

# Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
at the Parish Hall, St Saviour.

**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  
Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan  
Connétable de Grouville - M. Labey  
Connétable de Ste Marie - R. D. Johnson  
Connétable de St Sauveur - K. C. Lewis

Apologies for absence were received from the Connétable de St Héliel - A. S. Crowcroft, the Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone, the Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy and the Connétable de St Ouën - R. Honeycombe.

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 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Statistics Jersey  
- Parish Profiles  
from 2021  
Census and  
Data sharing  
with Statistics  
Jersey

2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023, received a presentation from the Chief Statistician and Statistician, Statistics Jersey, on Parish Profiles from 2021 Census and data sharing with Statistics Jersey.

- a) Parish Profiles from 2021 Census - Statistics Jersey had prepared Profiles for each Parish using 2021 Census data. Printed copies would be provided to each Parish and would contain a Foreword from the Connétable or, if preferred, the Chief Statistician.
- b) Data sharing - the Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018 stated that Statistics Jersey must seek to avoid collecting data where data collected for administrative purposes was readily accessible, of suitable quality and sufficiently up to date to enable it to carry out its functions under this Law. The Law allowed 'undertakings', which included Parishes, to share individual level data with Statistics Jersey for its statutory purpose of producing statistics, it could not be used for operational purposes. Statistics Jersey already used some administrative data held by Government to produce statistics, this included all-economy Gender Pay Gap statistics using Customer and Local Services (CLS) data and population and migration estimates using data on contributions, children in school, and interaction with the health system etc. to determine who was living in Jersey.

Where data was suitable this reduced the burden on individuals and businesses, could provide greater detail than was possible from surveys and reduced costs. The data would be used to improve statistics, including the next Census in 2031, and Statistics Jersey could help to analyse and publish data on behalf of or with the Parishes.

The Chief Statistician recognised that Data Sharing Agreements and Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA) should be prepared but wished to start the conversation about sharing Parish data. The DPIA used by Statistics Jersey to support population and migration data had been reviewed by the Jersey Office of the Information Commissioner (JOIC) and no further action was required. Statistics Jersey was not allowed to share information on individual people, businesses or addresses outside of its office. Combining sources could help fill in gaps and/or provide greater confidence in the combined data for an individual address, person or business. This included in assisting with population tracking and, with Rates data, could help inform data such as the house price index (HPI).

The Comité discussed with the officers the suggestion that Rates data, dog licence and gun licence (firearm certificate) data might be shared and expressed concern that the background to the data might not be known and might therefore give misleading results. The officers said they would need to see the data to be able to assess its usefulness and assured the Comité that Statistics Jersey did not look for each data source to be perfect, would assess the data quality alongside other sources and, if not suitable, would delete the data.

The Comité explained that Rates and dog licence data was collected annually but reservations were expressed about sharing firearm certificate data as these were renewed every 5 years. An area of interest, and significant cost, to the Parishes was refuse and an analysis would be of benefit to Parishes and the Infrastructure Department. Following discussion, the Comité agreed to explore further the sharing of Rates and dog licence data with Statistics Jersey. Having been thanked for attending, the officers then withdrew from the meeting.

Data Sharing Agreement – DVS

3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 7 of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022, confirmed the renewal of the Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) with Driver and Vehicle Standards (DVS) for the vehicle registration system and Connétables signed the DSA on behalf of their Parishes.

Citizenship and information packs

4. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 4 of 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023, noted that the Chairman had contacted the Director of Education to seek assistance with contacting schools to discuss the opportunities for Connétables to have greater engagement with Year 11 students about citizenship. As a result, three Connétables had presented to the Year 11 Jersey College for Girls students as part of the PSHE (personal, social, health and economic) education day on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024, and enquires had been received from two other schools (though no arrangements had been confirmed as yet). Feedback was awaited from the school and the presentation should be refined to ensure students were engaged, but there had been an opportunity for students who were eligible to register as electors on the day. The Comité recalled it had agreed to invite the Chair of the Political Awareness and Education Sub-Committee of the Privileges and Procedures Committee to attend a future meeting and it noted Deputy C Alves had asked this be postponed to April following the recent changes in Government.

Customs and Excise (Import and Export Control) (Amdmt No. 4) (Jersey) Order 2024 – XL Bully dogs

5. The Comité noted that the Customs and Excise (Import and Export Control) (Amendment No. 4) (Jersey) Order 2024 would come into force on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The amendment added ‘XL Bully’ to the list of dogs in the Customs and Excise (Import and Export Control) (Jersey) Order 2006 for which a licence to import or export was required. It was noted that Schedule 1 of the 2006 Order at paragraph 3(b) already stated that an import/export licence was required for “*any other type which appears to have been bred for fighting*” in addition to the four breeds listed in paragraph 3(a) (minute no. 16 of 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023 refers in part).

Doglicences.je  
– update

6. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024, received a verbal update on the first month of the purchase and renewal of dog licences for 2024 through the new doglicences.je online service. A total of 9,583 licences had been purchased to date, 82% had been purchased online and the feedback from parishioners and Parish staff had been positive.

Jersey Royal  
Potato Growing  
Competition  
2024:  
Connétables/  
Occupation VIP  
entries

7. The Comité noted Parish entries to the Connétables and to the Occupation VIP Jersey Royal Potato Growing Competitions 2024 and confirmed the judging/weigh-in arrangements as follows –

- Occupation VIPs – 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at Parish Halls with the winners in each Parish invited to attend the award ceremony at St Lawrence Parish Hall on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024.
- Connétables – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at St Lawrence Parish Hall.

