Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd April 2024 at the Parish Hall, St Clement.

Present:

Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson, Chairman (present for items 1-14)

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 Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone

Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan

Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy

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 25^{th} March 2024, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Comité des Chefs de Police

2. The Comité noted that, in accordance with its rules, the Comité des Chefs de Police had elected the following as Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2024/25:

Chairman: Centenier J Camara – Chef de Police de Police, St Peter;

Vice Chairman: Centenier M Bougeard – Chef de Police, St Brelade.

Honorary Police insurance renewals 3. The Comité noted that the group insurance policies for the Honorary Police were due for renewal on 1st May 2024 and confirmation of the terms was awaited. The Comité agreed to meet on 26th April 2024 to consider the proposals and decide on the renewals.

Honorary Police Association subs for 2024/2025 and accounts 4. The Comité received correspondence from the Honorary President of the Honorary Police Association (HPA) regarding the Association's accounts and the budget for 2024/25 which would be set at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on 26th April 2024. Expenditure in the last year related to social functions, including the Annual Dinner, and the income was 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 £4,000) and, in view of the accumulated reserves carried forward (just over £7,000), the HPA Committee had agreed that it was not appropriate to ask for subscriptions for 2024/25. The Comité welcomed this decision and noted the HPA Committee's thanks for the continued secretarial support provided by the Comité's staff.

22nd April 2024

Jersey Normandy Association 5. The Comité was reminded by the Connétable of Trinity that the Jersey Normandy Twinning Association existed and had organised the biannual Twinning Games between Parishes and their respective Normandy associations. The games were last held in Jersey in 2018, hosted by Trinity, and the chair should then have passed to a different Parish. The scheduled games were not held in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown but were held in 2023 in Granville when a Pétanque tournament was arranged (minute no. 5 of 9th January 2023 refers). The Association held funds and should be arranging the next games to be held in Jersey in 2025. Following discussion, and having noted the offer of Pétanque terrains in other parishes, the Connétable of Grouville agreed to ask the Grouville Portbail Association whether it would take the chair and lead on the arrangements.

Rented
Dwelling
Licencing –
code of practice
and other
information

6. The Comité was reminded that the Public Health and Safety (Rented Dwellings) (Licensing) (Jersey) Regulations 2023 would come into force on 1st May 2024. The Code of Practice had been published and the Government of Jersey had drawn this to the attention of all Connétables so they were aware of the requirements when providing support to parishioners. There would also be three roadshow events that week should any wish to attend. The Comité was mindful that the standards would also apply to the Parishes when acting as a landlord.

States questions – Parish funding for youth projects (WQ.115/2024)

- 7. The Comité noted the range of financial and other support provided by Parishes for youth projects as outlined in the response to the written question WQ.115/2024 asked in the States on 16th April 2024 by Deputy R.S. Kovacs, namely:
 - "Will the Chair advise what financial or other contribution, if any, each Parish provides for youth projects in their Parish?"

States questions – voting system improvements (OQ.59/2024)

8. The Comité discussed the response of the Vice-Chair, Privileges and Procedures Committee (PPC), as rapporteur, to the oral question OQ.59/2024 of the Connétable of St. Helier asked in the States on 16th April 2024:

"Will the Chair advise what improvements to the voting system, if any, are envisaged by the Committee ahead of the next general election; and what progress, if any, is being made towards achieving any such enhancements?"

The Connétable of St Martin, in her capacity as Chair of PPC, confirmed that the main improvement would be the automatic voter registration project for which the States Assembly approved funding in the 2024 Government Plan. The date for the 2026 elections would also be considered. In reply to a question about how the changes might impact the Parishes administrations, the Chair of PPC confirmed there would be consultation with the Parishes as the work progressed.

Liberation Day

9. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 25th March 2024, noted a supply of bunting had been made available to every Parish (to be collected from the Bailiff's Chambers) and that further information was awaited regarding plans for the 2025 anniversary.

Next meeting

10. The Connétable of St Clement was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 13th May 2024.

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Chairman	Date