

# Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023**  
at the Parish Hall, Grouville.

## **Present:**

Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson, Chairman  
Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Vice Chairman  
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur  
Connétable de St Pierre - R. P. Vibert (not present for items 12-21)  
Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone  
Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan  
Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy (present for items 12-22)  
Connétable de Grouville - M. Labey  
Connétable de St Ouën - R. Honeycombe  
Connétable de Ste Marie - R. D. Johnson  
Connétable de St Sauveur - K. C. Lewis

An apology for absence was received from the Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft.

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 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Honorary  
Police  
Association  
subs for  
2023/2024 and  
accounts

2. The Comité received correspondence from the Honorary President of the Honorary Police Association (HPA) regarding the Association's accounts and the budget for 2023/24 which would be set at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023. In the last year expenditure related to social functions, including the Annual Dinner, and income was only interest on the account as there were no subscriptions in that year. The budget expenditure for the coming year was the annual dinner, social events and miscellaneous expenses (total £3,600) and, in view of the accumulated reserves carried forward (just over £8,000), the HPA Committee had agreed that it was not appropriate to ask for subscriptions for 2023/24. The Comité welcomed this decision and noted the HPA Committee's thanks for the continued secretarial support provided by the Comité's staff.

Honorary  
Police - Driver  
training: H.M.  
Attorney  
General  
guidelines

3. The Comité, with partial reference to its minute no. 25 of 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021, noted that H.M. Attorney General had issued guidance to the Honorary Police about driving standards. Any member of the Honorary Police who was to drive a Parish police vehicle (though this excluded driving for the purposes of parking/moving the vehicle etc) must complete relevant training. The Attorney General had requested a report from each Parish, by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023, to confirm how many officers had been enrolled in each Part or Phase of the training and how many officers had completed each Part or Phase of the training. The guidelines required that -

- Honorary Police in post by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 who currently drove a Parish police vehicle must be enrolled on the relevant course by that date (if they had not already completed the course), and

- Honorary Police in post from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2023 must not drive a Parish police vehicle until the relevant course had been completed.

Comité des  
Chefs de Police  
and recruitment  
– budget for  
boat show

4. The Comité, with partial reference to its minute no. 13 of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023, noted that the Comité des Chefs de Police had agreed to have a stand at the Jersey Boat Show (29<sup>th</sup> April-1<sup>st</sup> May 2023) for the purposes of public relations and recruitment. The funding for the marquee and services (electricity) required was estimated at £700 and would be included in that Comité's budget for 2023/2024; funding was also likely to be required for various promotional materials. The Comité agreed that expressions of interest in serving in the Honorary Police should be notified to the Parish Connétable as well as to the Chef de Police.

Honorary  
Police Platinum  
Jubilee medals  
– presentation

5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 9 of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023, noted that the Chairman had written to H.E. Lt Governor, the Bailiff and H.M. Attorney General to thank them for the arrangements for the presentation of the Platinum Jubilee Medals to members of the Honorary Police on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Coronation and  
Liberation 2023

6. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 10 of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023, discussed events to mark Liberation Day 78 – 2023 and the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III in May 2023. The Comité was informed that a number of Parishes had planned an event on one of the days over the bank holiday weekend and the Bailiff's Chief Officer had enquired whether, as with previous significant Island occasions, the Connétable and Parish would welcome a principal (leading island figure) as a guest at that event. The Comité recalled that for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, as the events were during the election campaign period, the Principals attending the Parish events had been H. E. Lieutenant Governor, the Bailiff and the Deputy Bailiff, but that on previous occasions it had been the Chief Minister rather than the Deputy Bailiff. The Comité, having heard from those who would welcome the Chief Minister as a guest, requested the Chairman to reply to the Bailiff's Chief Officer accordingly.

In relation to the portrait of Her Late Majesty which were displayed at each Parish, it was confirmed that these should be replaced with a portrait of His Majesty which would be available in due course.

Jersey's  
Agriculture and  
Tourism  
Industries

7. The Comité noted that the Chairman and Secretary had met with an individual who had shared his concerns about the parlous state of Jersey's economy and the decline of the agriculture and tourism industries. Examples of initiatives and projects that had previously been considered, but had not come to fruition, had also been provided and the individual had invited the Connétables' opinions. The Comité considered that these fell within the direct responsibility of various Government of Jersey or its arm's length organisations and it was for these organisations to determine the timescale for future development. The Chairman was asked to thank the individual for the information which the Comité expected would be useful to future debates on these issues.

