hoistline	IOM
G4S Secure Solutions (IOM) Ltd.	IOM	2 Clean	IOM
Gough Electrical Ltd.	IOM	Thompson Commercials Ltd.	UK
Haldane Fisher (IOM) Ltd.	IOM	Ulverscroft Ltd.	IOM
Hersham Electrical Contractors Ltd.	IOM	Unique Fire Protection Ltd.	IOM
Investec Asset Finance Ltd.	IOM	Vannin Officepoint Ltd.	IOM
IOM Government	IOM	Watsons Nurseries Ltd.	IOM
IOM Newspapers Ltd.	IOM	W.D.S. Ltd.	IOM
J Clawson Ltd.	IOM	Whittaker Trading Ltd.	IOM
JDW Engineering Ltd.	IOM	Worldpay (UK) Ltd.	UK
Jeremy Paul	IOM	Wurth UK Ltd.	UK
		Yesss IOM Electrical Ltd.	IOM

RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS

SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE TO 31st JULY 2023 - Appendix 2

	2023-24 to date			Estimate for 2023-24		
	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Social Housing						
Housing Schemes	1,625,166	2,065,859	(440,693)	4,694,657	4,861,232	(166,575)
Cl. Woirrey/ Cl. y C Glass	82	0	82	328	0	328
Brookfield Court	3,469	8	3,461	24,668	21,053	3,615
Close ny Mooragh	13,094	97	12,997	50,081	53,600	(3,519)
Sub Total	£1,641,811	£2,065,964	(£424,153)	£ 4,769,734	£ 4,935,885	£ (166,151)

	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Estimate for 2023-24		
				Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Property and Assets						
Town Hall	60,316	19,396	40,920	234,198	24,792	209,406
Workshops	25,349	0	25,349	77,691	0	77,691
Public Conveniences	16,730	0	16,730	72,348	0	72,348
Courthouse - loan repayment	14,800	0	14,800	14,800	0	14,800
Courthouse - maint., H & L etc.	3,715	0	3,715	11,246	0	11,246
Mansail Lease	4,222	6,585	(2,363)	4,650	11,552	(6,902)
Lakeside Centre	2,001	4,452	(2,451)	4,512	12,785	(8,273)
Parklands Day Nursery	822	9,942	(9,120)	3,311	19,972	(16,661)
Bowling Alley	0	3,750	(3,750)	3,116	15,000	(11,884)
Non-Lease Properties	830	0	830	7,518	0	7,518
Prom shelters, benches, signs	(1,102)	0	(1,102)	25,568	0	25,568
Private Property Repairs	504	0	504	10,500	0	10,500
CCTV town centre	4,404	0	4,404	1,458	0	1,458
Apprentices	8,332	1,536	6,796	20,051	2,615	17,436
R.N.D.H.C.	2,566	3,269	(703)	16,397	18,037	(1,640)
Park assets	40,624	0	40,624	83,300	0	83,300
Sub Total	£184,113	£48,930	£135,183	£590,664	£104,753	£485,911

	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Estimate for 2023-24		
				Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Works & Development						
Foreshores & Flags	2,393	0	2,393	5,533	0	5,533
Car Parks	8,372	19,181	(10,809)	28,830	26,835	1,995
Refuse Removal	273,879	57,400	216,479	930,316	135,249	795,067
Civic Amenity contribution	116,218	0	116,218	228,120	0	228,120
Sewers & Pumps	26,081	26,081	0	104,251	104,251	0
Street lighting & maint.	67,088	0	67,088	82,060	0	82,060
Decorative maint.	708	0	708	15,515	0	15,515
Decorative lighting new items	3,206	0	3,206	26,436	0	26,436
Local Services	61,372	0	61,372	220,677	0	220,677
Sub Total	£559,317	£102,662	£456,655	£1,641,738	£266,335	£1,375,403

	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Estimate for 2023-24		
				Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Parks & Leisure						
Events & Attractions	28,257	6,333	21,924	81,444	24,625	56,819
Parks & Gardens	70,650	0	70,650	280,737	710	280,027
Games Concessions	6	0	6	1,775	0	1,775
Public Library	48,834	2,462	46,372	148,505	9,269	139,236
Sub Total	£147,747	£8,795	£138,952	£512,461	£34,604	£477,857

	Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)	Estimate for 2023-24		
				Expenditure	Income	Net Expend. / (Income)
Finance & General Purposes						
Administration	13,335	0	13,335	102,156	0	102,156
Office Expenses	232,125	16,168	215,957	811,070	123,094	687,976
Sundry Expenses	2,774	0	2,774	11,615	0	11,615
Miscellaneous	16,133	10,210	5,923	36,397	24,431	11,966
Swimming Pool	0	0	0	44,154	0	44,154
Town Band	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	2,000
Town Centre Management	2,123	213	1,910	3,333	1,196	2,137
Sub Total	£268,490	£26,591	£241,899	£1,010,725	£148,721	£862,004

TOTAL	£2,801,478	£2,252,942	£597,466	£ 8,525,322	£ 5,490,298	£ 3,035,024
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Town rates	£ -	£2,898,807	(£2,898,807)	£ -	£ 3,254,158	(£3,254,158)
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**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
PAINTING A LAMP POST (ARTWORK)
AUGUST 2023 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

The Commission have been approached about painting a lamp post in the street. This is associated with the new art shop that is planned for No 68 Parliament Street.

The lamp post will be painted with artwork similar to that shown in the image below. With the Mooragh Promenade shelters, the Public Toilets at Market Square, the Flower shop and the Mooragh Park shelters Ramsey is an interesting and colourful place to be and visit.

The other artworks have been done as part of a project, this is an individual request for one lamp post and there is no theme or larger project.



To be considered

- 1) That the lamp post is checked electrically prior to any work commencing (and potentially every time the artist paints the column).
- 2) That the base coats be prepared in line with the current standards for painting of a lamp post (to be specified by RTC).
- 3) That the lamp post be inspected every 6 months and that, if necessary, the lamp post is repainted a standard colour.
- 4) There is to be a programme of painting of lamp posts, to extend their life, this one would have to be excluded from that programme.

Town Clerk's Report – Painting a Lamp Post (Artwork)
August, 2023 – Public Continued:

- 5) That the art work should be painted on using appropriate paint and stickers, or vinyl wraps should not be used
- 6) To fully paint the lamp post it would require the artist working at height, the height of the art work should be limited to no more than 2.5m.
- 7) That painting of any lamp post is agreed prior to any work commencing
- 8) A policy should be developed if there is more requests of this type.
- 9) In terms of cost there will be some preparatory works and ultimately the column will need to be re painted.

Recommendation : For discussion.

31st July 2023.

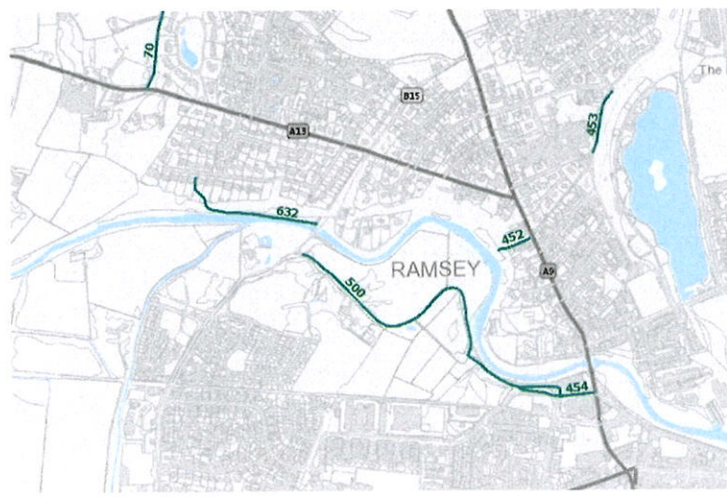
T. R. K. Cowin
Town Clerk

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
POYLL DOOEY FIELDS PRESUMPTION OF DEDICATION
AUGUST 2023 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

