

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 16th May 2022
at the Parish Hall, St John.

Present:

Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Chairman
Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft, Vice Chairman (present for items 1-7)
Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre (not present for items 13-16)
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 (not present for items 13-16)
Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan
Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy
Senior Procureur du Bien Public of St Saviour - Mr C R Le Quesne representing the Parish, in accordance with the rules of the Comité agreed at its meeting on 21st March 2011, owing to the vacancy in office of Connétable.

In attendance: Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary

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

Minutes

1. The minutes of the meetings held on 4th April and 28th April 2022, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Honorary
Police Group
Insurance
policies – 7-day
deferment
period and
booklet

2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 2 of 28th April 2022, recalled that the Group Personal Accident Policy had been renewed from 1st May 2022 (the policy covered all Parishes except St Helier which had its own cover). The terms of the policy included a deferment period of 7 days; this was a reduction from 14 days the previous year. Notwithstanding this reduction in the deferment period, which was welcomed, concern remained about the support available to a member of the Honorary Police in the first 7 days and the Honorary Police Insurance Panel asked that Connétables consider providing benefit for this period should a personal accident claim be successful. The cost to a Parish would be limited to the benefit available under the policy. The Connétables confirmed their support for the members of the Honorary Police and agreed that, where a personal accident claim was accepted by the insurer, they would be prepared to consider cover for the first 7 days of that claim.

The Comité also noted the insurance booklet had been updated and distributed to all Parishes so that each member of the Honorary Police and the Connétable in the 11 Parishes received a copy. The Comité agreed that every member should be asked to sign the declaration to confirm receipt of the booklet thereby acknowledging he/she was informed of the terms of the policies and the cover available.

Parish
Twinning
Associations

3. The Comité discussed the suggestion that the Parish Twinning Associations might hold twinning games in 2023 and considered whether the format for these games should be adjusted to move away from those which were more physical to those which could be enjoyed by all members, for example petanque. The Connétables supported this proposal and noted that as the last games were held in Jersey, those arranged for 2023 should be held in France.

The Comité then considered the timetable for ferries to France and commented that the current schedule was a disincentive to Jersey residents making a day-trip to France. It was also reported that persons arriving in Jersey from outside the Common Travel Area now required a valid passport. This was likely to prevent many French residents from travelling to Jersey (as they did not hold a passport but had previously been able to travel with an identity card only) and could adversely affect the continuation of the twinning links which had been established with Normandy and, in relation to St Clement, with Brittany. The Comité agreed it should encourage Maison Normandie to seek solutions to the ferry timetable difficulties and requested the Chairman to write accordingly.

Liberation 2022

4. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 16 of 4th April 2022, received feedback from Connétables on the events held to mark Liberation 77 on 9th May 2022. Those senior citizens invited to view the proceedings from the Pomme D'Or Hotel, and who had been presented to the Royal Party, had been delighted with the occasion though more timely communications about the arrangements would have been welcome and, as the weather had been fine on the day, some would have preferred to be in Liberation Square for the ceremony. The Comité considered that the times and arrangements for future events must take into account that the senior citizens who were either resident in Jersey during the Occupation, evacuated, deported or who served in the forces at that time were now in their 80s and 90s.

Platinum
Jubilee 2022

5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 17 of 4th April 2022, discussed arrangements relating to the celebration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022 and -

- a) noted that parishes which had received a grant from the Jersey Community Foundation had been asked to acknowledge the donor;
- b) determined which Parish events H.E. Lieutenant Governor, the Bailiff and the Deputy Bailiff would attend on 4th June 2022; and
- c) noted that medals would be received by all members of the Honorary Police who held office on 6th February 2022 and had served 5 years cumulative service in the emergency/armed services. The Comité recalled that similar medals presented to mark Her Majesty's golden and diamond jubilees had been presented by H.E. Lieutenant Governor at a single event and supported similar arrangements being made on this occasion.

Climate Liaison
Group

6. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 21 of 4th April 2022, received a brief report from the Connétable of St John on the Climate Liaison Group meeting held on 12th April 2022 and noted the next meeting would be on 19th July 2022. The group was set up by the Connétable of St John to share ideas, initiatives and lessons learnt and each Parish might nominate two delegates to attend.

