

Destination First Board Minutes

	There are two elements: • Consideration of introducing a Tourism Levy similar to other jurisdictions • The IOM designing and introducing a booking platform which would possibly deliver: ○ reduced commission fees for accommodation bookings currently 20% through online travel agents ○ importantly retaining that fee and additional income on island ○ Additional income used to deliver on Island tourism infrastructure and products			
	IOM Community Ranger update Chair presented an update on the Community Ranger pilot. • A strong partnership is developing with MNH with value being added on the ground • DOI to be encouraged to support with task requests on path repairs, strimming and signage Recommendation to consider: • Extending Meayll Peninsula pilot to December 26 • Review expanding to other hubs • Task requests outside pilot area to be undertaken • Work with IOM walking groups to support with reporting path issues and sign replacement			
	Local Authority review update PG & the Chair met with Minister Crookall on 2 March 26 to discuss PG's review along with the outcome of clause 5 which is awaited. Subject to its removal PG will work with all Local authorities to consider whether larger authorities with dedicated skills areas could be outsource to smaller authorities.		PG	May 26
	Local Economy Fund (LEF) update Rob Green of the Business Agency, who unfortunately could not attend, circulated an update on the success of the LEF which gave illustrations of where the £250K had been allocated. Overall, a good news story acknowledged by the Destination First Board.			
	Review of other Destination First Activities • Summerland site. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] This has been an ongoing topic, and it was felt that a meeting with DCC /DOI /DF be organised to agree way forward. • Douglas Promenade Sea Wall Art – Discussion ensued as to the stalled installation of the wall Art due to an apparent lack of funding. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] • Sea wall – meeting requested by DCC with Chair & CG to		RC/KR/JRo GS/Chair KR/CG/Chair	May 26 May 26 27/4/26

	discuss sea wall as well as Marine Gardens • Horse Trams – DOI Business Case has been submitted to Tynwald for debate/support in May. DF Board largely in favour of the work being completed			
	Updates Charles Guard (CG) • Charles advised that Planning had been approved for the Godfred Croven bronze statue in St Johns • He also requested that we discuss his request and approved budget for Interpretation boards offline to agree design and construction etc MNH (PW) • Considerable amount of work going on within MNH • Strong Easter • [REDACTED] • Peel Castle walls have restoration completed • Castletown Market Square building on target to open for the start of TT • Abbey Roof repairs underway • Niarbyl Restaurant to go for EOI in May • Bay Room in the museum going out for an EOI • Laxey visitor hub has been erected within 6 days but internal fit out will delay opening until July Ballaugh Commissioners (SC) • Pleasing to note that DOI have addressed the issue with the Bus stop since raised at last Board meeting • Northern Civic Amenity Site debate continues with a likely shortfall in funding to come from local authorities • [REDACTED] DEFA (AL) • DEFA going for Forestry accreditation with subsequent delivery to associated standards • South Barrule site is extremely busy with increase in visitors moving in part into Stoney Mountain plantation causing some issues in relation to habitat & wildlife • Glen Helen is now open • DEFA & DF working on a partnership to review the erosion of the path up Snaefell. PIN is being worked on for supplier to provide path design & engineering is likely to fall into next year with expected costs to be considerable DOI (GS) • Ramsey Flood Defenses – GS provided an update on the revaluation of the engineering options for suitable & effective sea defenses Mrs Maltby MHK • All relevant issues previously covered/discussed Visit IOM (DH) • Update the refurbish of the Sea Terminal • Working with MNH on Welcome Centre hubs • Cruise update with member of Visit in Florida exploring new opportunities. Cruise numbers to be down on last year with smaller vessels arriving • Visit working with others on the 1050 Anniversary celebrations of Tynwald Jo Davies • Reminder of the Year of Manx Language and the translation services available from Culture Vannin • Art Council Resources should be a consideration and		CG/Chair	16/4/26
			AL/Chair	TBA

	applications are welcome Arbory and Rushen (PG) - Whilst Phil has retired from Arbory & Rushen Commissioners the handover continues - New Talking bench being installed 250-year anniversary of Colby Bridge - Funding approval from Visit to progress with film of the Meayll Peninsula Douglas City Council (KR) - Friendship agreement with Dublin City Council being formalised 2nd Anniversary of DCC held with Drone show being the highlight with thousands in attendance - James Browen public housing apartments officially open - Marine Garden flood damage along with equipment Braddan Commissioners (JR) - Provided tour of the Braddan Roundhouse facilities to Board members which was appreciated			
	Next Meeting Date: TBA			
	AOB The Board confirmed it would welcome the opportunity to provide input into the 2026/27 priorities, with officers to agree an appropriate approach from the programme perspective and incorporate this into a possible future workshop session Close			

Actions

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Description	Owner	Delivery/ response Date	Status
Destination First Annual Report signed off by DF Board to be printed/set and forwarded to Government CEO and to be publicly available	DH	At printers	Due May
Pedestrian & traffic monitoring on the Meayll Peninsula from MTG	RC/PW	Delayed May	Outstanding
Code for the use of Manx Language on IOM Signage	RT/RC	Style review by JD/DH	Due May
Design Code update from Betty Laurincova	DH/BL	29/4/26	Ongoing
Douglas Sea Wall Art – review to be undertaken to review funding etc and agree implementation plan	KR/GS	asap	May/June
Summerland update – meeting with DCC/DoI to agree way forward given planning application for temporary carpark has been declined	JRo/KR	May 26	Ongoing
Horse Tram – update DOI paper to Tynwald in May	JRo	May 26	awaited
Countryside code/litter codes – part of the design code considerations	DH	June 26	To be agreed
Local Authority Review now clause 5 has been addressed to be progressed	PG	August	underway
Destination First Minutes for 6 Sept 25 Nov 25, Jan 26 to be visible via DF site	Amanda Noble AN	May	Resource now in place
IOM Man public toilets onto Government Manngis Mapping system	AN	Jan 26	June