

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 23rd May 2016
at the Public Hall, St Martin.

Present:

Connétable de St Clément - L. Norman, Chairman (not present for item 1)
Connétable de St Pierre - J. M. Refault, Vice Chairman
Connétable de St Héliér - A. S. Crowcroft
Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian
Connétable de St Brélade - S. W. Pallett
Connétable de St Martin - M. P. S. Le Troquer
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre
Connétable de St Jean - C. H. Taylor (not present for items 5 – 9, 12 - 13)

Apologies for absence were received from the Connétable de Ste Marie - Mrs J. Gallichan; the Connétable de St Ouën - M. J. Paddock; the Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard and the Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur.

In attendance:

Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary

Non-exempt (public) under Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2011

Planning for
Jersey's future -
presentation

1. The Comité received the Director – Corporate Policy and the Assistant Director Strategic Planning and Performance, Chief Minister's Department, who gave a presentation explaining a new approach to planning for Jersey's future that would guide the development of a long term vision for the Island. Each Council of Ministers was required by the States of Jersey Law 2005 (Article 18) to propose for the States approval a statement of their common strategic policy but it often took longer to see the benefits of these objectives. Many countries and regions were now setting a longer term vision, with aims for the next 20 years, and it was intended to prepare this for Jersey around the three core strategy themes of economy, community and environment. The framework would set out strategic goals, key outcomes and Island indicators so that progress over time could be measured.

The Comité was informed that the presentation had recently been given to a range of island organisations as the first stage of a public consultation. In the coming months, the Chief Minister's Department hoped to engage Island residents in a discussion about their aspirations for Jersey's future, the challenges faced, and how to manage these changes and build on Jersey's strengths and opportunities. The Comité commented on the importance of the parishes, as local government, and agreed that the parishes should be recognised as key partners within government. Following discussion, and having agreed that publicity about the consultation should be provided at parish halls and in parish magazines/newsletters, the Comité thanked the officers for attending and they withdrew from the meeting.

Minutes

2. The minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2016, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Pub. Elections (Jsy) Law 2002 - Electoral Registers and CAF	<p>3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 11 of 18th April 2016, noted that the decommissioning date for the electoral register system (ERS) SQL database had been deferred but that confirmation of funding for a new system was awaited.</p>
Littering and dog fouling consultation	<p>4. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 16 of 18th April 2016, noted that the Chairman and the Connétable of St Brelade had met with key stakeholders to consider the responses to the consultation on littering and dog fouling and the action which might be taken. The Comité agreed that all agencies must work together to tackle the issue and to increase pride in the island – littering and dog fouling was anti-social behaviour and there should be zero tolerance. The public view was that “words of advice” did not work and the consultation showed the public was looking for a more proactive response.</p> <p>The Comité decided that as the penalty for dropping litter and for not clearing up dog faeces in a park or on a beach or road was a fine of up to £500 but, if the offence was dealt with at a Parish Hall Enquiry, a penalty of up to £200 might be imposed, the penalties for littering and dog fouling need not be increased at present. However, as Eco-active was to launch a new campaign to coincide with World Environment Day (Sunday 5th June 2016) this would be the start for a multi-agency approach to target litter / dog fouling hot spots and to enforce the existing legislation with zero tolerance. Assistance would be provided by staff of States Departments who had been appointed as ‘Authorised Officers’ and by the States and Honorary Police.</p> <p>The Comité considered there was merit in bringing forward Fixed Penalty legislation which would require payment of a fine ‘on the spot’ or within a limited period but further discussion was required to determine how this might operate and the offences which might be dealt with by a fixed penalty notice. The Comité was informed that dog fouling on school playgrounds/playing fields was a problem but often this was private land; consideration might have to be given to including such areas in legislation e.g. Policing of Parks Regulations. However the Comité decided it was not an appropriate time to pursue the DNA profiling of dogs.</p> <p>Following discussion the Comité agreed the response should be published in the report on the consultation on littering and dog fouling and that a media release should be issued in conjunction with key stakeholders to advise of the action to be taken to tackle littering and dog fouling.</p>
Liberation 2016	<p>5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 8th February 2016, noted a letter of thanks from the Bailiff for its valued contribution to the Island celebrations for the 71st anniversary of Liberation Day on 9th May 2016. The Comité agreed to invite the Bailiff’s Chief Officer to its next meeting so that it might provide feedback on the event which could be considered when planning arrangements for future years.</p>
JT and fibre connections at Parish Halls	<p>6. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 12 of 14th March 2016, noted the draft plan for the roll out of fibre connections across the Island to ensure Parish Halls were grouped together into one mini-programme of work.</p>
Honorary Police - group insurance policies renewal	<p>7. The Comité noted the renewal of the group Honorary Police insurance policies (for all parishes except St Helier) from 1st May 2016 namely the Public liability and torts policy (Insurance Corporation); Group legal expenses policy (DAS Group); Group Personal Accident policy (Chubb) and Group Personal Accident dental expenses top-up policy (NFU Mutual). The 2016 insurance booklet included a health questionnaire, for pre-existing medical conditions, and declaration for completion by every officer and return to the Connétable.</p>

Parish
Assembly –
request to hold

8. The Comité discussed the St Helier Parish Assembly held on 17th May 2016 following a request in accordance with Article 9 of the *Loi (1804) au sujet des assemblées paroissiales* that the Assembly consider the merits of the proposition ‘Outsourcing’ (P.29/2016) and decide whether or not to express support for this *projet* and advise the Connétable, the ten deputies and the eight Senators accordingly. The Connétable of St Helier said he had sought advice as to whether the subject was one that might be considered by the Assembly and he reported that 51 votes had been cast at the meeting (the Assembly membership exceeded 18,500 persons) and the holding of the Assembly had cost £628.

Next meeting

9. The Connétable of St Martin was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 20th June 2016.

Chairman*L Norman*..... Date20/06/2016.....