

# Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025**  
at the Parish Hall, St Clement.

## 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 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

## Apologies:

Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Vice Chairman  
Connétable de St Héliér - A. S. Crowcroft  
Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone

In attendance: Mrs S. R. de Gruchy and Mrs S. J. Parkin as Secretary

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

Minutes

1. The minutes of the meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Corporate  
Services  
Scrutiny –  
review

2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 2 of 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025, had received a letter from Deputy H. Miles, advising that she would Chair the Parishes and Government Review Panel and that the Panel members were Deputy C. Curtis (Vice-Chair), Deputy K. Moore and the Connétable of St Ouen. The Panel had agreed the Terms of Reference, reviewed the timeline for the review and discussed the optimal timing for engaging with all Parishes.

The Comité noted that 'stage 1' had commenced and that the Panel was requesting a significant amount of information from the Parishes as part of this review. The information requested was divided into specific topic areas, which the Panel hoped would streamline the process, with responses to be provided by the end of May 2025. The Comité noted the questions within 'stage 1' and that the process was time consuming on the Parishes as the answers to many questions were already available within the public domain. The Comité concurred that each Connétable should review the responses provided by their Parish. The Connétable of St Ouen explained that the Panel was still collating evidence and areas of review and that further information was likely to be known following the next Panel meeting.

P.3/2025 Draft  
Harbours  
(Inshore Safety)  
(Jersey)  
Amendment  
Regulations  
202-

3. The Comité noted that comments had been requested by the Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel on the proposed Draft Harbours (Inshore Safety) (Jersey) Amendment Regulations 202- (P.3/2025) by 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025 as the proposition was scheduled for debate by the States Assembly on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

The Comité provided their support for enhancing safety in Jersey's territorial waters and placing responsibility on users of a wide range of watercrafts, together with the

introduction of new offences to ensure the protection and safety of the public. However, clarification was required on how the proposed amendments would be policed and the responsibilities envisaged enforced, as there was deemed a risk of overstretching resources and capacity of public authorities, particularly that of the Honorary Police, and there was no mention of this in the financial and staffing implications. The envisaged ‘new enforcement policy statement’ from the Ports of Jersey Limited had not yet been provided either. The Comité agreed to provide these comments to the Scrutiny Panel and requested the Chairman to write accordingly.

P.24/2025  
Draft  
Residential  
Tenancy  
(Jersey)  
Amendment  
Law 202-  
Review

5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 11 of 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025, had received a review of the Draft Residential Tenancy (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.24/2025) being conducted by the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel and to consider any Comité comments for submission.

The Comité noted the following concerns:

- that the amendments were likely to deflect individuals from taking on landlord roles and letting property, in respect of both those already landlords and future individuals envisaging letting accommodation;
- that this could lead to a reduction in the supply of property to let;
- a reduced supply of properties to let across the island was likely to lead to increased rents; and
- the envisaged changes might also result in increased rents to cover the additional landlords’ responsibilities and renovation/maintenance costs involved.

In relation to the Parishes which provided rental accommodation, (e.g. sheltered housing) the situations varied according to how these had been established and the terms, if any, of housing trusts. The dilemma would be in the ongoing financing and upgrading of older buildings where work was required to meet enhanced standards.

The Comité referred to the specific questions in the correspondence received from the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel, as to the impact on landlords for the Parishes, and noted that this would also vary depending on how the stock was initially provided. Parishes which had other comments to add to the collective response submitted by the Comité would respond separately with their additional comments.

The Comité finally noted that in relation to a “tenant’s illegality or nuisance”, that the proposals required a ‘police officer’ (or States employee with a relevant enforcement or regulatory function) to have attended the residential unit. The likely impact of this (frequency and work involved) was not mentioned in the financial and staffing implications and the Comité would be concerned if this led to increased demands on the Honorary Police of the Parishes.

Elections Law  
amendments

6. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 17 of 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025, referred to the States Assembly debate on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 on the draft legislation:

- Draft Elections (Electoral Registers) (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.27/2025) and
- Draft Elections (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.28/2025) and the amendment of the Comité.

The P.28/2025 proposition, which would include the Comité’s amendment, had been called in by the Scrutiny Panel but P.27/2025 had been referred back to the Privileges and Procedures Committee (PPC) when these debated by the States on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The reference back was due to States members’ expressing the wish for candidates for election to receive a copy of the electoral register.

The Comité confirmed their full support for the automated voter registration (AVR) proposal and for electoral candidates to receive the electoral register for the constituency in which they were standing for election. However, the Comité was mindful that the

current provisions in Article 9 of the Elections (Jersey) Law 2002, whereby a person could apply to the electoral administrator for the person's name and address to be omitted from the electoral register, would be deleted by the amendments. Further, under AVR, a person eligible as an elector would not be able to choose not to be on the electoral register. Therefore, a person who might be at risk of having their name disclosed to candidates. The Comité therefore considered that PPC should provide an option for an elector to choose not to appear on the candidates' electoral register (an 'opt out right'). The Comité requested that the Chairman write to PPC accordingly.

Honorary  
Police –  
appointment of  
Chefs de  
Police

7. The Comité noted that where the term of office for a Centenier, who was currently a Chef de Police of a Parish, was due to end in early June 2025, the Connétable should appoint a Chef de Police in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Honorary Police (Jersey) Regulations 2005.

Liberation 80 -  
feedback

8. The Comité praised the Liberation 80 event and the collective community spirit but however commented on the specific arrangements, including designated seating, timings of the event and impacts on individual Parish plans, travel and hospitality arrangements.

The Comité noted that the Bailiff Chambers offered to grant each Parish £1,000 and that this amount needed to be claimed by the Parishes individually. The financial costs of the Liberation Day event would be assessed and reviewed for the following year's event by each Parish. The Connétables envisaged proceeding with individual Parish events in the future, however there should be further consideration as to the central proceedings in St Helier in future years. The Comité requested the Chairman write to the Bailiff to provide its feedback.

Jersey Royal  
Occupation  
VIP Potato  
Competition

9. The Comité praised the annual Jersey Royal Occupation VIP Potato Competition, the successful turn out of results and participation by the community, including schools and Occupation VIP participants.

The organiser had offered the Connétables the option of continuing the Jersey Royal Occupation VIP Potato Competition in 2026. The Comité recalled its decision (minute no. 3 of the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025) that this should be the final year an 'Occupation VIP' class would be offered, however it agreed that individual Parishes might wish to consider its participation in 2026.

JOIC Decision  
Notice –  
CAS04959

10. The Comité with reference to its minute no. 5 of the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025, received feedback from the officers' meeting held with staff of the Jersey Office of the Information Commissioner (JOIC) regarding the aspects of the appeal decision. The Comité noted the approachability of the JOIC should queries arise in relation to an FOI appeal and that the Data Protection Officer for Parishes would be reviewing the FOI and privacy notices on Parish websites.

Forthcoming  
States Business

11. The Chairman proposed that the Comité note items of forthcoming States Assembly business which might be relevant to Parishes and upon which the Comité might wish to provide comments. A summary of future business had therefore been circulated.

Next meeting

12. The Connétable of St Clement was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

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