

Paroisse de Saint Sauveur  
Minutes of the Douzaine Meeting held in the Lihou Room at the Community Centre at  
7.00pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015

Present	Messrs D Bertrand (DB), J Brache (JB), A Courtney (AC), M de Garis (MdG), R de Garis (RdG), P Duquemin (PD), Mrs A Foley (AF), Mrs K Fooks (KF), Messrs E Higgins (EH), J Jorgenson-Lesbirel (JL), Miss M Macdonald (MM), Messrs M Tanguy (MT), A Tempest (AT) (Senior Constable – presiding) and T Robinson (TR) (Junior Constable). Mr G Chapman (GC), Parish Secretary was present to record the minutes.	
Apologies	None	
Billet d'Etat	<p>Deputy D Inglis (DI) was in attendance to discuss the February 2015 States of Deliberation agenda.</p> <p><b>Parochial Church Property Law.</b></p> <p>DI reminded Douzeniers that many years had been needed to get to the position that the Committee was able to present recommendations to the States.</p> <p>DI believed that if it had not been for Deputies placing amendments the law would not have been challenged. However, there was a contentious amendment seeking to allow ratepayers to 'opt out' of paying the ecclesiastical part of the annual parish rate.</p> <p>JB said that the Church had to be maintained by the parish but perhaps he could see a reason to allow people to opt out of the costs associated with the upkeep of the Rectory.</p> <p>KF said that she did not believe that people should be allowed to 'opt out' of any tax as it would mean fewer people having to fund aspects of island society. She added that there were many buildings and services, funded by taxation that people (given the chance) might wish to 'opt out' from paying. This was a proposal that should not be supported.</p> <p>MM asked what the position would be for a household that was divided with some wishing to pay the rate but others deciding against – it would be an administrative nightmare.</p> <p>AC commented that he found it astounding that the Treasury Minister has admitted not conducting any consultation prior laying his amendment.</p> <p>The Douzaine was unanimous in expressing strong opposition to this amendment.</p> <p>RdG said that he believed that the recommendation for management committees was seeking to appoint too many members and that an amendment from Deputy Perrot was more appropriate. The Douzaine agreed with RdG.</p> <p><b>Plurality.</b></p> <p>DI said that because of the review into this Church Property legislation the matter of plurality had come to the fore. He wanted to advise the Douzaine that Torteval Douzaine had discussed the matter of plurality and had agreed that they should make a contribution to the costs incurred by St Saviour in housing the Rector in plurality, - these costs to be calculated according to the population of each of the parishes concerned.</p> <p><b>Living Wage.</b></p> <p>DI asked why taxpayers, through Social Security benefits, should subsidise poorly run companies. A living wage should reflect living costs.</p> <p>JB said that an increase in wages would impact on the cost of goods sold in retail outlets and services provided. It would mean further rises in</p>	

	<p>the cost of living, something he did not believe that the island could afford.</p> <p>MT said that he believed that employers should pay a living wage but that current employment law did not protect employees until they had worked for an employer for 12 months, and he feared employees would be 'let go' after 10 or 11 months so that they could not take advantage of the law.</p> <p>DI added that currently there was no definition of what constituted a living wage on Guernsey.</p> <p><b>Paid Parking.</b></p> <p>DI said that he had no idea which way the vote would go on this item.</p> <p>JB said that he did not consider it appropriate for States Employees to be allowed to park on 'private' States owned land adjacent to their place of work if others would have to pay to park on 'States owned 'public land' such as the piers and other areas owned by the States and run as public car parks. He added that he did not believe that bus users expected to have a free bus service and could not understand why this should be part of the traffic strategy.</p> <p>DI left the meeting at 7.25pm.</p> <p><b>Church Property Law.</b></p> <p>AT advised the Douzaine that a draft letter had been prepared anticipating the response to the amendment proposing an 'opt out' from Ecclesiastical rates and he read the draft to the meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Constables should sent the letter to all western Deputies as soon as possible.</p>	AT/TR
Minutes of Meeting held on 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2015	<p>Both the minutes and website minutes were agreed.</p> <p><b>Website Minutes.</b></p> <p>The January 2015 meeting had agreed that full minutes should be published on the parish website once information that could identify individual parishioners had been removed.</p> <p>AT asked if it was satisfactory to 'black out' these parts of the minutes.</p> <p>MM suggested that if the minutes were published in this way it might be suggested that the Douzaine was seeking to hide certain things from parishioners.</p> <p>KF questioned whether it would be possible for someone with computer expertise to access the information from the 'black out' sections.</p> <p>It was agreed that all sensitive personal information should be removed completely and the minutes saved as a separate website version of the minutes before posting on the website.</p>	AT/TR/AC
Matter Arising	<p><b>Schools Committees</b></p> <p>AT confirmed that the members of both La Houquette and La Mare de Carteret Schools Committees would be attending the March meeting.</p> <p><b>Potholes in Roadways.</b></p> <p>AT also confirmed that the potholes in roads that had been reported to the Constables have been forwarded to Public Services for action.</p> <p><b>Les Choffin Abbreveur.</b></p> <p>AT said that he had been in contact with the Castel Constables and all had agreed to monitor the situation and that repairs were not appropriate at this point.</p> <p>AT had not been successful in his attempt to persuade a landowner to clean an adjacent stream and so he would be asking Guernsey Water to pursue the matter.</p> <p><b>March Douzaine Meeting.</b></p> <p>AT pointed out to the Douzaine that the March meeting would include the presentation of the Ecclesiastical Remede from the Churchwardens,</p>	AT/TR