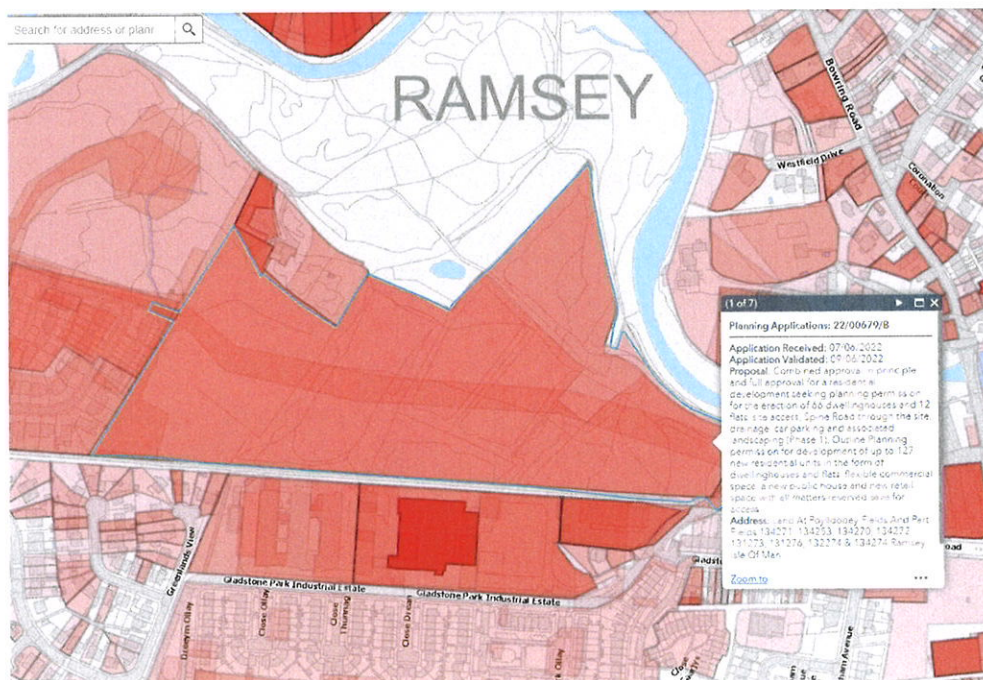
The Highways and Public Rights of Way Manager Ffynlo Williams has written to Ramsey Town Commissioners concerning the presumption of dedication of paths in the fields at Poyll Dooey. A copy of the letter is appended to the board pack.

The map below shows the current Public Rights of way in this area



Background.

The map below shows that there is a current planning application 22/00679/B that has yet to be determined in this area.



**Town Clerk's Report – Poyll Dooey Fields – Presumption of Dedication –
August, 2023 – Public Continued:**

Following review of the planning application for this area by the board in January 2023 a response was submitted to the planning authority stating that “Ramsey Town Commissioners have no objection to the amended plan/additional information”.

The process

A formal process has started, the DOI will be preparing a draft order. The local authority, statutory undertakers with apparatus in, on, or upon the land (such as the MUA) and the landowner are all notifiable parties. In this instance we are the local authority and also, we own a portion of this land.

If there is sufficient public objection or one of the notifiable parties objects there will be a public inquiry.

As the letter from Mr. Williams says the next piece of correspondence that will be received is a copy of the Order. This will give Ramsey Town Commissioners the opportunity to object if we wish to do so.

Recommendation : For Noting.

31st July 2023.

T. R. K. Cowin
Town Clerk

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
STATUTORY NUISANCES
AUGUST 2023 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Two pieces of correspondence on the subject of statutory nuisances have been received, they are from the secretary to the Chief Minister and the Officer responsible for Statutory Nuisance at DEFA, and are contained in the report below.
The Statutory Nuisance service is currently suspended and the suspension has been extended by a further 6 months.

Email from the Chief Minister's office

RE: Local Authorities and Delegated Services

Thank you for your letter to the Chief Minister dated 15th June, and please accept my apologies that you did not receive a response to your letter of the 15th March.

The Chief Minister has read your aforementioned letters, with interest, and has asked me to provide the following response on his behalf.

The Council of Ministers has been briefed on the decision by the Department of Environment Food and Agriculture (DEFA) to suspend their statutory nuisance investigation service, part of which is provided on behalf of local authorities, and I am satisfied that it came out of necessity and was not made lightly or without due consideration to the impacts on local authorities and the citizens of the Island. I understand that the Public Health Act 1990 (PHA) does not oblige Local Authorities to investigate allegations of statutory nuisance, that Section 5 of the PHA provides for any person aggrieved by a statutory nuisance to make a complaint directly to court of summary jurisdiction to seek an abatement order and that individuals can also take action in the civil courts for a private nuisance if they wish. The ability for individuals to resolve problems formally themselves means they are not left without options during the period that the service is suspended.

Additionally the rationale for the suspension of the service was the subject of an oral question (question 19) in Tynwald on the 25th April 2023 and the response can be read in Hansard online here:

<https://tynwald.org.im/spfile?file=/business/hansard/20202040/t230425.pdf>.

I am aware that DEFA recently reviewed the decision to suspend this service and unfortunately, due to ongoing resourcing issues, the decision has been made to extend the suspension by a further 6 months. I understand that this will shortly be communicated to all local authorities.

