

Paroisse de Saint Sauveur
Minutes of the Douzaine Meeting held in the Lihou Room at the Community Centre at
7. 00pm on Monday 26th October 2015

Present	Messrs D Bertrand (DB), J Brache (JB), 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), Messrs M Tanguy (MT), and A Tempest (AT) (Senior Constable – presiding). Mr G Chapman (GC), Parish Secretary was present to record the minutes.	
Apologies	Mr A Courtney (AC) and Miss M Macdonald (MM)	
Billet d’Etat	<p>Deputy Y Burford (YB) attended the meeting at 7.00pm. YB detailed items for debate by the States (Billets XVIII and XIX) at the October meeting.</p> <p>Dog Licences (Guernsey) (Amendment) Law 2015. YB highlighted this piece of legislation because it removes the need for the Constables to publish details of monies raised from dog taxes in La Gazette Officialle.</p> <p>Social Security Department – Benefits and Contributions for 2016. YB explained that as agreed by the States at a previous meeting contribution rates for both employer and employee will increase by 0.1% to meet the cost of introducing the new maternity benefit.</p> <p>Public Services Department (PSD) – Wastewater Network Extension. YB explained that most areas that could be connected to the main drain at an economic rate had now been so connected. The cost of connecting those properties that were still using cesspits was considered to be prohibitive and the Department were not going to use its budget to connect these properties.</p> <p>2016 Budget. YB said that the budget for 2016 had been well publicised and that the headline items were an increase in fuel duty, increase in property tax (as agreed by the States when they reviewed taxes and benefits), providing funds a review of the housing market, to investigate tax relief on mortgages of properties that are intended for the rental market and financial assistance for Alderney.</p> <p>JB suggested that increase to fuel duty will add to retail prices inflation. YB said that this would be unlikely since world oil prices were currently very low.</p> <p>Review of Housing YB said that there would be a review into housing needs if funding was forthcoming.</p> <p>AT, supported by JB, suggested that current low sales volume was because banks were reluctant to lend to potential purchasers.</p> <p>MT said that everything relating to sales of property depended on confidence and that he did not believe that the States has created an economic environment that encourages this confidence.</p> <p>Additional Funding for the Health Department. YB reminded the Douzaine that the main focus of this budget was to provide £9.2 million of additional funding for the Health Department.</p> <p>PD said that he believed that Deputies have a very difficult task in providing the necessary funding for essential services but that he could see no long term strategy. Often he believed that spending on projects was not prioritised properly. He asked that more thought should be given to where the island wanted to be in 10 or 20 years’ time instead of continuing what appears to be a piecemeal approach.</p>	

	<p>YB commented that the States have always got a 25 year strategic plan that is broken down into 4 year segments.</p> <p>PD said that currently there was a view that the States were not embarking on any sort of plan and that there was a tendency to do nothing until things became desperate. He asked that the States get on and do something, for the States to lead even if sometimes they got it wrong – this would be better than the inaction that is currently perceived to be the preferred option.</p> <p>DB asked if the island could sustain a population of 80,000.</p> <p>YB answered by saying that there is a desire to keep the population at the current levels, adding that the perception that housing laws can control population are a myth since effectively only 16 -17% of population can be controlled. The remaining 80+% have local qualifications in some way with many others similarly qualified and currently living elsewhere in the world. If suddenly there was a desire from these people to return to Guernsey there would be nothing to stop them.</p> <p>DB said that a straw poll at the recent Institute of Directors conference suggested that the majority present at the meeting would be happy to see an increase.</p> <p>YB agreed that there might be an improvement in demographics if this was to happen but asked where do you stop once these newcomers to the island have aged, - would you just carry on increasing the population to bring about a similar effect?</p> <p>JB said that he believed the island was ‘full’ and to increase population further would affect the quality of life and impact on essential services.</p> <p>PD said that business does not like uncertainty and suggested that the States needs to make more radical decisions.</p> <p>MT agreed with PD saying that currently Jersey is more encouraging to business – they seem to be a lot more confident in Jersey.</p> <p>JJL said that he did not think that the States listen to islanders, and cited the ‘Enough is Enough’ movement who questioned traffic arrangements and the authority and efficiency of civil servants.</p> <p>YB said that Deputy Trott had stated that comparisons with Jersey and the Isle of Man showed that Guernsey’s Civil Service provided good value for money.</p> <p>DB suggested that more people should take part in the various consultations that the States’ conducted.</p> <p>YB agreed saying that it was rare for a Department to get more that 300 or so responses when a matter was put out to public consultation.</p> <p>YB left the meeting at 7.30pm.</p>	
Minutes of meeting held on 28 th September 2015	The minutes were agreed without alteration and signed by AT.	
Matters Arising	<p>Road Signage – Le Neuf Chemin.</p> <p>AT said that MM is dealing with this matter and since she is currently away from the island it will be carried over until the November meeting.</p> <p>Law Enforcement Consultative Forum.</p> <p>At the last meeting JJL had requested an update an AT said that he has now been advised that progress on this matter is expected early in 2016.</p> <p>Parish Rates.</p> <p>AT advised that all rates for 2015 had now been paid.</p>	
Parish Elections	AT said that nomination forms had been received for the positions of Constable, Douzenier and La Houquette School Representative. The	

