

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 13th May 2024
at the Public Hall, St Martin.

Present:

Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson, 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 (present for items 1-5 and 9-12)
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

Apologies for absence were received from the Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Vice Chairman and 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 26th April 2024, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.
- Jersey
Normandy
Association –
2025 twinning
games 2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 22nd April 2024, was informed that the Parish of Grouville Twinning Committee had agreed to organise the 2025 biannual Twinning Games in Jersey on behalf of the Jersey Normandy Association. It was expected that the Annual General Meeting for the Association would be held in June 2024 and the games in June 2025 (the date to be confirmed dependent on sailings between Normandy and Jersey).
- States questions
– encouraging
attendance at
Parish meetings
/events
(WQ.163/2024) 3. The Comité noted the responses of Connétables to the written question WQ.163/2024 of Deputy C S Alves tabled on 7th May 2024:
“Will the Chair list, for each Parish, the communication and engagement (including any events held) undertaken to raise awareness of, and to encourage attendance at, Parish Assemblies, other meetings and events, and elections; indicating within this the engagement in each Parish specifically aimed at children and young people, minority groups, and those new to the Island?”
- L’Office du
Jèrriais 4. The Comité considered correspondence from the Maître du Jèrriais, L’Office du Jèrriais, and –
a) Welcomed the provision of free copies of the Jèrriais translation, Lé P’tit Prince, (translated from the acclaimed book 'The Little Prince' written by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry in 1943) to distribute to the island community for display at the parish hall with an accompanying poster so that parishioners or visitors to the parish hall could take a copy, and

- b) Decided that Connétables wishing to develop closer links between L'Office du Jèrriais and Parish communities in order to continue and develop the Jèrriais Teaching Service and raise the profile of Jersey's native language across the wider public should contact the Maître du Jèrriais.

Policing of
Beaches
(Jersey)
Regulations
1959 – summer
restrictions

5. The Comité noted the commencement of restrictions under the Policing of Beaches (Jersey) Regulations 1959 whereby no person should, on any beach, between the hours of 10.30am and 6pm during the period of the year commencing on 1st May and ending on 30th September –

- ride any horse or pony, or
- bring any dog, or permit any dog of which the person was in charge, to be on the beach except on a lead.

The Comité noted a petition on the States Assembly website to create dedicated dog-friendly beaches throughout the summer months; the petition read -

Have dedicated dog friendly beaches where dogs can run freely all year round and close the popular beaches to dogs 24/7 during summer months. As per Guernsey's dog restrictions on beaches during summer months.

Licensing
(Jersey) Law
1974 – Food
Retail Ltd
applications

6. The Comité considered correspondence from the Proceedings Officer, Judicial Greffe, regarding the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974. Food Retail Ltd would be taking over 26 convenience store premises presently run by the Sandpiper Group (Sandpiper) in Jersey and, in respect of each, would be making an application for a new sixth category liquor licence (in practice the transfer of the existing licence) under the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974. The Comité noted that these applications for licences must be considered by the Parish Assembly of the relevant Parish. In the event the applications were granted by the Licensing Assembly, the licences would be subject to a condition that the licences should not take effect until Food Retail Ltd provided evidence to the Judicial Greffier that the transaction had been completed.

In relation to the Registration of Managers for Food Retail Ltd, it was understood that the current managers would likely be employed by the newly formed company. However, each should still be interviewed prior to registration under the new licences. Subject to the Connétables' agreement, the Deputy Bailiff had approved the following process -

- That the manager would attend before one Parish for interview and background checks to be conducted.
- That a Disclosure Certificate would be produced.
- That the interviewing Connétable's letter of support and the Disclosure Certificate would be endorsed by such other Parish(es) that would have had to interview the manager.
- That the interviewing Connétable's letter of support, background check paperwork, the Disclosure Certificate and letters from alternative Parish(es) would be provided to the Royal Court when registering the manager(s).

The Comité confirmed its approval of the above process to avoid the duplication of work in respect of the interviewing of managers prior to registration by the Court.

“Wear a
Helmet”
campaign

7. The Comité welcomed Mrs A Marshall and Ms K De Gouveia, General Manager of Headway Jersey, and received a presentation on the ‘Wear a Helmet Jersey’ campaign. Headway Jersey supported those with brain injuries and was fully supportive of Mrs Marshall's campaign, the goal of which was to ensure child helmet use when riding anything with wheels on roads, cycle tracks and skateparks to reduce head and brain injury and to prevent death.

Mrs Marshall spoke from her personal experience, having lost her son following a skateboard accident, and she outlined the objectives to increase awareness and education, to promote culture change, to improve helmet signage at public facilities, to develop a comprehensive helmet policy and to promote common sense laws. Partners to the campaign included Headway Jersey, schools, Jersey Sport, the Government of Jersey and the community. A range of activities were being undertaken including a petition to the States Assembly requesting the amendment of current legislation to include skateboards, scooters and roller blades and asking whether the age requirements for wearing a helmet when riding on a pedal cycle or a trailer drawn by a pedal cycle should be raised (this currently applied to a child of 13 years or younger).

The Comité commented on the changing culture in other areas, for example the wearing of seat belts in vehicles and that a majority of skiers now wore a ski helmet though these were rarely seen a few years ago. The standards for helmets for children were specified in the Pedal Cycles (Jersey) Order 1998 and the Comité was shown an educational sign on how to fit a helmet which had been drafted. The Connétables were supportive of the goals outlined and made a number of suggestions which might further promote the campaign including partnering with cycle helmet retailers and suppliers, working with youth clubs, and ensuring signage and messaging was effective.

Following discussion, Mrs Marshall and the General Manager were thanked for attending and then withdrew from the meeting.

Next meeting

8. The Connétable of St Martin was thanked for her hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 17th June 2024.

Chairman Date