Thank you and kind regards,

**Town Clerk's Report – Statutory Nuisances –
August, 2023 – Public Continued:**

Email from DEFA

Re: 6 Month extension the suspension of DEFAs statutory nuisance investigation service

Part 1 Public Health Act 1990

I write to advise that the Department recently reviewed the decision it made on the 8th December 2022 to suspend the investigation of all allegations of statutory nuisances so that its Environmental Health Team could focus on higher priority work.

Unfortunately the circumstances that led to the suspension have not improved and are unlikely to do so in the short term so the Department has reluctantly taken the decision to suspend the service for a further 6 months.

The Environmental Health Team will continue to investigate statutory nuisance cases that were commenced prior to the suspension of the service and they will continue to advise local authorities where they come across statutory nuisances in the course of their work to assist local authorities in the performance of their statutory duties under Part 1 of the Act.

As an alternative, Section 5 of the Act provides individuals with powers to take their own action in the criminal courts for a statutory nuisance. Individuals with property rights can also take action in the civil courts for private nuisance and Section 19 of the Dogs Act 1990 provides for any person to make a complaint to a court of summary jurisdiction that a dog causes a nuisance or annoyance to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood in which it is kept.

It should be noted that the Act does not place a duty on Local Authorities to investigate allegations of statutory nuisances.

I would be grateful if you could communicate this to all local authorities.

Your Sincerely

Recommendation : For noting.

31st July 2023.

T. R. K. Cowin
Town Clerk

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
ISLE OF MAN ANTI-CANCER ASSOCIATION ROADSHOW
AUGUST 2023 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Sandy Denning, Executive Officer, Isle of Man Anti-Cancer Association is seeking permission to host their Cancer Awareness Roadshow in the Station Road car park on Tuesday, 5th September, 2023.

The roadshow is contained within an ambulance and would be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Recommendation: to grant permission to Isle of Man Anti-Cancer Association to site the Cancer Awareness Road Show in the Station Road car park on 5th September 2023.

H. S. Bevan
Deputy Town Clerk

20th July 2023

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT
BEACH CLEANING
AUGUST 2023 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

At the July Board meeting you requested a report detailing the feasibility, costings and impact of cleaning South Beach for the August meeting.

I have contacted DEFA's Biodiversity officer, and the Manx Wildlife Trust and I am awaiting responses from both.

Anything is feasible with the right resources and money.

A machine would be required for a week before nesting season (March time) to remove the deposits from the winter, but we are at risk of further storms undoing the work. This would be in the region of £1,000-£1,500.

After the initial clean if you were to use staff to manually clean the beach, I would recommend that once a week 2-3 people clear the seaweed off the beach until the start of the summer holidays where they would be required to attend daily. There may be a need for an additional clean depending on the weather and if we receive any warning for coastal over topping.

The seaweed would be disposed of at an appropriate disposal site at a minimum cost of £104.55 per tonne.

The issue with manually removing seaweed is that we are taking resources away from other areas of the town at a critical time (weeding and grass cutting) so we would need to either recruit additional staff, outsource work or use mechanical means.

There are machines available to clean beaches but not all of them are suitable for our beach due to the stone content. A tractor with a rake on the back might be an option but it would need to be trailed. The tractor and rake would be between £50 - £75 an hour, and it would be a recommendation that the tractor would be used twice a month for two days, 5 hours each day, and after any weather event if required. It is envisaged that there would be no disposal costs for the machine as it would drag the seaweed down to the waters edge.

There are advantages and disadvantages to both systems and so many unknowns due to weather and tidal conditions. The below figures are estimates.

The machine has more chance of picking up all the seaweed and the ability to take the seaweed to the waters edges to be swept out to sea, not something that we would want staff doing in RTC road vehicles. The machine could also cover a greater area in a shorter period of time.

**Technical Services Manager's Report –Beach Cleaning –
August, 2023, Public Continued:**

The RTC tractor is old, and it might be possible to buy a rake for the back, but more research is need. It also requires a staff member to operate it, therefore taking someone away from other duties.

Item	Cost
Initial Beach Clean –	£1,000 - £1,500
Cleaning by hand March to Sept 4 hrs at a time 3 staff @ £15.96hr 13 weeks once a week 6 weeks five times a week	£2,489.76 <u>£5,745.60</u>
Total	£8,235.36
Disposal costs	UNKNOWN
Cleaning by hand March to Sept 3 hrs at a time 3 staff @ £15.96hr 13 weeks once a week 6 weeks five times a week	£1,867.32 <u>£4,309.20</u>
Total	£6,176.52
Disposal costs	UNKNOWN
Cleaning by hand March to Sept 2 hrs at a time 3 staff @ £15.96hr 13 weeks once a week 6 weeks five times a week	£1,244.88 <u>£2,872.80</u>
Total	£4,117.68
Disposal costs	UNKNOWN
Machine	£6,000 - £9,000
Disposal at sea	

This is also dependant on the requirements of DEFA and Manx Wildlife Trust. They have in the past requested that we don't undertake beach cleaning, if possible, but where we do, we undertake inspections of the beach for nests before any work commences. If nests are found that we do not under any circumstances clean the beach. There is an argument for biodiversity with the vegetation on the beach.

