

**General Services Committee Meeting
Anne French Room
Tuesday 12th July 2011
0915**

Present:

Mr W Walden – Chairman

Mr P Arditti

Mr J Beaman

Mr R Berry

Mr B Kelly

Mr I Tugby

Mr R Burke, Chief Executive

Mrs K A Hatcher-Gaudion, Treasurer

Ms J Turner, States Engineer

Mrs E O'Toole, Minute Secretary

In attendance: Mr S Shaw, Harbourmaster

47/2011 **Minutes of the previous meetings** of 26th April and 14th June 2011 tabled and approved subject to Item 41.3 Teachers Houses/for ratification moved from the Confidential Annexure to the Minutes.

48/2011 **Matters arising from the minutes**

48.1 St Anne's Church Letter from Lovell Ozanne dated 5th July 2011 tabled and discussed. The States Engineer advised that along with the letter, the tender document for year one works had been received. It was noted that the specified works could be undertaken by local contractors with a certain amount of supervision from Lovell Ozanne.

The Committee agreed that the States Engineer should advertise for expressions of interest.

JBT

The Chief Executive advised that he had written to the Dean in Guernsey however had not received a response and will follow up again. **Noted.**

CE

48.2 Exchange of land at Airport – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - See Confidential Annexure.

48.3 New Slaughter House The Chief Executive advised that Environmental Health had confirmed that the Slaughter House required all but two of the pieces of equipment Mr Cox had requested. The Treasurer advised that the potential sale of the existing slaughter house could offset the cost of purchasing some of the equipment as only £10k is available in the CIEF. **Noted.**

RESOLVED unanimously to agree to approve an initial £10k to purchase equipment to progress the completion of the new Slaughter House whilst awaiting the States Engineer to obtain a specified request and a list of equipment from Mr Cox for the Committee to consider.

KAHG/JBT

Mr Beaman advised that it was agreed that the Health and Safety regulations for the new Slaughter House would be appropriate to the scale required for a small community. **Noted.**

48.4 Stones on Longis Common Mr Arditti requested the matter be discussed again in light of the comments made by a member of the public. The comments made were with regards to the filling in of the other tracks, the size of the car park and that the stones were unsightly. The Chairman agreed that works did appear to be unfinished, however the Committee had agreed a course of action and it had been carried out.

RESOLVED by a majority (Mr Arditti and Mr Kelly in favour) to not approve the request that the stones be repositioned to line the western side of the route to the Raz causeway with the remainder of the Common open for use as a car park.

The Chairman requested that the States Engineer, with advice from the Alderney Wildlife Trust, carry out further landscaping to improve the appearance of the area and to monitor the car park congestion over the peak summer months and if necessary reposition the stones should the parking area be inadequate.

JBT

48.5 Any Other Matters Arising from the Minutes None.
See Confidential Annexure.

49/2011 General Works (including Agriculture)**49.1 Superintendent of Works Report** to 1st July 2011 tabled and **noted**.

See Confidential Annexure.

10:05 Harbourmaster joined the meeting.

50/2011 Harbour and Fisheries**50.1 Monthly Report** for June 2011 tabled and noted. The Harbourmaster advised that Alderney Shipping had disposed of the vessels Isis and Burhou and had currently chartered an 80 metre cargo ship called Fehn Corral. The Harbourmaster advised that the vessel would be subject to greater weather limitations and that with both Alderney Shipping and Huelin-Renouf having 80 metre vessels, longer delays during the winter months would be expected.

Mr Tugby stated that he considered that Alderney Shipping was not honouring the shipping agreement that had been awarded to them, because the Isis and Burhou were able to make trips regularly in adverse weather conditions. The Harbourmaster advised that the Fehn Corral is able to take passengers.

Mr Kelly was requested to contact Mr B Kay-Mouat to obtain a response in writing to the concerns raised.

BK

See Confidential Annexure.

50.2 Shipping Container Charges The Treasurer reported that this matter had been discussed with the Harbourmaster and advised that the charges were originally introduced not as a way of generating income but as a way to keep the quay clear of excessive shipping containers. The charges could be reintroduced if necessary once the cargo handling area had been organised. Mr Kelly advised that the shipping companies would come forward with proposals in September. **Noted.****50.3 Extension of Merchant Shipping Conventions to the Bailiwick** Report from Deputy B M Flouquet, Minister, Public Services Department, tabled and considered.**RESOLVED unanimously to support the extension of Protocols and Convention and the implementation of the requisite domestic legislation. Chief Executive to deal.**

CE

50.4 Harbour Notice Board The Treasurer advised that a letter has been sent to the Braye Beach Hotel requesting further information on their proposal but to date no response has been received. A further update to be given at the next meeting of the Committee.

Agenda Item

50.5 Fisheries Consultation Draft Fisheries Management White Paper tabled and discussed. The Committee agreed that grandfather rights should only be transferable once and supported the tagging of local line caught fish as a marketing aid. The Committee also wished to raise public awareness of the illegality of buying or selling fish caught from unlicensed vessels. The Committee raised no further objections to the Draft White Paper. Item to be tabled at the next meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee.

