

As the commissioners were unable to hold a meeting in May (07.05.20), the clerk prepared a list of all correspondence received and circulated this to the Commissioners. Comments (if given) are shown below each item

Public

Isle of Man Government

Leaflets from Government regarding Covid 19 etc (you may have received these at home too)

Local Government Unit

Future meetings - Email received outlining 3 options (already shared with you all)

1. Carry on with meetings happening in person
2. Hold meetings over other formats (such as video or teleconferencing) so that you don't have to physically meet
3. Postpone meetings until the current restrictions are lifted

I have chased up the department to see how they are progressing changes to legislation, allowing meetings to be postponed.

If meetings are not postponed, we will need to figure out how we will hold a meeting.

I have now received further feedback from Steve Willoughby of the Local Government Unit.

In terms of local authority meetings the Regulations are not likely to differ in any way to the information provided by email below.

The Regulations are intended to give the legal backing to Local Authorities (giving more options) to allow your authority to determine what they feel is the best way to proceed in relation to meetings over the next few weeks or so. You will be able to postpone the AGM meeting and leave the current appointments, chairman, vice chairman, memberships of boards, and committees in place until a later date or hold the meeting by video conferencing or some like manner or even where its determined to do so hold physical meetings (as long as of course that the Authority satisfies itself that they are in compliance with any broader regulations re gatherings and social distancing). These new emergency regulations should give you the flexibility to make those decisions. The finer details will be included in the Regulations.

As soon as we can I will make sure the Regulations are sent to all the Authorities. In the meantime you may wish to think about what is the best course of action for your authority based on the proposed regulations.

I have now received further feedback (Friday 1st May 20)

As you are aware the Department has been seeking to introduce Emergency Powers (Regulations) to assist Local Authorities during this Coronavirus Proclamation Period which would cover issues such as what happens if Annual Meetings cannot take place in May and also at issues such as appointments to Boards and Committees, virtual meetings and how to deal with any casual vacancies which may occur over the coming weeks.

Unfortunately there have been unavoidable delays in finalising these by the end of April as we had planned.

Therefore as today is the 1st May and LAs will be planning their Annual meetings (as set out in Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 1985) the Department wish to advise that all Local Authorities consider very carefully whether they feel that they can undertake these meetings safely and in line with Government

regulations and guidance. If there is any doubt that this cannot at this time be achieved we advise that your authorities look to postpone any AGM until at the earliest the latter part of May by which point we hope to have the regulations in place.

If you have any initial concerns following this email can I ask that you respond to this email ASAP so we can look to assist further?

I THINK WE SHOULD FIX A DATE WHEN WE MAKE A DECISION OF HOW TO HOLD OUR MEETING IN THE EVENT THAT THIS LEGISLATION DOES NOT GO THROUGH.

At this time the matter of holding an AGM before the end of May was considered (as per the rules) which we would arrange if the regulations were not in place as mentioned above.

Covid 19 – Waste Management – advice and contingency plans

March 24th, DOI bring banks and CA sites all closed. - *These have since re-opened on a limited basis with types of materials being accepted reduced. (This varies from site to site)*

Personal waste – *already advised on our website (this is mainly in relation to people recovering from Covid 19 and how to safely dispose of their waste, also information of the safe collection of refuse for those providing that service.*

Maintenance of Green Spaces – Government advise they are only undertaking urgent maintenance on priority and key sites. They also suggest visibility splays (hedge cutting) could be undertaken.

As part of the lock down has now been lifted, we could undertake some of our local services as and when required.

Vikki Vikki emailed me and asked me to post information re CA sites and Bring Banks that she had seen on Garff's facebook page. *I had already put this information onto our website and also the Sulby Community Facebook page.*

Office of Cyber Security and Information Assurance They are offering further training in relation to GDPR. *I would really like to attend this to expand my very limited knowledge. The course has been postponed for the time being. A future date will be advised as some point.*

Manx Utilities

Previously advised that our street lighting up times may not be updated where they required manual adjustment. We have since been advised that following a review of the work practises and additional precautions of Covid 19, MUA were able to update street lighting clocks across the network to align with current BST on Friday 3rd April 2020.

Email received from Hilary Peterson – Visit Agency for Non-Serviced Accommodation Sector Representative – seeking information from the sector to support any business case. They are gathering evidence to present to the appropriate business case seeking a scheme to change or additional funds where appropriate in respect of our sectors.

I explained that we are a local authority, but offer our hall as a hostel (registered with Tourism). We will be effected by the lock down as our hall will not be in use and that the income lost equates to a 5p in the pound on the rates. I provided information of our lost hostel booking for this financial year and also explained the lost bookings from the community not using our hall for events, clubs, parties etc. I got the impression that what we offer was not part of any support

package offered by the government, but by gathering information from this area (Non-Serviced Accommodation) a case could be made.

Northern Local Authorities Swimming Pool Board

Advising swimming pools closed and after discussions with the OHR and Industrial Relations they are in a position to have staff available for redeployment to Local Commissioning bodies as well as Government Departments, working together for the IOM. Staff being redeployed will continue to be paid by the Board, but would need to be covered by our own Employers Liability Insurance. If we require any additional staff we have to contact the pool manager.

We do not require this help, but the offer will I'm sure be a great help to others.

Tim Baker update on various highway issues -

Claddagh Road Drainage ditch outside and between Allandale Farm and Allandale House (new bungalow) Apparently Alan Hardinge is waiting for an update from his team and will advise further information to us. (this goes back to 2017 and if you all recall we discussed it further at the meeting Alan attended here with us, November 18) Just to update you further I had a call from Linda Thompson of Allandale Farm last Friday. She had called and left a message to advise that as no one had carried out maintenance to the ditch she had cleared it out herself but was unable to take the debris away. I immediately called Alan Hardinge and explained that he had advised at our meeting that the ditch was to be maintained by DOI and that Linda had cleaned it herself. I was not prepared to use our contractor to sweep up the debris and it was their responsibility. He promised to send a sweeper and I would call him again in a week to see what plans he had in place for the ongoing maintenance of the ditch. The road was swept on Friday afternoon.

Dhoor Lane Logged for patching, but Tim has expressed the view that a more fundamental piece of work is required.

He further advised about **Glen Auldyn Road** (not raised by us) Finally, MUA and Highways are discussing a co-ordinated approach to the Glen Auldyn road, which is in a poor state but also needs water mains replacement in due course (no date for this yet). This work needs co-ordinating as there is no point resurfacing the road only for it to be dug up subsequently!

Henry Bloom Noble Library

Offering for residents to join the library for free. *I have put this information onto our website and also posted it on the Sulby Community facebook page.*

Isle of Man Bank

Offering financial assistance – capital repayment holidays *(we have no loans with IOM bank)*
Temporary emergency loans – *we have been advised by Treasury that we will receive 80% of our rates as normal. We may at some point in the future need a small amount of borrowing, but this will depend on what further rates are received from treasury (rate payers in the community) We may have to undertake cash flow forecasts to see how we are performing.*

Manx Radio

Advising that Ewan Gawn is stepping down from his role of Local Democracy Reporter to become Manx Radio's Deputy Editor. His role is being taken over by Aaron Ibenez for the time being.