The beach is not adversely affected by the seaweed, there is no adverse odour as a result of it. During random inspections of the beach there isn't a major issue with littering.

Recommendation: For further reporting

B. Wallace.
Technical Services Manager

3rd August 2023.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT
PLANNING APPLICATIONS – AUGUST, 2023 PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Copies of the following applications have been received from the Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture, Planning and Building Control Division under the planning consultation procedures. The applications are listed for consideration subject to comments where appended. Hyperlinks are provided on the P.A. No. to link to the plans which are available on the IOM Government website.

- REF NO: 4044 **AMENDED PLANS**
P.A. NO.: [23/00066/B](#)
PROPOSED: Change of use from public house (use class 1.3) to create ten apartments (use class 3.4) while retaining original element of building, demolition of previous extensions and erection of new replacement extension
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Britannia Hotel, Waterloo Road, Ramsey**
- REF NO: 4091
P.A. NO.: [23/00777/B](#)
PROPOSED: Removal of existing chimney stack and installation of flue pipe to dwelling
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Cooil Beg, Claghbane Road, Ramsey**
- REF NO: 4092
P.A. NO.: [23/00778/B](#)
PROPOSED: Alterations and erection of an extension
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **The Grennaugh, Claghbane Road, Ramsey**
- REF NO: 4093
P.A. NO.: [23/00827/C](#)
PROPOSED: Additional use as tourism accommodation
NOTES: P.A. - Change of Use
SITE: **Mountain Dream, Bowring Road, Ramsey**
- REF NO: 4094
P.A. NO.: [23/00797/C](#)
PROPOSED: Additional use of residential apartment for tourist use
NOTES: P.A. - Change of Use
SITE: **103, St Pauls Apartments, St Pauls Square, Ramsey**

**Technical Services Manager's Report – Planning Applications
August 2023 – Public Continued:**

REF NO: 4095
P.A. NO.: [23/00807/B](#)
PROPOSED: Installation of a flue (retrospective)
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **2, Ormly Avenue, Ramsey**

REF NO: 4096
P.A. NO.: [23/00832/B](#)
PROPOSED: Conversion of ground and first floor units to create 2 additional apartments including alterations to external elevations including new windows, doors, render and stone cladding
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **3, West Quay, Ramsey**

REF NO: 4097
P.A. NO.: [23/00816/B](#)
PROPOSED: Erection of a car port for covered parking
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Ballachrink, Grove Mount, Ramsey**

REF NO: 4098
P.A. NO.: [23/00878/B](#)
PROPOSED: Erection of a fence (retrospective)
NOTES: P.A. in Detail
SITE: **Kerrocoar, Lezayre Road, Ramsey**

B. Wallace,
Technical Services Manager

7th August, 2023.

**RAMSEY TOWN COMMISSIONERS
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT
LIBRARY QUARTER 2 2023
AUGUST 2023 – PUBLIC**

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Number of new members

April	10 adult	16 junior
May	7 adult	4 junior
June	<u>6</u> adult	<u>7</u> junior
Total	<u>23</u> adult	<u>27</u> junior

Number of registered members

Town	489
Country	194
Junior	603
Staff	9
Visitor	<u>8</u>
Total	<u>1,303</u>

Number of items borrowed (by reader category)

Town	3,046
Country	1,608
Junior	1,773
Staff	70
Visitor	<u>14</u>
	<u>6,511</u>

Type of items borrowed

Text	5,656
DVD	296
Audio	<u>559</u>
Total	<u>6,511</u>

During this quarter the Library made displays for Easter and the Coronation. They also had a display for the TT in the Library, with a board in the foyer and a folder for news and information which were updated daily, where necessary. The team welcomed and assisted a lot of visitors who came into the Town Hall. Additionally, there were displays prepared for the recent wind farm consultation, and Ramsey Town Boundary Extension.

Recommendation: For noting.

31st July 2023.

T. R. K. Cowin
Town Clerk