

Paroisse de Saint Sauveur  
Minutes of the Douzaine Meeting held in the Lihou Room at the Community Centre at  
7.00pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Present	<p>Messrs D Bertrand (DB), J Brache (JB), M de Garis (MdG), R de Garis (RdG), , Mrs A Foley (AF), Mrs K Fooks (KF), Messrs S Gibbs (SG), A Tempest (AT), and N Le Poidevin (NLP) (Senior Constable – presiding).</p> <p>Mr G Chapman (GC), Parish Secretary was present to record the minutes.</p> <p>Mr P Connolly (PC), new Constable for 2018 also attended the meeting as an observer.</p>	
Apologies	Mr P Duquemin (PD), Miss M Macdonald (MM) and Mr J Norman (JN).	
Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	The minutes of the meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2017 were agreed and signed by NLP.	
Matters Arising	<p><b>St Saviour’s Community Trust – Memorandum and Articles of Association.</b></p> <p>NLP reminded the Douzaine that this matter has been ongoing for some time and that JB asked at the October meeting what progress has been made. NLP has contacted the Advocates who are preparing the documents (free of charge) and on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 they had advised that they hoped to be in a position to circulate draft documents by the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017.</p> <p>NLP said that he would ask again if nothing was heard within a few weeks.</p>	NLP
Billet d’Etat	<p>At 7.05pm Deputy E Yerby (EY) attended the meeting (and was welcomed by NLP) to discuss forthcoming States’ business.</p> <p><b>Data Protection Law.</b></p> <p>EY highlighted that this revision to the law was because of requirements of the European Union.</p> <p>SG asked why there was no co-operation with Jersey on this matter, since it was a stated aim of the States to ‘share’ resources where it would be to the benefit of both islands.</p> <p>EY agreed that the two islands seem to be going separate ways concerning this matter.</p> <p>SG said that he considered this to be a giant leap backwards and that when the dust has settled it will be seen to be a mistake.</p> <p><b>Revision to Population Management Law.</b></p> <p>EY highlighted that many areas of Guernsey business has been lobbying for a change to the recently introduced measures of controlling population, and that she had been opposed to the present arrangements. It appears that the first 6 months have caused much difficulty in sectors such as hospitality and care.</p> <p>DB agreed with EY, suggesting that the previous system was not broken and had not needed revision. He added that the population demographics of the island are such that there are not enough young people to provide the workers needed to ensure that all sectors of business have an adequate work force. It is essential that businesses have access to sufficient ‘guest’ workers to ensure they remain efficient.</p>	

JB said that he did not wish to see the population expand beyond what it currently is and asked if the current population law supported this aim. EY said that the objectives of the law were 'woolly' but that she believed that this was broadly the case. However, she does not see how the current law improves on the control of population in a better way than previously.

JB added that he hoped that the States has a vision of how to encourage new 'high tech' businesses to the island.

EY said that it is a fact that fewer overseas workers are looking to come to Guernsey (Jersey and the UK also) and it seems that the lower value of the pound and Brexit are two major factors, however, it is important that business has access to the staff needed in order to function. She said that representatives of the hospitality and care sectors of the island's economy are hoping that the Department are taking note of their difficulties in recruiting staff and will support sensible ways to improve the situation. She went on to say that the **minimum wage** is to increase to £7.75 per hour, although in the UK it is to be £7.83. Consultation (prior to the recommendation to increase to £7.75) had suggested the need to increase the rate to £8 per hour and EY regrets that this had not been supported.

#### **Overseas Aid Commission.**

EY said that it is the aim of the Commission to develop an overseas impact fund in a similar way to that adopted by other countries so that the value of the funds available will go further.

SG asked if there was any move to set up a public/private investment fund as he believes there are many private companies that would contribute.

EY confirmed that this is an area that is being looked at.

#### **Education.**

EY said that it was her understanding that the States' debate on how secondary education would be structured would be deferred until the January meeting.

The Committee are keen to proceed with their 3 school model, but EY understands that an amendment suggesting an alternative 2 school model will be tabled within a few days.

#### **Health.**

EY outline the Health Department's vision, which is to build on previous work, to form partnerships with providers of health services/care so that people with multiple health conditions will be able to enjoy common quality standards. It is intended that there will be public information events so that islanders are aware of any changes that may affect them.

#### **Waste Strategy.**

EY said that she understands that the Department is finalising the charges to be applied when the new strategy takes effect in 2018.

SG said that he understood that there is talk of land reclamation (in St Sampson) in order that there should be somewhere to dispose of inert waste and that the estimated cost of building a breakwater for such a project is estimated at £30 million. He suggested that this cost seems extremely high.

EY said that she would ask the Department for a breakdown of the proposed cost. EY understands that any land reclaimed would be earmarked for industry but that it would be many years before this would happen.

DB said that there are environmental issues to be considered when implementing a scheme such as this and hoped that the Department

