Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 12th July 2024 at the Parish Hall, St John.

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

Connétable de Grouville - M. Labey (present for items 1, 2, 8 and 9)

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, the Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft and the Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy.

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 17th June 2024, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Le Congrès des Parlers Normands et Jèrriais – request to sponsor a table 2. The Comité considered a request on behalf of Le Congrès des Parlers Normands et Jerriais that Parishes sponsor a table for an afternoon tea for elderly Jèrriais speakers, provisionally booked for 7th September 2024. Having recalled that each Parish sponsored a table for £60 for this event in 2023 (minute no. 1 of 4th December 2023 refers), Connétables agreed to offer support for the 2024 event.

Rented dwellings licence scheme – application of scheme to Parish Rectory 3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 16 of 17th June 2024, received confirmation from the Regulation section, Government of Jersey, that the Parish Rectory did not need to be licensed under the Public Health and Safety (Rented Dwellings) (Licensing) (Jersey) Regulations 2023.

In reaching this decision, regard had been had to the definition of a rented dwelling under the Public Health and Safety (Rented Dwellings) (Jersey) Law 2018. When considered in the context of the Rectory, in circumstances where a rental payment was received by the person having control of the Rectory, a licence would be required regardless of who occupied the property. However, in circumstances where no rental payment was received, and as beneficed clergy in Jersey were considered office holders and not employees, the occupation of a Rectory or Vicarage did not amount to reward as it was a necessary part of the clergy having the cure of souls in a particular place. However, whilst Rectories and Vicarages might fall outside the definition of rented dwellings for the purposes of the law, there was a legal obligation for each Parish to ensure that a maison presbitériale was in an état convenable (good condition) and, as part of this, adherence with minimum standards and the dwelling being free from hazards would likely be expected.

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His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla - visit 2024 – Parish tea party 4. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 17th June 2024, noted further correspondence from the Chief Officer, Bailiff's Chambers, regarding arrangements for the Parish tea party in Liberation Square on the occasion of the visit of His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla on 15th July 2024, including transport for nominated parishioners and arrangements for Connétables. The Comité requested the Chairman to write to the Chief Officer thanking him for his efforts in making arrangements for parishioners to be part of the occasion and asking that these be co-ordinated through liaison with the Comité office in future.

Honorary Police insurance renewals 5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 1 of 26th April 2024, noted that the existing insurers, the Insurance Corporation of the Channel Islands, had now confirmed that they would continue to provide the Officials Indemnity Insurance cover under the Liability Section of the public liability policy until 30th April 2025 for the Constables and Honorary Police of the 11 Parishes (the cover was initially only offered as a 60-day extension). Great Lakes Insurance SE via Incepta had also agreed to extend the top-up policy but this would be issued for 12 months expiring on 30th June 2025.

Parish elections

– Procureur du
Bien Public and
Centenier

6. The Comité noted that the Royal Court would, on 19th July 2024, order elections for one Procureur du Bien Public in each Parish, and for fourteen Centeniers across the Parishes, in accordance with the Procureurs du Bien Public (Terms of Office) (Jersey) Law 2013 and the Centeniers (Terms of Office) (Jersey) Law 2007, and the polling day, should there be more candidates than vacancies, would be 11th September 2024.

Next meeting

7. The Connétable of St John was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 16th September 2024.