

Supervisory Committee Connétables de Jersey

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 12th July 2021
at the Parish Hall, St Brelade.

Present:

Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Chairman
Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft, Vice Chairman
Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur
Connétable de St Pierre - R. P. Vibert
Connétable de Ste Marie - J. M. Le Bailly
Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan

Apologies for absence were received from the Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard, the Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre, the Connétable de St Ouën - R. A. Buchanan and the Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone.

In attendance:

Senior Procureur du Bien Public of St Clement - Mrs S Pearmain representing the Parish owing to the vacancy in office of Connétable.
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 14th June 2021, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Approval of
Rates Lists
2021

2. The Supervisory Committee, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 14th June 2021, in accordance with Article 11(1) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005, approved the Rates Lists for 2021 for the following parishes. The Committee noted that all Connétables had had the opportunity to view the rateable values in each Parish, as contained in the Rates Lists, using the Rates Online service. Three members of the Committee signed the form of declaration and certificate to be appended to each Approved Rate List certifying its approval as follows -

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Signed by:</u>
Grouville	Connétables of St Lawrence, St Helier and St Mary
St Mary	Connétables of St Brelade, St Peter and Trinity
St Lawrence	Connétables of St Brelade, St Peter and Trinity.

Accounts and
budget

*This is also
recorded in the
minutes of the
Comité des
Connétables*

3. The Supervisory Committee received the audited accounts for the Comité des Connétables/Supervisory Committee for the year ended 30th April 2021 and noted expenditure of £113,414 and income of £115,508 thus resulting in a surplus of £2,094 for the year. The balance sheet, which included the Comité des Chefs de Police, showed net current assets of £27,420. The auditors Alex Picot had reported that they would be issuing a clean audit report. The accounts were adopted with all in favour.

The Committee also considered the proposed office budget for 2021/2022 covering staff and office costs. Following discussion, the Committee approved the budget and that

each Parish would contribute £9,850 towards the expenditure estimated at £118,220. The budget of £1,500 for the Comité des Chefs de Police was also approved and this would be shared equally (£125 per Parish).

Rates (Jersey)
Law 2005 –
standards in
PARISH
service

4. The Supervisory Committee, with reference to its minute no. 6 of 9th November 2020, was reminded of the appropriate action to take if it was discovered that an owner had made an inaccurate return over a number of years of the property owned on 1st January. Article 3(10) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 provided that “*A person who provides information under this Article that the person knows to be false in a material particular is guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment for a term of 2 years and to a fine.*” and a complaint of suspected criminality should be referred to the States of Jersey Police for a decision on whether an investigation should commence. The Committee was also reminded of the recently approved ‘Standards in PARISH Service’ (the Comité des Connétables minute no. 15 of 12th July 2021 referred) which should guide the actions of all Parish officers so that they were accountable and impartial in all decision-making.

Census 2021 –
RMS data

5. The Supervisory Committee, with partial reference to its minute no. 1 of 18th August 2021, considered a request from Statistics Jersey for information from the Rates Management System (RMS). Statistics Jersey proposed to provide a Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) to each Parish in relation to its request for the following data –

- a) Information of the name of the owner /responsible person on the rates list for the purposes of non-compliance of the Jersey Census (i.e. for households who had refused to take part). Statistics Jersey said they were legally allowed to request this information under both the Jersey Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018 and the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018. This would be for a limited number of addresses/UPRNs.
- b) Information relating to the number of bedrooms, and the dwelling type (flat / house etc) for every domestic property on the Parish rates list. This would be for the purposes of comparing against the information collected as part of the census, to help fill in any gaps in the census data and also to help assess the quality of the Parish rates data. Statistics Jersey said they were legally allowed to request this data under the Jersey Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018. No personal information would be required.

The Committee agreed that each Connétable would consider the DSA when this was provided with a view to providing information to assist with data where information had not been returned by the householder but expressed concern that data for all domestic property might be requested to assess its quality.

Chairman Date