	<p>reports from the Schools Committee members and Deputy Burford to discuss the March Billet. It was agreed that the March meeting should start at 6.30pm.</p>	AT/TR
Bus Shelter	<p>AT pointed out to the Douzaine that this item had been held over from November 2014 and was scheduled for an update every 3 months. AC said that no progress had been made on the matter but that on reflection he agreed with the suggestion made by JB that any shelter should be provided at a location where it could be used by a significant number of parishioners. It would be appropriate, therefore, to position a shelter along Route des Bas Courtils where there are both States' and private estates housing large numbers of people. It was agreed that the Constables should write to the Environment Department asking the Department to consider locating a shelter in this area.</p>	AT/TR
Parochial Appeals Tribunal Members	<p>AT reminded members that he had application forms should anyone wish to stand for the position. Only current or ex Douzeniers and Constables under the age of 72 years are eligible. JB said that everyone should consider ex colleagues for these positions. MdG pointed out that at a recent Douzaine Liaison Group meeting parish representatives were assured that appropriate training would be provided to those appointed to the position.</p>	
Dog Licences	<p>AT said that just under 100 reminder letters had recently been sent to those who had not renewed their dog tax for 2015.</p>	
Plurality	<p>AT said that DI had referred to this item earlier and that he had nothing else to add. AC pointed out that the meeting with the Chief Minister in January 2015 had received a sympathetic hearing but as yet nothing further had developed. The Douzaine would have to give Deputies a few months to develop proposals for a solution.</p>	
Douzaine Liaison Group	<p>MdG reported on the most recent meeting as follows;- <b>Island Development Plan</b> The Environment Department will be holding presentations about the latest Island Development Plan. The Constables will circulate details to all members and request that those interested respond directly to the Department. <b>Bornement Fees.</b> As a result of recent consultations Bornement fees will increase from £15 to £25. Arrangements will now be made for the implementation of the new fee. <b>Liberation Day Celebrations.</b> MdG confirmed that the States will make a grant of £500 available to each parish for the preparation of a float to take part in the cavalcade. <b>Recyclable Waste Materials - Bring Banks.</b> MdG confirmed that Public Services are now reviewing the viability of the various 'bring banks' around the island. <b>Dog Licencing Legislation – Amelioration Account.</b> Parishes will have to publish details of their Amelioration Accounts in La Gazette during March as in previous years since the legislation removing this requirement will not be ready in time. AT Confirmed that arrangements had been made for publication on 5<sup>th</sup> March.</p>	AT/TR
Guernsey Douzaine Council (GDC)	<p>MdG reported that all items discussed at the GDC meeting have been or will be covered under the agenda for the Douzaine meeting.</p>	AT/TR