Gran Fondo  
cycling event  
23 April 2023

8. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023, received maps of the proposed Parish routes for the Gran Fondo cycling event to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023. All Connétables were asked to provide the Infrastructure, Housing and Environment Department (IHE) with any comments on the routes following which IHE would approve the event plan with the finalised route and would issue this with the proposed licence to all Parishes for final comments before licencing.

Big Ride Out  
28 May 2023

9. The Comité discussed the organisation of the Big Ride Out which it understood was scheduled to take place on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The Chairman of the Comité des Chefs de Police (CCP) joined the meeting and confirmed that the organisation of the event had been taken over by The Mansell Collection and a representative had met with the Comité des Chefs de Police. The organisers expected up to 1,200 motorcyclists to participate in the event and to ride from St Catherine's Breakwater, St Martin, to The Watersplash, St Peter. Whilst those taking part were likely to depart in smaller groups, each with a lead and tail rider, it was proposed they should travel through St Helier in groups of 400. The proposals would require road junctions to be kept open to permit the motorcyclists to pass (with traffic in other directions being stopped accordingly).

The Connétables of St Peter and St Ouen outlined their concerns about the numbers arriving at The Watersplash, and the impact on other road users and visitors to that area, and the Connétable of St Martin expressed concern due to the limited capacity at the proposed start for the numbers anticipated. The Comité agreed that the primary concern had to be for the general safety of all road users and ensuring the flow of traffic was not impeded. A formal traffic management plan and a risk assessment were requested and the Chairman of the CCP confirmed these were being considered by the organisers.

Arising from this there was discussion about groups of motorcyclists and the use of a motorbike at junctions to stop oncoming traffic. The Comité reiterated its advice to organisers that they must ensure that riders taking part were reminded that all road laws must be obeyed including speed limits, road signs and traffic lights; that using motorbikes at junctions to stop oncoming traffic so that the cavalcade could ride through was an offence and that riders must have general consideration for other road users (minute no. 7 of 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 refers).

Tree strategy –  
update on  
consultation/  
new legislation

10. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 7 of 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021, received an update from the Chairman on proposals for new legislation to better protect Jersey's trees following a presentation on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The proposed laws would bring works to or on trees under the definition of "development" for planning purposes, meaning that certain works to trees would require permission before they could proceed. It was proposed that there would be a list of exceptions that would specify those operations that could proceed without permission. Having reviewed the public consultation questions, the Comité decided that Connétables should respond individually noting that the consultation closed on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023.

Supplementary  
planning  
guidance for  
sustainable  
transport zones  
(STZ) –  
consultation

11. The Comité considered the public consultation on supplementary planning guidance for sustainable transport zones. Planning guidance for the provision of car parking space in association with all forms of development had been in operation in Jersey since September 1988 and was set out in Planning Policy Note 3: Parking Guidelines. Since the mid-1990s, successive Sustainable Transport Policies had fundamentally altered the policy emphasis from car-accommodation to seeking to reduce the environmental impact of vehicular traffic and the promotion of other more sustainable modes of travel, including walking, cycling and public transport. The revised standards for residential development had therefore been prepared and the consultation was open until 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Having heard of the issues arising where there was insufficient parking provision, the Comité agree that Connétables should respond individually to the consultation.

Government of  
Jersey –  
employee  
volunteering  
programme

12. The Comité was informed that the Government of Jersey (GoJ) had introduced an employee volunteering programme which allowed eligible employees up to 22 hours paid time off to volunteer each year. The Comité requested the Secretary to ascertain further details and to discuss the opportunities for GoJ employees to volunteer to serve as a member of the Honorary Police in a Parish.

Procureurs du  
Bien Public -  
training

13. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 14 of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022, and following the recent elections for a Procureur du Bien Public in each Parish, was asked by several Connétables to consider offering training to those newly elected. The Connétable of St John and the Secretary were asked to consider arrangements accordingly.

States  
Members’  
Remuneration –  
Reviewer  
R.44/2023

14. The Comité noted that the States Members’ Remuneration Reviewer had asked to meet a representation of Members to include Deputies and Connétables and had extended an invitation to all Members to a meeting during her first visit to Jersey from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The Comité agreed it would be helpful to the Reviewer to meet with the Comité and requested that an invitation be extended to attend a future meeting.

Next meeting

15. The Connétable of Grouville was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

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