Jersey Field  
Squadron –  
advance  
notification of  
exercises

8. The Comité was informed by the Vice Chairman that she had recently met with Captain M Billings, of the Jersey Field Squadron (JFS), regarding better communication and advance notification to the relevant Parishes of any training exercises being undertaken by the JFS. This followed from a recent exercise in St Lawrence which resulted in calls to the Honorary Police as those in the neighbourhood had been unaware of the training which involved the use of blank ammunition and pyrotechnics.

It had therefore been agreed that in future advance notice would be given by the JFS, an appointment would be made with the relevant Connétable(s) to explain the training plan so that notice could be published in the quarterly Parish magazine, the JFS would provide a flyer for the Parish Hall to advertise the exercise and would also call at all property in the immediate vicinity to advise of the event (this would enable owners to make any necessary arrangements to move animals and livestock in advance of the training). So that the JFS could arrange permission to use the land on which it was proposed to conduct the training exercise, it would attend at the Parish Hall with the relevant field numbers and ask the Connétable to contact the landowner(s) concerned to seek permission to pass their contact details to the JFS. This would avoid the training exercise straying on to land where permission had not been granted. The Comité noted the arrangements and thanked the Vice Chairman for making these arrangements with the JFS.

Brighter  
Futures and  
Building a  
Safer  
Community -  
presentations

9. The Comité noted requests from the following to make presentations at a future meeting and decided –

- Brighter Futures – to invite a short presentation from the charity; and
- Building a Safer Community (BASC) framework – to enquire of the newly appointed Minister for Justice and Home Affairs regarding the launch of this framework and the plan to conduct workshops.

Draft Children  
and Civil Status  
(Amendments)  
(Jersey) Law  
202-  
P.104/2023 –  
Scrutiny  
request

10. The Comité noted that Connétables had been invited to provide a submission to the Scrutiny review on the Draft Children and Civil Status (Amendments) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.104/2023). The Comité was informed by the Connétable of Grouville, who was a member of the Scrutiny Panel, that this was a lengthy and complicated piece of legislation which impacted a number of other laws. The Scrutiny Panel had already received three presentations on the proposals and the Comité noted that all States members had been invited to a presentation. Following discussion, the Comité decided that Connétables should respond individually, should they wish to make a submission to Scrutiny, but would not be in a position to comment until they had received a presentation on the proposals.

Customer and Local Services - support/guidance for parishioners in need

11. The Comité considered correspondence from the Group Director, Customer and Local Services (CLS), following comments made by the Connétable of St Peter to the States Assembly on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 during the debate of the proposition “Vote of No confidence: Chief Minister” (P.1/2024). Those comments related to “a lack of compassion” in certain areas and to the Parishes increasingly finding that they were having to assist parishioners as the CLS failed to do so. The Group Director had written to suggest that in any case where a parishioner was seeking help from the Parish, on the basis that CLS was not doing so, in the first instance they should contact the Department Head of Work and Family Hub to discuss the situation.

Though responsibility had passed from Parish welfare to Income Support from 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008, the Comité heard from Connétables of examples where assistance had been given by a Parish to individuals. Arising from this, the Comité was reminded that a procedure had been agreed whereby emergency income support payments could be made outside normal office hours by Parish representatives and these would be reimbursed by the Social Security Department.

Big Ride Out 2024

12. The Comité, with partial reference to its minute no. 3 of 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023, received the Chairman of Holidays for Heroes Jersey (H4HJ) who had written to ask permission to organise the Big Ride Out in aid of the charity to be held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2024 commencing at St Catherine’s Breakwater and ending at the Watersplash in St Peter. The route would be consistent with previous events and the organisers said they were trying to learn from past experiences and had worked in liaison with various parties to ensure the minimum inconvenience for Islanders and maximum safety for riders. They would therefore be limiting the turnout to 500 riders, had engaged with the Royal British Legion bikers’ club and another company to act as outriders and would have videographers along the route to monitor the behaviour of riders; they would also be seeking assistance from the Chefs de Police to ensure a seamless event. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Comité des Chefs de Police (CCP) were present for this item and commented on arrangements in previous years.

The Comité welcomed the proposed arrangements to limit numbers to ensure the minimum inconvenience for Islanders and maximum safety for riders. The Comité confirmed that, as in previous years, the event would not be a ‘convoy’ under the Policing of Roads (Jersey) Regulations 1959 and permission was not being given for a parade or procession as the primary concern had to be for the general safety of all road users and ensuring the flow of traffic was not impeded. The organisers 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. Assistance might be provided by the Honorary Police including with traffic management at traffic junctions without impeding emergency vehicles.

Following discussion, the Comité wished the Chairman of the H4HJ a successful event and he and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the CCP were thanked for attending and then withdrew the meeting.

Westaway Trust - Parish funds

13. The Comité noted that the Treasury and Resources Department (T&R) had placed a public notice in the Jersey Evening Post giving notice of proposed transfer of Westaway Pauvres Honteux and Westaway Ecoles Elementaires gift fund assets to the Le Don De Faye gift fund. All three funds shared similar aims and operated under the care of Treasurer of the States. This proposal would improve the administration of Westaway assets and enable better income distribution, in line with the settlor’s intentions. The Comité, having heard that Westaway funds were distributed to Parish Charité accounts, agreed to seek further details from the T&R management.

Next meeting

14. The Connétable of St Saviour was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

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

