

Confirmed Minutes

**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Michael Commissioners
held in the Commissioners' Office on
Monday 19th April 2021
at 7.00pm**

Members Present	
	Mr Matthew James Diehl (MJD) (Chairman)
	Mrs Kerry Ann Best (KAB) (Vice Chairman)
	Mr Michael Anthony Neary (MAN)
	Mr Andrew Walter Berry (AWB)
	Mrs Avril Mary Muller (AM)
	Mr John Duncan Livingstone (JDL)
	Mr Paul Leslie Clark (PLC)
In Attendance	
	Mrs K A Hodgson (Clerk)
	Mr Alfred Cannan (MHK)
	Mr Tim Baker (MHK) (Infrastructure Minister)
	Mr Jeffrey Robinson (Director of Highways) (JR)
	Mr Blair Aitcheson (BA)
	Mr Dan Pyle (DP)
	Mr Scott Duncan (SD)
Apologies	No Apologies

Item Number	Minute	Action By
1.	APOLOGISES. No Apologies received.	
2.	Meeting with the DOI Director of Highways, Officer's, DOI Minister Tim Baker and MHK (Minister) Alfred Cannan Regarding Crossings. The Chairman welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. JR the Director of Highways recalled the meetings that had been held in the last year to meet with the Commissioners and consult with the constituents regarding the new road design. He explained that after the last public meeting he and the other Officers and MHKs met with the Commissioners and had agreed that they were now entering into an agreement for the road design and would be going out to tender for a contractor to fulfil the works required. This had been agreed by the Board that were in post at the time, so he was slightly concerned as to why a further meeting had been called, but the Department were happy to listen to the Boards concerns regarding the crossings. KAB informed them that the main concern was over the legality of the proposed crossings. A discussion ensued regarding the legality of the crossings both JR Director of Highways and the Design Officer BA explained that there is only one crossing near the EVF garage, and this would very shortly be legalised. The legislation for the crossing is waiting approval. PC asked if there are any informal crossings here on the Island. JR said there is a crossing at Friary Park and	

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other areas. A discussion ensued around how the crossings work and that if there is someone on the crossing or just the road, the driver approaching the pedestrian should always have the ability of doing an emergency stop without hitting the pedestrian.

KAB told the Board and Officers that the parents at school who had spoken to her are supportive of the crossings and the continuous walkways, but there needs to be some media training from the Department so that residents and visitors understand how the crossings work. She stated that this needs to be an island wide campaign and would also be relevant for Douglas Promenade once completed. Minister Baker stated this will be something that the DOI will investigate in the future. She also asked if possible, the work at the school be done during the school holidays to make things less disruptive for the children and parents especially with the darker nights during the winter months. JR said it was not something that they had considered but he would make a note of this and speak to the contractors.

AM stated that a lot of people including Disabled people use the bus service and the crossing at the EVF garage maybe helpful to help people to cross if drivers are educated properly. She also stated that the bus stops are used by the school children.


A discussion also ensued regarding the crossings being in red and why this is the case. JR explained that this is because it is a very noticeable colour and as the asphalt is red stone it will not lose its colour and will stay red. We may get black rubber marks on the road, but these will be washed off when it rains. He further explained that as the A3 through the village is the TT course they cannot use painted surfaces as the Bikers when racing could have a serious accident. The Board had previously asked for the traffic to be slowed coming into the village and this was at the time agreed to be the best solution as the crossings would slow the traffic down.

Minister Baker suggested that the Commissioners discussed this and then maybe come back to the DOI in the next day or so, but PLC asked if the Board felt ready to vote on the crossing at the EVF garage to which they agreed they were. The vote was five Commissioners in favour of the crossing and two Commissioners against the crossing. The vote was carried for the crossing to go ahead. SID units will also be placed through the village in consultation with the Commissioners as to where they are placed.

Minister Baker brought up that a concern had been raised regarding the continuous walkways. This was then discussed, and PLC asked about the rationale of where they place the walkways and the legality. It was explained by JR that they are completely legal and are in the Highway Code and used in other countries and that the pedestrian does have right of way.

PLC asked about the continuous walkway at Balleira road and that if the continuous walkway is laid flat for the pedestrians and the Disabled users the cars would need to go up to manoeuvre over them. This would also be the issue at Station Road and both these entrances have blind corners coming out. PLC said that wagon drivers would find this exceedingly difficult, but JR said that instead of one manoeuvre they would need to make two manoeuvres to get out. He explained that normally when you are driving you would look to make sure no one is coming before you manoeuvre, so this will still be the same case. KAB explained that the Commissioners had met with SGT Lee Wright at one of the meetings after the plans had been put into the Commissioners' offices and the Police are happy with the design and that it should slow down

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	<p>the traffic through the village and that the children and pedestrians will have right away on the continues walkways.</p> <p>A vote was now taken on if the walkways should still go ahead. The vote was six Commissioners for them to continue and one against. The Vote was carried for the walkways to go ahead.</p> <p>A further concern regarding the crossing that was being put in outside the entrance to Cannan Court was raised by PLC and the lighting on the crossing as a resident had raised this issue, so a discussion ensued regarding the lighting. A further concern was raised regarding access which is needed for horse boxes and waggons to Whitehouse farm, and the concern about how narrow the entrance seemed to be now the work is progressing.</p> <p>DP explained that they had found an asbestos pipe which they are having to remove, but once done the road will all be put back. He said they would investigate this to make sure wagons would be able to still access the farm without difficulty.</p> <p>AM asked how long the work was estimated to take to complete. Minister Baker said it would take approximately fifty-two weeks, but they are running five weeks behind due to lockdown. KAB raised concerns over TT 2022 and was informed discussions would take place with the contractor to ensure the project would not affect the TT next year. The Department would keep the Commissioners informed of any changes.</p> <p>The meeting concluded at this point and the Chairman MJD thanked everyone for attending the meeting and all their help.</p>	
3.	<p>CLOSURE OF MEETING The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.10pm.</p>	
	Signed: 	
	Date: 5-5-21	