

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 17th February 2025
at the Town Hall, St Helier

Present:

Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson, Chairman
Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Vice Chairman (not present for 1-5)
Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur
Connétable de St Pierre - R. P. Vibert (not present for items 1-6)
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

In attendance:

Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary
Mrs S. J. Parkin, Secretary

Non-exempt (public) under Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2011

Minutes

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2025, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

States
Assembly
written question
WQ.32/2025 –
road names and
speed limits

2. The Comité noted the response provided to the States Assembly following the written question asked of the Chairman of the Comité des Connétables by Deputy R S Kovacs of St Saviour (WQ.32/2025) -

“For each Parish, will the Chair provide a list detailing –

- all roads within the Parish;*
- the current speed limits on each Parish road;*
- the Parish roads where the speed limit was reduced in 2023 and what the previous speed limit was; and*
- the Parish roads where the speed limit was reduced in 2024 and what the previous speed limit was?”*

The initial request sent by the States Greffe had referred to “all Parish roads”, but this had subsequently been amended to “all roads within the Parish”. The Comité commented that the amended question was broader than the Parishes’ remit as it referred to “all roads within the Parish” which therefore included roads under the jurisdiction of other bodies such as the Government of Jersey, Andium Homes, Ports of Jersey and private roads etc. (Standing Order 9 of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey referred to a question relating to a function or official responsibility which each Connétable had in his or her parish being addressed to the chair of the Comité des Connétables).

Constituency
Support Team
Newsletter

3. The Comité considered correspondence from the Principal Constituency Support Officer of the States Greffe Constituency Support Team, offering States members the opportunity of a newsletter for their own constituency which would be published twice a year. The primary goal of a constituency newsletter was for Members to share updates on their individual activities and initiatives but was not intended for official communications

in formal roles (e.g. Minister, Chair or Scrutiny Member) which were better suited to other communication channels.

The Comité discussed the proposal but considered such newsletters would be a duplication of the content already included in Parish magazines. These were already distributed to all homes in the Parish and were available on Parish websites. The magazines provided Connétables and Deputies with free copy/space in a quarterly publication. It was agreed the States Greffe Constituency Support Team should be reminded of these publications and that it should suggest the funding proposed for the constituency newsletters should instead be directed to support the issue of Parish magazines which were published quarterly rather than only twice a year.

Dog licence
2025 – update
on renewals

4. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 2 of 13th January 2025, noted that dog licences across all Parishes should have been renewed by 31st January 2025. As at 13th February 2025, 2.55% of dog licences had not been renewed and a final reminder had been circulated on 15th February 2025; each Parish would follow up individually any outstanding renewals and, where necessary, refer the dog owner to a Parish Hall Enquiry. The Comité noted the popular use of the new online system with approximately 91% of renewals being completed online.

Dogs (Jersey)
Law 1961 and
Policing of
Beaches
(Jersey)
Regulations
1959 - dog
owner
responsibilities

5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of 13th January 2025, discussed the ‘dog ownership responsibilities’ published with information on dog licences, further to the discussion with Deputy M. Scott. Having regard to the provisions in the Policing of Beaches (Jersey) Regulations 1959, the Comité agreed the ‘dog ownership responsibilities’ should be amended to remind that dogs must be kept under proper control at all times. This included that:

- *A dog must not rush at, worry or otherwise interfere with the safety, comfort or convenience of any other person on the beach.*
 - *A dog must not worry livestock or be dangerous.*
- If you cannot recall your dog at all times, you should seek training support. Information on dog training welfare codes is available on Animal welfare codes.”*

Bailiff of Jersey
- retirement

6. The Chairman raised the matter of the forthcoming retirement of the Bailiff of Jersey, Sir Timothy Le Cocq, KC, in October 2025. The Comité confirmed it would be appropriate, on behalf of all Parishes, to mark the occasion.

Bin
Maintenance
Proposal

7. The Comité considered correspondence from the Head of Sales at Airtel-Vodafone, outlining the potential of smart bin technology which might assist in making waste collection more efficient and cost-effective in each Parish. The Comité agreed that this was a matter which individual Parishes could explore further if they wished.

Lent Parish
Lunches

8. The Chairman enquired of Connétables about the charities supported by funds raised from their Parish’s Lent Lunches as the St Brelade Lent Lunches were organised in conjunction with the Parish and the funds were directed to the Red Cross. The Comité heard from Connétables that in most Parishes the Lent Lunches were organised, and funds distributed, by the Churches.

Next meeting

9. The Connétable of St Helier was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted that the next meeting would be held on 10th March 2025.

Chairman Date