

# Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
at the Parish Hall, St Clement.

**Present:**

Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson, Chairman  
Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Vice Chairman  
Connétable de St Pierre - R. P. Vibert  
Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone  
Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy  
Connétable de Grouville - M. Labey  
Connétable de St Ouën - R. Honeycombe (not present for items 16, 21-24 inclusive)  
Connétable de Ste Marie - R. D. Johnson  
Connétable de St Sauveur - K. C. Lewis

Apologies for absence were received from the Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft; the Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur and the Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan.

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 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.
- Twinning  
Games 2023                2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, was reminded that Connétables should confirm with the organiser whether or not Parishes would attend the proposed twinings' gathering (Twinning Games) to be held in Granville on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023.
- Jersey Royal  
competition and  
Occupation  
VIPs                        3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 6 of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, confirmed the arrangements for the weigh-in of Jersey Royals grown by Occupation VIPs. This would be held at Parish Halls on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and the winners from each Parish, of heaviest crop and of most potatoes, would attend the weigh-in on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 when the results from each Parish would be announced.
- Armed Forces  
Steering Group            4. The Comité was reminded that the Minister for Home Affairs chaired the Armed Forces Steering Group which was established to review support to the Armed Forces and the community in a range of areas following the implementation of the Armed Forces Covenant which sought to improve the support available to Jersey veterans. The membership was set out in the original Terms of Reference and included a representative of the Connétables. The Connétable of St Lawrence confirmed she had previously been the Comité's representative though, as confirmed by the then Minister for Home Affairs in response to a States oral question on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, the Armed Forces Steering Group had last met in 2017. The Comité agreed that the Connétable of St Lawrence should continue as its representative on the Group.
- Arising from this, the Comité was reminded that residential units at Princess Elizabeth Court, Grève d'Azette, St Clement, were created to house members of the ex-Service community.

Council of Ministers – meetings at Parish Halls and constituency offices

5. The Comité, with partial reference to its minute no. 20 of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022, considered correspondence from the Chief Minister thanking the Chairman for his attendance at meetings of the Council of Ministers (CoM) and, as outlined in her Ministerial Plan, seeking agreement to the Council meeting in each of the Parishes during the year. An item on the agenda would be dedicated to Parish business which “would allow the Connétables and Deputies to put forward Parish views and provide an opportunity for areas of concern or mutual interest to be raised and discussed” and there would also be an opportunity for Ministers to meet Parish officials. The Connétable of St Clement confirmed that the CoM would be meeting at St Clement on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 and that the public were invited to attend at the end of the meeting for an hour.

Mindful that the Deputies represented the electors of a consistency, and not a Parish, the Comité agreed this should be drawn to the CoM’s attention. Specific Parish issues should be discussed with the Connétable and Parish officials (members of the municipality) whilst the Deputies should address issues of concern to those in their constituency.

The Comité also discussed the Chief Minister’s proposal to open constituency offices for States members and was informed by the Connétable of St Martin, in her capacity as Chair of the Privileges and Procedures Committee (PPC), that the States Greffe were assisting in this regard and in the provision of additional facilities in St Helier. The Comité heard from Connétables of the limited space available at most Parish Halls and that a dedicated office would not be feasible though a room might be available for occasional meetings with constituents, but the costs of such provision should not fall on the ratepayers of the Parish.

The Chairman was requested to reply to the Chief Minister and to write to the Chair of PPC accordingly and, in relation to the proposed dates for the CoM to meet at each Parish Hall in 2023, the Secretary was requested to liaise with Parishes to confirm bookings.

Community compass – update

6. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 7 of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, received details of the Community Compass project following the stakeholder event held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The Comité asked to receive a presentation on the project at a future meeting.

Children and Young People (Jersey) Law 2022 – training requirements

7. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 17 of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, and following the public consultation on the draft statutory guidance to be issued under the Children and Young People (Jersey) Law 2022, which would be enacted in 2023, noted the Comité Secretaries had been invited to join a small group to work with the project's consultants (Crest Advisory who were developing the statutory guidance) and Infinity (a local training provider) to inform the content of the training. This would relate to the content around Corporate Parenting and would connect the group with the Comité des Connétables and the Comité des Chefs de Police.

Gran Fondo cycling event 23 April 2023

8. The Comité discussed the proposed Gran Fondo cycling event being organised for Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 covering either 110km or 70km using roads across the Island. The request for Parishes was to approve the route (the Roads Committee was the highway authority for Parish roads) and to consider the implications for the Honorary Police (requests for assistance at junctions etc). The cyclists were expected to travel as a single group from the start (St Helier) to St Aubin before spreading out into smaller groups as the route went uphill.

The Comité noted that the Department for Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (IHE) proposed to issue a single event permit under the Road Works and Events (Jersey) Law 2016 (RWEL) on behalf of all highway authorities following consultation with those authorities. The organiser’s had asked to close Victoria Avenue westbound for the start of the event, and to close the Inner Road eastbound for the final sprint from Waterworks’

Valley to People's Park. Whilst supportive of the event, the Connétables agreed that road safety was the primary issue to be considered when determining the route and marshalling of junctions.

Honorary  
Police Platinum  
Jubilee medals  
– presentation

9. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, noted the arrangements for the presentation of the Platinum Jubilee Medals to members of the Honorary Police on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in the Town Church, St Helier with refreshments after in Church House.

Coronation and  
Liberation 2023

10. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 9 of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, was informed by the Chairman that, following the next meeting of the Bailiff's Consultative Panel, he would provide an update of island events to mark Liberation Day 78 – 2023 and the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The Connétables welcomed information on the proposed events so that arrangements for Parish events could be planned.

Parking fines -  
GoJ road  
cleaning lorries

11. The Comité discussed the request of the Senior Operations Manager - Parks & Gardens and Cleaning Services, Government of Jersey (GoJ) following a parking fine incurred by one of the road cleaning lorries during the course of the team's daily work, asking if Parish officers would call mobile numbers provided so any vehicle causing problems could be moved rather than being booked while carrying out vital work to keep the Island's roads clean and safe to use. Whilst the provision of contact details would be helpful, the Comité agreed that vehicles should not be parked in a position where they might cause an obstruction or cause danger to the public.

Flood resilience  
and gully  
cleaning

12. The Comité received a reminder from the Chairman that each Parish should maintain and clear, on a regular basis, any gully on a by-road. The issue of flood resilience and gully cleaning had been discussed at the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel Public Quarterly Hearing with the Minister for Infrastructure on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The Panel had questioned the Minister on flood mitigation at Grands Vaux and had heard that the amount of rainfall during the recent flooding would have far exceeded the maximum capacity of the reservoir, even if the reservoir had been empty.

Honorary  
Police Forum

13. The Comité received a brief report from the Chairman and Vice Chairman on the recent meeting of the Honorary Police Forum and proposals to undertake on-going publicity and awareness with a view to encouraging persons to stand for election as members of the Honorary Police.

Elections  
(Jersey) Law  
2002 –  
Procureur du  
Bien Public  
election

14. The Comité was informed by the Connétable of Grouville that a ballot would be held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 to elect a Procureur du Bien Public for Grouville, there being two candidates for the position. The Connétable referred to the Elections (Jersey) Law 2002 and that the provision of a supplementary register and of postal or pre-poll voting did not apply to the elections for Procureur du Bien Public or for Centenier.

States  
Assembly –  
questions

15. The Comité discussed the opportunity to ask oral and written questions in the States Assembly and heard from Connétables that they availed themselves of this opportunity, including in relation to Parish matters, as appropriate.

Next meeting

16. The Connétable of St Clement was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Chairman ..... Date .....