P&F

50.6 Dinghy Boat Park Mr Kelly stated that he was disappointed with the progress of the tidying up of the area, however noted that work was still ongoing. The road constructed onto the concrete area (3.5 metres wide) appeared to be too narrow for larger vehicles. States Engineer to assess.

JBT

The States Engineer advised that a meeting was scheduled with the Police Sergeant to confirm the road signs and lines required for Braye Street to be reinstated as a one way street. **Noted.** Letter from Mr E Naish, Proprietor Bumps Eating House, dated 28th June 2011 tabled and considered.**The Committee raised no objections to the request from Mr Naish for a yellow line to be placed in front of the entrance to Bumps to allow customers and delivery vehicles access to the premises, should parking be moved to this side. States Engineer to deal.**

JBT

Letter from the Chamber of Commerce dated 11th July 2011 tabled and discussed. The Chamber of Commerce proposed to enhance Braye Harbour by creating a focal welcome display on top of the sewage pump concrete base. The Harbourmaster stated that the footprint of the sewage pump should not be increased. **Noted.****The Committee supported the proposal in principle and requested the Harbourmaster liaise with Mrs Soane-Sands to further discuss the proposals.**

SS

Mr Kelly stated that he would be grateful if the area could be finished and tidied up as soon as possible in time to for the peak summer months. States Engineer to deal.

JBT

50.7 Any Other Business Relating to Harbour and Fisheries See Confidential Annexure.

11:15 Harbourmaster left the meeting.

11:15 - 11:20 Break for coffee.

49/2011 General Works (including Agriculture) – (continued)

49.1 Superintendent of Works Report – See Confidential Annexure.

49.2 Referrals from/to BDCC (Landlord's Approval)

a) Stone Wall at Airport The States Engineer advised that whilst undertaking the extension of the airport boundary, as approved by the Committee, the remains of an old stone wall had been located under the brambles and overgrowth. The Alderney Society wished to assess the historical value and importance of the large stones, which may have archaeological significance however the whole of the wall is required to be removed so as to allow the new airport fence to be erected. The Committee agreed to the removal of the wall with the larger pieces of stone to be moved to a nearby location should the Alderney Society wish to carry out further investigations. States Engineer to deal

JBT

b) HMS Affray Memorial Report dated 4th July 2011 and detailed proposal from Hamon Architects tabled and considered. It was noted that BDCC had approved the planning application in principle for the erection of a Memorial. The Committee requested the States Engineer assess the safety of the location specified for the Memorial to ensure that there is sufficient access for plant and people onto the Douglas Quay.

RESOLVED unanimously to agree to approve, as landlords, the erection of a Memorial Stone Plinth for HMS Affray and associated road/pavement surfacing location at the Douglas Quay subject to the investigation by the States Engineer. States Engineer to deal.

JBT

49.3 Gas Health and Safety Letter from Mr James Roberts, Managing Director Blanchard, tabled and discussed. The Chief Executive advised that he been in contact with Mr Richard Brown, HSE, with regards the notice that had been issued to customers of Blanchard and that Mr Brown had advised that he had been approached by the parent company of Blanchard to give advice on gas health and safety issues.

The Committee, by a majority (Mr Kelly against), requested the Chief Executive write to Mr Brown on their behalf objecting to the approach taken to seemingly introducing Guernsey legislation into Alderney and that should Mr Brown be approached by other businesses in Alderney, such as gas suppliers, a courteous referral to this Committee, as the governing body, would be appreciated.

CE

The Chairman stated that the Committee has every intention of introducing an incremental Gas Health and Safety scheme for Alderney. **Noted.**

49.4 States Works Mr Berry reported that having been given the responsibility for States buildings by this Committee, he had made a list of works which needed to be undertaken, this was proving to be difficult to achieve as there was not a maintenance programme in place; a shortage of States Works staff to undertake the work and no budget to employ external contractors. The Chief Executive advised that the budget for next year had not yet been finalised. The Chairman requested that Mr Berry arrange a meeting with the Chief Executive, the States Engineer and the Superintendent to compile a draft maintenance manual for the Committee to consider.

RB/CE/JBT/TWB

49.5 Any Other Business Relating to General Works

- Mr Berry queried if a suitable storage facility has been identified for equipment currently stored at Fort Albert; the States Engineer advised it is in hand.
- Mr Tugby enquired how the legislation on trimming of hedges for the summer months could be further enforced as many public households have yet respond to the notice placed in the local press. States Engineer to liaise with Mr Tugby.

JBT

51/2011 Recreation, Welfare and Environment (including States Land)

51.1 States Veterinary Officer – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – See Confidential Annexure.

51.2 Permanent posting of Police Sergeant Mr Kelly reported that Sergeant Colin Solway's contract as Police Sergeant was extended for a further 5 years. **Noted.**

51.3 Anti Tank structures - Fort Raz Letter from Mr B Kay-Mouat dated 29th June 2011 tabled and considered.

RESOLVED unanimously to agree to approve to loan a number of anti tank structures, currently stored in Fort Albert, to Mr Kay-Mouat for restoration works currently being carried out at Fort Raz. States Engineer to deal.