Planning Applications	<p>There were no requests for the Constables to obtain plans for applications (other than those already requested).  JL commented that he was concerned about an application to demolish 2 chimneys. However, it was agreed that it was not a matter for the Douzaine to be involved with and JL was advised that if he wished he could make comment to the Environment Department in a personal capacity.</p>	
Correspondence	<p><b>Air Crew Memorial.</b>  AT reported that he had received a letter of thanks for the £1000 donation made on behalf of the parish (from the amelioration account).</p> <p><b>Recycling - Bring Bank Rationalisation.</b>  AT said that he had received notification from Public Services that arrangements had been made to close the facility at Perelle Garage with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015.</p> <p><b>2016 General Election of People's Deputies.</b>  AT explained that he had received a letter from the States Assembly and Constitution Committee seeking clarification about arrangements for the 2016 General Election.</p> <p><u>Date of Election.</u> The Douzaine agreed that the proposed date, Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016, would be appropriate.</p> <p><u>Hours of Polling.</u> It was agreed that the hours of 8.00am until 8.00pm as suggested by the Committee would be appropriate.</p> <p><u>Polling stations.</u> Since the Constables' Office and Douzaine have now moved to the Community Centre it was considered appropriate that a room within the Centre should be used as a polling station. It was also considered appropriate that there should be a second polling station in the 'lower' part of the parish and that the school hall at Emanuel Church in Longue Rue would be suitable.</p> <p>PD would establish if the Church would be agreeable to this arrangement and the Constables would respond to the Committee accordingly.</p> <p><b>Motor Speed Event on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2015.</b>  AT confirmed that the Guernsey Kart and Motor Club LBG had now confirmed the following:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The property owner nearest to the start line has been contacted and has given his agreement to the event.</li> <li>2. The Club will provide stewards to monitor the millennium walk area.</li> <li>3. Insurance policies are as required by the two governing bodies that control the sport.</li> </ol> <p><b>Law Enforcement Consultative forum.</b>  AT said that he had been asked by the Home Department Minister to gauge whether the Douzaine would support the introduction of a formal Law Enforcement Forum.</p> <p>JL said that he had been a member of a similar initiative when Mr G Le Page had been Chief of Police and had found it beneficial. JL confirmed that he would be happy to represent the Douzaine on such a committee should it be established.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Constables should reply supporting the initiative.</p>	<p>PD/AT/TR</p> <p>AT/TR</p>
Any Other Business	<p><b>Jurat Elections.</b>  AT reminded JB and RdG that the States of Election would be meeting on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015.</p> <p><b>Les Issues.</b>  RdG reported a problem with a wall and a tree at Les Issues, but AT confirmed that he had already written to the landowner.</p> <p><b>Floral St Saviour.</b>  AC reported that an information board had been prepared for the</p>	<p>JB/RdG</p>

	<p>meadow at Sous L'Eglise, where a 'throne seat' for children had been cut from a tree stump and that a bench had been purchased for the area. He reminded the Douzaine that a <b>working party</b> would be taking place from 9.30am until 11.30am on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at the Community Centre and that any help would be most welcome.</p> <p><b>Liberation Celebrations.</b> AC said that plans were well under way for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May and would involve the formal opening of the revamped meadow at Sous L'Eglise, a walking treasure hunt for children, fancy dress (war time theme), military vehicles, tea party and barbecue. Tickets would be priced at £2.50 for adults and £1.50 for children. Information would be published in the 'Souwester' magazine and Guernsey Press as part of their public information programme for Liberation Day. The organising group will be making firm arrangements in the coming weeks.</p> <p><b>Sea Defences/Flooding</b> PD said that there had been a follow up meeting with Mr C Hall (Guernsey Water) concerning improvements. He had prepared a report which was available at the Constables Office.</p> <p><b>Perelle Slipway.</b> PD noted that the Douzaine had previously warned the Environment Department that Perelle Bay slipway was in a poor condition and that following recent high tides and strong winds significant damage had now been caused.</p> <p><b>Douzaine Room Bell – Wooden Cabinet.</b> PD reported that Marcel Laine had offered to make a display frame for the school bell that was removed from the Douzaine Room prior to the move to the Community Centre. It was agreed that this generous offer should be accepted.</p> <p><b>Display Cabinet.</b> PD said that Marcel Laine would be prepared to make an oak base and top for the cabinet that was to be used to display parish memorabilia, and the cost would be in the region of £200. It was agreed that this should be done.</p> <p><b>Rue de La Fontaine – bank collapse.</b> AF reported that a bank had collapsed in Rue de La Fontaine. AT confirmed that he was aware of this and would be speaking to the landowner at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p><b>Richmond Slipway.</b> JL said that he had raised the matter of planting flowers at Richmond Slipway at the January meeting and accepted the explanation given by AC. JL asked if a letter of explanation could be sent to the parishioner who had raised the matter. The constables agreed that a letter would be sent if JL could provide the necessary contact details.</p> <p><b>Open Day, Meet the Douzaine &amp; Constables.</b> TR suggested that an opportunity for parishioners to meet the Douzaine, perhaps on a Saturday morning should be considered. JB said that the last time such an initiative was tried very few parishioners turned up. DB said that in recent years the Constables had invited people for New Year drinks and even then very few turned up. MM suggested that most people are only inclined to come to such an event should they have a particular grievance at the time. She suggested that the Liberation celebrations on 10<sup>th</sup> May would be a more appropriate way of informally meeting parishioners.</p>	<p>PD</p> <p>PD</p> <p>AT/TR</p> <p>JL/AT/TR</p>
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	TR agreed that MM's suggestion might be the best approach and would review his suggestion depending on the success of the event.	
Attachments	None	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm	
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be on Monday 23rd March 2015 <b>at the Community Centre, starting at 6.30pm</b>	