

# Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024**  
at the Parish Hall, St Mary.

## **Present:**

Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson, Chairman  
Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Vice Chairman  
Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft  
Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone  
Connétable de St Clément - M. O'D. Troy  
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 la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur, the Connétable de St Pierre - R. P. Vibert, the Connétable de St Jean - A. N. Jehan 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**

Waterfront  
proposals -  
presentation

1. The Comité welcomed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Jersey Development Company (JDC) who gave a presentation on the revised Waterfront development proposals. This followed a review of the five reasons for the refusal of the Planning application, three of which related to public policy and infrastructure matters that were outside of JDC's direct control. Actions and decisions taken by the Government of Jersey during 2024 had concluded these matters thereby enabling JDC to bring forward the revised proposals for the Waterfront. JDC had also carefully considered the feedback from Islanders on the previous plans which was primarily focused on ensuring the retention of key amenities such as a cinema, the AquaSplash swimming pool, and improving pedestrian access to and from the town.

The CEO explained that the plans for the Waterfront needed to comply with the relevant Planning Policies contained within the Bridging Island Plan, the Southwest St. Helier Planning Framework and the St. Helier Urban Character Appraisal. The plans also needed to be entirely self-funded by JDC without any Government funding. This meant the returns generated from JDC's direct development of new residential and commercial accommodation must cover the costs of the new public infrastructure and public open spaces proposed. The vision was for a well-designed landscape destination whilst creating accommodation, offices, art/culture amenities, food/beverage outlets, sports facilities and access improvements. The next steps would be community engagement with an online survey. The pre-application planning process had commenced and it was hoped planning approval would be received by the end of 2025 with delivery of phase 1 by 2030.

The CEO provided an overview of the various phases of the development and then responded to questions from Connétables about various issues including La Fregate café, hospitality provision given the current economic climate, car parking provision, funding and the maintenance of landscaped areas. Following discussion, the CEO was thanked for attending and then withdrew from the meeting.

- Minutes 2. The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.
- Fireworks –  
distress to  
animals 3. The Comité, at the request of the Connétable of St Helier, discussed the subject of noisy fireworks in relation to the distress caused to pets and how to respond to calls for less use of fireworks and/or the use of noiseless (silent) fireworks. The Connétable reported that fireworks had been discharged at various times of the day and night since the start of November with comments posted on social media, particularly about the effect on dogs. He had also received correspondence from a Parish Deputy and he queried whether anything could be done in relation to private displays without preventing the enjoyment of fireworks on 5<sup>th</sup> November, being traditionally recognised as ‘Guy Fawkes’.
- The Comité heard from Connétables in relation to managed public displays (an example being the St Martin bonfire and fireworks on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2024) and where neighbours were aware of the proposed display and could make arrangements for any adversely affected by the noise. The Comité recalled that work to reform the Explosives (Jersey) Law 1970 had been ongoing for some years, including in relation to the regulation of fireworks (as part of a broader group known as pyrotechnic articles).
- The Managing Director of Starburst Fireworks was present and invited to comment on the concerns that had been raised. He recalled the consultation from 2018/2019 about updating legislation which had reached a general agreement but little progress had been made since that date. He explained that most fireworks were below 120 decibels with the quietest being 92-94 decibels, but some ‘bang’ was required to project the firework into the air. ‘Throw-downs’ and ‘bangers’ were no longer available.
- Following discussion, the Comité decided to ascertain from the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs the current status of legislation amendments. The Managing Director was thanked for attending the meeting and then withdrew.
- Explosives  
(Jersey) Law  
1970 - retail  
sale dates in  
2025 4. The Comité considered the proposal of the Managing Director of Starburst Fireworks that the retail sale dates for fireworks in 2025 should be 25<sup>th</sup> October to 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025 (covering 2 weekends). The Comité, pursuant to the provisions in the Explosives (Jersey) Law 1970 requiring a Connétable to licence the retail sale of fireworks, approved these dates for 2025. The Comité agreed that, in addition to the other standard conditions, every permit issued would specify that the retail sale of fireworks was only permitted from Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October to Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025 inclusive unless the sale was of a pyrotechnic intended for use as a marine flare; or the order for the purchase and contract of sale was conducted through a website and the fireworks so purchased were delivered by the retailer to the address provided by the purchaser.
- Parish  
magazines/  
newsletters –  
refuse  
advice/queries 5. The Comité was informed that the Head of Capital Compliance & Administration, Government of Jersey, had written to say that that Department received many calls regarding the collection of household refuse, whether it was damage to bins, missed collections, or queries etc. and they simply advised that the refuse collections were undertaken by the Parish and the caller should contact their Parish Hall. He suggested that the public should be generally reminded that refuse collection was not undertaken by the Government of Jersey (GoJ) and that a reminder notice might be included in the next edition of each Parish magazine as this seemed the easiest way to advise everyone.
- The Comité heard that the GoJ had funded a page in the winter edition of the Trinity Parish magazine which already directed enquiries to Germbusters, though the notice included the GoJ logo which might be causing confusion. It was also pointed out that Parish offices received numerous calls from the public, many of which had to be redirected to GoJ particularly those involving the administration of GoJ roads.

- Jersey Consumer Council community fair
6. The Comité considered an enquiry from the Director of the Jersey Consumer Council who were keen to understand if the Comité would be interested in taking part in a community fair on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 to bring together a variety of organisations offering consumer advice to Islanders of all ages on a variety of topics. Having discussed the event, the Comité decided not to participate as Parishes did not provide general consumer advice.
- Digital Jersey - Impact Jersey CXTech programme
7. The Comité receive an outline on the launch of the CXTech programme for Impact Jersey provided by the Head of Projects for Digital Jersey and noted that the application window closed on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.
- Jersey anthem and national day consultation
8. The Comité noted that a consultation on a Jersey anthem and national day had been launched with a closing date of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025. The public's views were sought on the adoption of 'Beautiful Jersey' as Jersey's anthem and Liberation Day, 9<sup>th</sup> May, as Jersey's national day.
- Next meeting
9. The Connétable of St Mary was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

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