

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 6th September 2021
at the Town Hall, St Helier.

Present:

Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Chairman (present for 1-4, 10-17)
Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft, Vice Chairman
Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard
Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre
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 Ouën - R. A. Buchanan
Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone
Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan
Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy

In attendance:

Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary

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

Connétable of St Clement – welcome
1. The Comité extended a warm welcome to Mr M. O'D. Troy who had been elected as Connétable of St Clement and sworn his oath of office in the Royal Court on 30th July 2021. The Connétable thanked the Comité for its welcome and offers of support and looked forward to working with his fellow Connétables.

Minutes
2. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2021, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Roads Law: legislation review IHE
3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 16 of 12th July 2021, recalled it had received a presentation regarding the Roads Law review from officers of the Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (IHE) Department who were seeking its support for the need for changes to legislation, to identify any issues/concerns/comments and to agree the approach to ensure Parish engagement with this project. The Comité was informed that presentations had been made to members of Roads Committees and Chefs de Police on 11th and 16th August 2021 with over 30 from all 12 parishes attending the two events.

The Comité recalled that IHE had proposed a small 'Parish Policy Group' which would work closely in conjunction with IHE Delivery Group(s) to consider policy options and proposals. The Parish Group would report to the Comité and it had been suggested the membership include 4-6 Parish officials and Roads Committee representatives. Those interested in offering to be a member of the project group were asked to give their names to their Connétable. The Comité received some proposals but noted that other Connétables had yet to meet with their Roads Committee to receive nominations. The Comité asked all Connétables to submit nominations to the Secretary by 17th September 2021 so that a decision could be reached on membership.

Carbon Neutral Strategy R.120/2021
4. The Comité, with partial reference to its minute no. 7 of 14th June 2021, noted correspondence from the Chairman to the Minister for the Environment following the States in-committee debate of the "Carbon Neutral Strategy"

R.120/2021. During that debate, the Minister had said how delighted and really inspired he was by the agenda coming from the Connétables relating to the ‘climate emergency’ debate and had expressed a desire to work further with the Parishes on climate emergency issues. In reply on behalf of the Minister, the Sustainability and Climate Change Engagement Manager, Government of Jersey, had offered to support Parishes with the climate emergency and had already started working with several Connétables on their carbon neutral ambitions. As an example, the Connétable of Trinity reported on the Manager’s attendance to give a talk after a Parish Assembly and of subsequent work to form a Parish climate group.

- Public Elections (Jersey) Law 2002 – Annual Statements 5. The Comité considered the Annual Statements to be sent out to every unit of dwelling accommodation, not later than 1st November, for completion and return in accordance with the requirements of Article 7(2) of the Public Elections (Jersey) Law 2002. In previous years this had included a message reminding of the forthcoming elections. The Comité approved the wording to be included on the template to remind of the 2022 elections for Connétables and Deputies.
- Corbett Le Quesne – “roadshow” event at Parish Halls 6. The Comité considered correspondence from Corbett Le Quesne proposing a “roadshow” event where experts could share their knowledge with the community, especially the elderly and their families, around the help available for elderly parents/relatives, in particular the living and accommodation costs of the Long Term Care scheme. The Comité considered this might fit well with the Government of Jersey’s ‘Closer to Home’ initiative and requested that the request be forwarded to the relevant Department.
- Tree Strategy stakeholder workshop invitation 7. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 7 of 12th July 2021, was informed by the Connétable of St Brelade that due to the sitting of the States Assembly he had been unable to attend the workshops held on 22nd/23rd July 2021, as part of the “Species and Habitat Protection” project aiming to protect, maintain and enhance Jersey’s current and future trees. The Comité noted that the Government of Jersey had since issued the Tree Strategy Survey with a closing date of 5th September 2021.
- JE micro-forest projects 8. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 18 of 12th July 2021, noted that the Minister for the Environment had issued Ministerial Decisions to waive the planning application fees for the Parishes for their micro-forest scheme in partnership with Jersey Electricity plc (MD 17 and MD 47 refer) and agreed a letter of thanks should be sent to the Minister.
- Dogs (Jersey) Law 1961 - representation 9. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 12th July 2021, noted that whilst Article 11B of the Dogs (Jersey) Law 1961 permitted any person to make a representation to the Magistrate’s Court alleging that a dog was dangerously out of control or was otherwise not kept under proper control, there was no published guidance to outline the process and an individual would need to seek their own advice. The Code of Practice for Dog Walkers issued by the Government of Jersey covered a number of areas including some addressed by legislation; where there was an alleged offence this should be reported to the States of Jersey Police so that the matter might be investigated.
- Liberation Day 2022 10. The Comité discussed the planning of events to mark the 77th anniversary of the Liberation on 9th May 2022. As events to mark the 75th and 76th anniversaries, in 2020 and 2021, had been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic, many were looking forward to celebrations in 2022 which would also be the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Comité agreed to seek further information from the Bailiff’s Chief Officer so that Parishes might take this into account when planning their events.
- Next meeting 11. The Connétable of St Helier was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 11th October 2021.

Chairman Date