

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 18th September 2017
at the Public Hall, St Martin.

Present:

Connétable de St Clément - L. Norman, Chairman
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 Ste Marie - Mrs J. Gallichan
Connétable de St Brélade - S. W. Pallett (present for items 9, 10 and 15)
Connétable de St Martin - M. P. S. Le Troquer
Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre
Connétable de St Jean - C. H. Taylor
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur

An apology for absence was received from the Connétable de St Ouën - M. J. Paddock.

In attendance:

Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary

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

Minutes

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2017, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

States members
– qualification
for election and
draft
Connétables
(Amendment
No. 2) (Jersey)
Law 201-

2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 10 of 10th July 2017, considered a paper from the Assistant Greffier of the States on the work of the Privileges and Procedures Committee regarding the qualification criteria for election of States Members. The Comité also received the draft Connétables (Amendment No. 2) (Jersey) Law 201- which the Privileges and Procedures Committee had drafted as part of the work it was undertaking on making the statutory qualification criteria for elected States members apply equally to Senators, Connétables and Deputies. The draft amendment therefore proposed the insertion of Articles 4B and 4C into the Connétables Law, the wording of which was exactly the same as Articles 7 and 8 of the States of Jersey Law 2005. The draft amendment also proposed two consequential amendments: the repeal of Article 4A of the States of Jersey Law and the removal of the reference to Connétables in Article 24 of the Bankruptcy (Désastre) (Jersey) Law 1990. The Comité noted the proposals and had no comments to make thereon.

Firearms
(Jersey) Law
2000 – shooting
club approvals

3. The Comité was informed that the Minister for Home Affairs had received applications from three clubs for renewal of the approval as shooting clubs under Article 15 of the Firearms (Jersey) Law 2000. Before granting or refusing to grant an approval or varying or withdrawing an approval, the Minister was required to consult the Comité in accordance with Article 15(3) of the law. In each case the conditions had been met for approval as a shooting club and, having discussed the applications, the Comité agreed it had no comments to make on the approval as a shooting club of the following:

St Brélade Small-Bore Rifle Club (based at The Tunnels in St Aubin)

Jersey Air-Rifle Club (based at The Tunnels in St Aubin)

Lecq Clay Target Club (based at the Lecq club premises in St Ouen)

- States of Jersey Police – Deputy Chief Officer
4. The Comité received the States of Jersey Police Deputy Chief Officer, Mr J Blazeby, who introduced himself to the Connétables as part of his induction to Jersey and to further develop relationships between the States of Jersey Police and the parishes. The Deputy Chief Officer would be attending a future meeting of the Comité des Chefs de Police. The Comité discussed various aspects of policing, and the honorary police, with the Deputy Chief Officer and was assured that the principle of high visibility continued for the States police. Following discussion the Comité thanked the Deputy Chief Officer for attending and he then withdrew from the meeting.
- Roads Committee – election of members
5. The Comité, arising from the States written question no. 464 to the Chairman about measures to increase public participation in elections for Parish roles, considered whether the election of members of the Roads Committee and of Roads Inspectors should be staggered with some elected each year rather than all being elected every third year. The Comité recalled that other elections which were now staggered, to ensure continuity of experience and knowledge, included Centeniers, Procureurs du Bien Public and members of the Assessment Committee. Following discussion the Comité decided, at the current time, not to seek an amendment to legislation to alter the timing of the elections.
- Countryside Access Strategy for Jersey 2016 – JASP
6. The Comité nominated the Connétable of St Helier as its representative to attend an initial meeting of Jersey Access Service Providers (JASP) on 19th October 2017. JASP was one of two groups created to provide a means to improve access to the Jersey countryside whilst addressing environmental requirements as part of the Countryside Access Strategy for Jersey 2016.
- Childminder registration and Connétable’s reference
7. The Comité was informed that the States of Jersey ‘Requirements of Registration for a Registered Childminder’ currently included a reference from the Connétable of the Parish in which the person and family resided. The Head of Early Years in the Education Department was reviewing the process and proposed to use paperwork based on that used by the fostering and adoption services but had enquired whether Connétables should continue to provide such references. Having considered that the operation of a childminding ‘business’ might have implications for a parish, for example an impact on traffic from clients dropping off and collecting children, the Comité considered the Connétable should continue to be invited to comment on applications to be registered as a childminder.
- Office - accounts 2016/17 and budget 2017/18
8. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 7 of 10th July 2017, received the audited accounts for the Comité des Connétables/Supervisory Committee for the year ended 30th April 2017 and noted expenditure of £73,972 and income of £75,017 thus resulting in a surplus of £1,045 for the year. The balance sheet, which included the Comité des Chefs de Police (see minute no. 9 of this meeting), showed net current assets of £19,388. The auditors Alex Picot had reported that they would be issuing a clean audit report. Following discussion the accounts were adopted with all in favour.
- This is also recorded in the minutes of the Supervisory Committee*
- The Comité recalled that it had approved the proposed office budget for 2017/2018 estimating expenditure in a sum of £79,635 and had decided that the costs would be shared equally between the Parishes. In accordance with the Comité’s rules on voting where the matter would commit either the Comité or any of the members to any expenditure the matter should be done and decided by 10 votes in favour on the second occasion and accordingly the Comité confirmed the office budget for 2017/18, that parishes would contribute £79,620 and that this would be funded equally by parishes (£6,635 per parish).

Comité des
Chefs de Police
accounts and
budget

9. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of this meeting, considered a letter from the Chairman of the Comité des Chefs de Police proposing a budget expenditure of £1,750 for 2017/2018. The Comité noted the audited accounts for the Comité des Chefs de Police for the year ended 30th April 2017 showing income of £1,500 and expenditure of £1,016 resulting in a surplus of £484.

The Comité agreed that parishes should contribute £1,750 and that this should be funded equally by parishes (£145.83 per parish) but recalled its rules on voting required that where the matter would commit either the Comité or any of the members to any expenditure, the matter should be done and decided by 12 votes in favour on the first occasion and, as 12 members were not present, it agreed the matter should be considered again at the next meeting.

Next meeting

10. The Connétable of St Martin was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 16th October 2017.

Chairman ...*L Norman*..... Date*16/10/2017*.....