	<p>only position that was contested was that of School Representative, but all vacancies would be filled by those nominated.</p> <p>AT confirmed that the Law Officers have advised that Mr Karl de La Mare (KdLM) is likely to be sworn in as Constable during the week commencing 9th November 2015 and that AT would make the necessary arrangements for KdLM to commence his duties as soon as possible.</p> <p>AT reminded the Douzaine that the Parish Meeting to approve the nominations and elect a school representative was to be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 4th November 2015.</p>	AT
Building Work at St Saviour's Community Centre (SSCC)	<p>MT reported that the building work that had been approved by the working party was now complete.</p> <p>However, there was a problem with the bi-fold door and the outside door to the Constables' Office which he believes have been incorrectly fitted. During a recent period of heavy rain water was able to pass through the door into the Douzaine Room. Les James (LJ), the project manager has been in contact with CA Duquemin who in turn are discussing the remedy with the window supplier.</p>	LJ,MT
Apportionment of Annual Costs at SSCC	<p>AT advised the meeting that the 'Instrument of Variation and Surrender of Part' agreement reached between the Constables and SSCC LBG in December 2014, provided for the Constables to make a contribution to the costs of 'gas, electricity, all Outgoings and insurance' calculated by reference to the square footage of the surrendered premises as they bear to the total footage of the whole building.</p> <p>At a recent meeting of the Working Party AC had pointed out that the recommendation put to the Douzaine and subsequently referred to at the Parish Meeting (in July 2014) was that the Constables would pay for 5% of utility costs not easily attributable to the Douzaine (not to include water charges).</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed that a 5% contribution was appropriate and authorised AT to make the necessary arrangements for this to be implemented.</p>	AT
SSCC LBG & Trust Accounts	<p>PD had previously circulated the accounts for SSCC LBG and Trust for the financial year ended December 2014 (copies attached to these minutes).</p> <p>PD commented that the LBG is responsible for running the Centre and had produced a profit of £41k which is ploughed back into renovating the building, - a very good result.</p> <p>MT asked if the Centre was ahead of its cash flow projections.</p> <p>PD confirmed that it was – 2015 has a forecast for greater rental income but now that there are paid staff the profit is likely to be lower.</p> <p>PD confirmed that the Trust has now repaid all loans, the accounts in good order with any surplus going to the LBG.</p> <p>The accounts for the Trust and LBG were approved by the Douzaine.</p>	
Secondary Schools Consultation	<p>AT reminded the Douzaine that he had previously circulated an internet link to a survey being conducted by the Education Department into the future of Secondary Schools. He asked if the Douzaine wished to formulate an agreed response to the survey, but it was agreed that Douzeniers should respond individually if they felt it appropriate.</p>	
Waste Disposal Update	<p>AT said that since the last meeting the PSD had deferred any changes to the collection and disposal arrangements until 2017 at the earliest. Consequently it had been agreed to defer any considerations of the Waste Sub Committee until more information was known.</p>	
Christmas and New Year	<p>AT advised the Douzaine that refuse collections for both Christmas and New Year weeks would be different to the norm, but final arrangements</p>	

Waste Collections	could not be finalised until more information was available from Mayside.	AT
Environment Department	There were no requests for the Constables to obtain plans other than those already obtained.	
Correspondence	<p>Remembrance Services. AT reminded the Douzaine that there are Services of Remembrance at St Saviour's Church at 9.30am on Sunday 8th November and Torteval Church at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11th November and asked that members make every effort to attend.</p> <p>SSCC – Unveiling of Memorial Seat on Saturday 14th November. AT reminded members that an invitation has been extended to all Douzeniers (and their spouses) – <i>a copy of which was subsequently emailed to all on 27th October 2015</i> – members being asked to reply directly to the address on the invitation.</p> <p>La Mare de Carteret School Presentation Evening. KF agreed to represent the Douzaine at the School's presentation evening on 12th November 2015.</p>	KF
Any Other Business	<p>Rue Mahaut – Waste Water Discharge AT advised the Douzaine that Guernsey Water has identified 3 properties that are discharging waste water directly into streams. AT asked JJL (who has previously expressed an interest in matters concerning this road) to monitor the position.</p> <p>Vieille Rue – Litter AT said that previous complaints have been made about this area and was witnessed by Canton members conducting recent inspections. The litter was cleared by Douzeniers and AT said that he intends to request a surveillance company to install a camera for a short period in an attempt to identify the culprit(s). EH suggested that Guernsey Police crime reduction staff might be able to assist.</p> <p>Tunnels Inspection. AT advised that the annual inspection of the tunnels is due and suggested that the afternoon of Saturday 7th November would be appropriate, a time agreed to by RdG.</p> <p>Planning Application. AT asked Les Rouvets Canton Members if they could be available to discuss a planning application and it was agreed that this could be carried out on 27th or 28th October.</p> <p>SSCC Articles and Trust Deeds AT confirmed that Mourant Ozannes had confirmed that amendments to these documents is under way.</p> <p>Rue de La Hougue – Planning Application AT confirmed that the Canton members have now agreed a letter to be sent to the Environment Department concerning an ongoing planning application.</p> <p>Abbreveurs – Cleaning AT advised the Douzaine that the current contractor (EH) has indicated that he will be unable to continue with the cleaning of parish abbreveurs and land in 2016. AT will obtain 3 quotes from willing contractors so that the costs will be known at the time the 2016 remede is prepared. The Douzaine expressed their thanks to EH for the work he has done during recent years.</p> <p>Hedges and Streams – Applying Fines AT advised that the recent Island Constables' Meeting recommended</p>	<p>JJL</p> <p>AT</p> <p>AT, RdG</p> <p>AT,PD, AF</p> <p>AT</p>

