

Comité des Connétables



Rules of the Comité des Connétables

1. Interpretation

In these rules –

“Chairman” means the member appointed as such under rule 2(1);

“*Comité*” means *Le Comité des Connétables*;

“meeting” means a meeting of the *Comité*;

“member” means a serving Connétable; and

“Vice-Chairman” means the member appointed as such under rule 2(1).

2. Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- (1) The *Comité* shall appoint from its number a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman each for such term, not exceeding the remainder of his or her current term of office, as the *Comité* shall decide.
- (2) A candidate, whether for Chairman or Vice-Chairman, must –
 - (a) present to the *Comité* orally his or her reasons for such declaration; and
 - (b) be proposed by another member.
- (3) The Vice-Chairman shall, in the absence or incapacity of the Chairman or if there is a vacancy in the office of Chairman, discharge all the functions of the Chairman.
- (4) It is an exclusive function of the Chairman, or of the Vice-Chairman in his or her stead pursuant to paragraph (3), or of a member appointed for that purpose by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman as the case may be, to be responsible for making any public statement or press release –
 - (a) on behalf of the *Comité*, or
 - (b) with regard to any matter arising from or in connection with the discharge of the functions and duties of the *Comité*.

3. Meetings of the *Comité*

- (1) The *Comité* may only decide any matter at a meeting.
- (2) Each member must be notified of the date, time and place of, a meeting not less than 7 days prior to the meeting. Each member must also receive the agenda for the meeting prior to the meeting.
- (3) However –
 - (a) the Chairman may call a meeting at any time on any matter which the Chairman, with agreement of 2 other members, determines to require such a meeting;
 - (b) the Chairman shall call a meeting if requested in writing to do so by 3 or more members on a particular matter.
- (4) The Chairman shall preside at meetings.
- (5) In the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman from a meeting, the members present shall nominate from their number a member to preside at the meeting.
- (6) A quorum of the *Comité* is 7 members.
- (7) The names of the members present at a meeting shall be recorded.
- (8) Minutes of a meeting shall be kept and must be signed at that meeting or an ensuing meeting by the member who presided at the meeting.

4. Voting by the *Comité*

- (1) Each member shall have one vote on a matter.
- (2) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), all matters coming before or arising in a meeting shall be done and decided by 7 votes in favour.
- (3) Where the matter would commit either the *Comité* or any of the members to any expenditure, the matter shall be done and decided by 12 votes in favour, except that –
 - (a) where that matter attains 7 or more votes on the first vote, the *Comité* may, at a subsequent meeting held not less than 28 days after the meeting at which the first vote was taken, take a second vote on the matter and, on that vote, the matter shall be done and decided by 10 votes in favour;
 - (b) where that matter attains 7 or more votes on the second vote, the *Comité* may, at a further meeting held not less than 56 days after the meeting at which the second vote was taken, take a third vote on the matter and, on that vote, the matter shall be done and decided by 7 votes in favour.
- (4) A decision to amend these rules shall in any event require unanimity of the members.

- (5) A decision of the *Comité* made in accordance with these rules is made to the intent that each member will respect it as a collective decision of the *Comité*.

5. Validity of decisions and acts

A decision or other act of the *Comité* shall not be invalidated —

- (a) by reason of any defect in the election or qualification for office of a person as Connétable; or
- (b) by any vacancy in the office of a Connétable.

6. Signatories

A certificate, signed by a member of the *Comité* or any other person, authorized for the purpose by the *Comité*, that any instrument purporting to be entered into or issued by the *Comité* was so made or issued shall be conclusive of that fact.

7. Functions

- (1) The *Comité* shall discharge such functions as by custom or under any enactment are or have been discharged or exercised by the Connétables of the 12 Parishes, acting together.
- (2) Nothing in these rules purports to apply to the Connétables of the 12 Parishes when constituted under the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 as the Supervisory Committee.

8. Vacancy in office, incapacity etc.

- (1) Where there is a vacancy in the office of Connétable of a Parish, the senior *Procureur du Bien Public* (or, if both *Procureurs* agree, the junior *Procureur*) for the Parish shall be entitled to attend meetings on behalf of the Parish and to speak, but not to vote.
- (2) Where the Connétable of a Parish will, by reason of absence or incapacity, be unable to attend one or more meetings, notice of such absence or incapacity and the circumstances thereof shall be given to the *Comité*, in writing if possible, and the *Comité* may in its discretion, whilst the absence or incapacity remains, allow the senior *Procureur du Bien Public* (or, if both *Procureurs* agree, the junior *Procureur*) for the Parish to attend any subsequent meeting in place of the Connétable and to speak, but not to vote.
- (3) The *Procureur*, whether present under paragraph (1) or (2), shall not count towards the quorum.

9. *Comité* may make own arrangements as to procedures, etc.

Subject to the requirements of these rules, the *Comité* may decide its own procedures.