JBT

51.4 BBQ Area request - The Divers Inn Email request from The Divers Inn dated 29th June 2011 tabled and considered.

RESOLVED unanimously to agree to approve that The Divers Inn hold a barbecue on a regular basis on the States land outside the Braye Beach Hotel/Divers Inn which is currently utilised as a parking area subject to :-

- (i) no complaints received from neighbouring establishments and houses,
- (ii) no permanent structures constructed and
- (iii) no extension of the current catering hours.

Chief Executives office to deal.

CE Office

51.5 Corblets Quarry lease Draft lease for Corblets Quarry tabled and considered. The Treasurer advised that the Finance Advisory Group had made recommendations based on the current agreement already in place with Mr Gates in respect of fishing rights.

RESOLVED unanimously to agree to approve the lease for Corblets Quarry with Mr J P Gates for 5 years at £25 per annum with a 6 month notice period. Chief Executives offices to deal.

CE Office

51.6 Alderney Trials Biking Letter from Alderney Wildlife Trust dated 16th June 2011 and letter from Mr Alan Smart dated 18th May 2011 tabled and discussed. Mr Smart proposes to set up a trials biking event on the island to aid tourism. AWT were requested to provide their input on the proposal and is supportive in principle with a few stipulations. The Committee requested that the Chief Executive obtain a more defined proposal from Mr Smart.

CE

51.7 Noise Abatement Licence Rotary Club Letter from The Rotary Club of Alderney dated 13th June 2011 tabled and considered. The Rotary Club wished to apply for a Noise Abatement licence for an event on the Butes on Friday 12th August 2011. Mr Kelly declared an interest as a member of the band who will be playing at the event.

RESOLVED unanimously to agree to raise no objections to the request. Treasury to deal.

Treasury

51.8 Ramsar Strategic Plan 2012 – 2017 Report from Mr R Gauvain, Trust Manager Alderney Wildlife Trust, tabled and **noted**. The Treasurer suggested that this item be deferred to form part of the budget debate/process and advised that a meeting will be arranged with the AWT Trust Manager.

Deferred/KAHG

51.9 Any Other Business Relating to Recreation, Welfare and Environment – None.

52/2011 Roads and Transport

52.1 Braye Street Parking Zones As discussed under item 50.6.

52.2 Scaffold Request - Rossboroughs Office Letter from Mr B Kay-Mouat, JMB Property, dated 29th June 2011 tabled and considered.

RESOLVED unanimously to agree to approve the erection of scaffolding outside No. 11 Victoria Street (Rossboroughs Office) for a maximum of three days to carry out renovation works, with the restriction that this would not take place during Alderney Week. States Engineer to deal.

JBT

The Committee requested that future requests for the erection of scaffolding for a period of under five days to be dealt with by the States Engineer. **Noted.**

JBT/POLICY

52.3 Vehicle Import Charges Email from Mrs J Capazario dated 30th June 2011 tabled and discussed. The Treasurer advised that the current Fees Ordinance states that "50% of fees will be reimbursed on the permanent export of the vehicle from the Island, unless the permanent export takes place within 28 days of importation, when 100% of fees will be reimbursed, less an administrative charge of £25 for permanent export between 5 and 28 days". It was noted that

the reason for introducing the number of days was to allow for such events as the Hill Climb and the Fishing Festival, and that originally the charge had been introduced to discourage cars being brought to the Island and then discarded. The Committee agreed that the charges should remain in place, but that a revision to the procedure used for reimbursing fees be investigated.

CE/KAHG

52.4 Blanchards - Extra Parking and Access Letter from Mr JAV Roberts, Managing Director Blanchard, dated 4th July 2011 tabled and considered. The States Engineer advised that an advantage with this proposal is that drainage works will be carried out.

RESOLVED unanimously to approve for Blanchard's to lay a concrete pad over the railway line to the rear of the store to serve as parking for customers, subject to drainage issues being addressed and approval from the Alderney Railway Society being obtained. States Engineer to deal.

JBT

Chief Executives office to deal with any change to railway lease.

CE Office

52.5 Braye Lane Letter and photographs from Jurat G W Baron O.B.E, Chairman Driffield Estates Ltd, dated 17th June 2011 tabled and discussed. The Committee requested the States Engineer write to the homeowners to request their vehicles, boats and trailers are removed from States land and to instruct the States Works Department to appropriately remove the overgrowing Japanese knotweed.

JBT

52.6 Any Other Business Relating to Roads and Transport None.

53/2011 Any Other Business

- Mr Walden queried progress with regards to driving tests; the Chief Executive advised that the new instructor will be over shortly for category B and category A licence testing and an agreement is ongoing regarding motorcycle (CBT) test. He also advised that an exemption has been put in place for the category of licence ambulance drivers require; the Chairman requested the information is obtained in writing in order to advise St John's Alderney Ambulance.

Meeting closed: 12:40

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 13th September 2011

Signed: Mr W Walden

Date: 13th September 2011