Public Health
Strategy –
public health
and the
Parishes

7. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 14 of 4th April 2022, received the draft Public Health Strategy which "*sets out a clear and achievable vision for public health, as an entity that aims to work collaboratively with the unique range of assets Jersey has to offer, including the parishes*" and requested that any comments from Connétables should be sent to the Secretary by 27th May 2022.

Parish Beach
Clean boxes

8. The Comité considered a request from a director of Plastic Free Jersey regarding the relaunch of the Beach Clean box initiative and whether these boxes might be held at Parish Halls. The Comité agreed each Connétable should respond individually regarding the arrangements his/her Parish might be able to offer.

- The Parish Review – Operational Terms of Reference
9. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 4th April 2022, noted correspondence with the Minister for Treasury and Resources regarding the Parish Review. The Minister had asked her officers to proceed in line with the Operational Terms of Reference and to consider the additional points raised by the Comité about property ownership and the duplication of services. As the Minister was not seeking re-election the Comité's invitation to meet on 18th July 2022 would be passed to the new Minister.
- Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) with Customer and Local Services (CLS)
10. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 13 of 18th May 2020, noted that the Director General of Customer and Local Services (CLS) had advised that each of the 7 Parishes which received data, to help identify potentially vulnerable islanders early in the coronavirus pandemic, had confirmed deletion of all copies of this data as it was no longer required for the intended purpose (and was now out of date). The Comité received comments from Connétables that, should a similar situation arise again, steps should be taken to ensure this data was provided in a more timely manner as it had taken too long to organise at the start of the pandemic.
- Parishes' Green Waste (P.73/2022)
11. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 7 of 4th April 2022, noted that the States had adopted the proposition "Parishes' Green Waste" (P.73/2022) and had requested the Minister for Infrastructure to initiate arrangements in order that green waste from the Parishes and their designated contractors might be received free of charge at the green waste facility at La Collette. The Connétable of St Brelade outlined the next steps and explained that, to avoid rejection, the garden waste collected would have to be delivered clean to the waste facility.
- Arising from this the Comité discussed the provision of refuse collections services generally and of kerbside recycling services. Some Parishes provided this through a contractor whilst others had an in-house service. The Comité agree this topic should be an item for discussion at a future meeting.
- Jersey Royal Potato growing competition – weigh-in
12. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 7th March 2022, noted the arrangements for the weigh-in on 19th May 2022 of the Connétables entries in the Jersey Royal Potato growing competition and the presentations during that event to the individual Parish Occupation VIP winners.
- Jersey International Road Race 75th Anniversary
13. The Comité was informed by the Chairman that she had attended the event to mark the 75th anniversary of the Jersey International Road Race. Participants had included representatives of the Jersey Jaguar Enthusiasts, the Aston Martin Owners Club and guests from the Jersey Old Motor Club. In conversation with the organisers, the Chairman reported that they were supportive of providing the opportunity for Occupation VIPs to participate on a future occasion and the Comité agreed it should explore this possibility.
- Countryside access and wellbeing – network of Parish paths
14. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 17 of 7th March 2022, received a report from the Head of Land Resource Management, Natural Environment, Government of Jersey, and noted that the Covid Health and Social Recovery project, which aimed to create increased opportunities for people to benefit from accessing the countryside, was progressing well and had been widened to include Parish paths that had fallen into disrepair or required conveyancing support, legal input or updating to re-instate. The project was also now able to link in with the new Government volunteer program to help keep costs down. Outlines for four potential access paths in several Parishes had been received and would be assessed by the steering group against criteria (cost, use of volunteers, addition to the existing network and contribution to multi use (disabled access, walkers, horse riders etc)). The steering group was important to the approval of access schemes

and should any Connétable wish to join that group they were invited to contact the Department for further information.

Immigration and Community team

15. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 4 of 4th April 2022, received a report from the Connétable of St Clement on arrangements to support those from Ukraine who had sought refuge to stay with family in Jersey. An invitation had been extended on behalf of Connétables for such persons to seek support and assistance from the Parishes if they required.

Thanks and next meeting

16. The Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking all Connétables for their contributions and work as a member of the Comité during their terms of office 2018-2022 and these sentiments were reciprocated for her service as Chairman. On behalf of the Comité, the Chairman expressed thanks to the Secretaries for their exemplary service to the Connétables and Chefs de Police. The Comité noted that several Connétables had decided not to seek re-election and wished them well on their retirement. For those who on 22nd June 2022 were elected, or re-elected, the Comité would meet on 18th July 2022.

Chairman Date