	<p>would fully address these.</p> <p>MdG said that there would also be an impact on tidal conditions and hoped that this would be factored in to any reclamation project.</p> <p>EY said that she understands the concerns raised and fully expects the Department to consider all aspects of a reclamation project. She said that she does not want to see waste, albeit inert, disposed of in the sea (any more than most people) but that it has to go somewhere and in the absence of a viable alternative there is no option.</p> <p><b>Vision for Guernsey.</b></p> <p>EY said that the Economic Development Department were planning to bring a 'Vision for Guernsey' policy document to the States but since the president of that Department has just resigned his post she expects that this will be delayed.</p> <p>NLP thanked EY for attending the meeting and EY left at 7.25pm.</p>	
Waste Strategy	<p><b>Meeting with Political Representatives.</b></p> <p>NLP said that some other parishes had requested a meeting with the political heads of the Departments responsible for the waste strategy and that this would be on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017.</p> <p>IT was agreed that DB and SG would attend this meeting.</p> <p><b>Joint Billing for Waste Strategy.</b></p> <p>NLP said that the Finance Committee had met to consider the financial implications of including the Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) standing charge for the disposal of waste as part of the parochial rates account. On balance the Committee would have recommended to the Douzaine that this was a sensible way to proceed, but (today) NLP has received an email from the WDA suggesting that negative feedback from other parishes is likely to mean that the Department will shelve the joint billing approach, instead adopting separate bills from both the parish and WDA for different aspects of the strategy. Confirmation is expected soon after the meeting referred to above.</p> <p><b>Waste Collection Contract.</b></p> <p>NLP reminded the Douzaine that the current contract for the collection of waste was due to expire at the end of 2017 but has been extended until the implementation of the new strategy.</p> <p>The current contract has an option for the Constables to extend it on the same terms and conditions and with no change to the waste collection arrangements this is what NLP would have done. However, there are to be (from August 2018) differing frequencies for the collection of different strands of waste (food, residual and 3 types of recyclable waste). This has been discussed by the Finance Committee and with the Committee's support NLP is recommending that the Constables should, effectively, agree to extend the contract with additional provision for frequency and type of waste to be collected.</p> <p>The Douzaine supported this approach and NLP said that he would endeavour to set up a meeting with the contractor to finalise a new contract but did not expect it to be before the new year.</p>	<p>DB/SG</p> <p>NLP</p> <p>NLP</p>
Christmas/New Year Refuse Collection	<p>NLP advised the Douzaine that refuse collection for Christmas week 2017, - normally parishioners put out refuse on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December – will be one day later. Refuse should be put out on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p>The following week refuse will be collected as normal, - parishioners should put out their refuse on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.</p> <p>The WDA authority will be making media announcements and the Constables will publish details on the parish website, in La Gazette and on the parish notice board in due course.</p>	NLP

Hedges	<p>Douzeniers confirmed that all issues with hedges had been dealt with the exception of two.</p> <p>One in <b>Les Petit Bas Courtils</b>, - NLP will speak to the owner directly – the owner has previously indicated that he will attend to the matter but has not done so.</p> <p>One in <b>Rue des Issues</b> where a tree is obstructing the roadway for large vehicles. The Constables have written to the owner twice, the second time warning that a civil penalty would be applied if it was not attended to. It was agreed that the Constable should write again to the owner advising that a penalty would be applied after a further 14 day period if the owner has either not dealt with the matter or advised the Constable of arrangements so to do.</p>	<p>NLP</p> <p>NLP</p>
Parochial Church Management Board	<p>NLP advised the Douzaine that the remainder of the Parochial Church Property (Guernsey) Law 2015 will be enacted on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018, and that this will require the establishment of the Management Board to take effect from the date of the (2018) April Parish Meeting.</p> <p>JB asked if the Douzaine would be able to see minutes of the meeting of the Board.</p> <p>DB said that this would not be a sub-committee of the Douzaine.</p> <p>KF said that she saw the new Board operating in the same way as the Churchwardens currently do, with recommendations concerning the Ecclesiastical Remede being made to the Douzaine and all other day to day business carried out independently of the Douzaine.</p> <p>AT suggested that there should be nothing contentions in the business of the Board because all plans for expenditure would have to be agreed by the Douzaine and a parish meeting in the same way as they are at present. In any case, the Douzaine would always be aware of what was being discussed and planned because there would be at least 2 Douzeniers as members of the Board.</p> <p>It was agreed that once the Board was established it would be for the Board to agree the working arrangements.</p> <p>RdG agreed to provide the Constables with details of all <b>glebe land</b> within the parish.</p>	<p>RdG</p>
St Saviour's Tunnels	<p>NLP advised that he has received a letter from Building Control following the retrospective application to construct an internal dividing wall at the boundary point of the parish owned tunnel.</p> <p>The letter has made no reference to the specification of the wall so NLP is assuming that the wall meets the technical requirements.</p> <p>However, Building Control are saying that there should be an emergency exit gate, emergency lighting throughout and ventilation reinstated to the standard that existed previously.</p> <p>A conversation has taken place with a Building Control Surveyor which has suggested that the requirements are as a result of a report submitted by the Fire Officer.</p> <p>NLP said that his understanding is that the requirements had never been in place previously and asked the Douzaine if anyone was aware that there has ever been an agreement in place that made provision for neighbouring property owners to have a right of way over parish land (and that of others) to effect a means of emergency escape that included an emergency exit gate and emergency lighting.</p> <p>RdG said that ever since he had been on the Douzaine there had been no such provision and this was confirmed by others who had been Constable of the parish previously.</p> <p>NLP said that he has arranged to meet a surveyor from Building Control and other interested parties (on site) on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December when</p>	

	<p>he hopes that the situation can be resolved.</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed they would be reluctant to recommend to parishioners that funds should be used to install the provisions being requested by Building Control.</p>	NLP
Planning Department	There were no requests for copies of planning applications.	
Bornement Application	The Douzaine approved an application for a bornement in connection with work at Les Islets Arsenal.	NLP
Guernsey Douzaine Council (GDC)	<p>NLP commented on the minutes of the most recent GDC meeting.</p> <p><b>Dog Licences</b></p> <p>Suggestions from the States' veterinary officer that would include provision of a 'dog warden' and annual dog licencing fees of £100 did not meet with approval.</p> <p>The Douzaine considered the intentions to be well meaning but that did not believe that the States would agree such controversial measures.</p> <p><b>Rent for Rectories.</b></p> <p>KF said that it appears that a single Douzenier (from another parish), without support of his own Douzaine, is seeking support from GDC representatives in order to persuade States Deputies to consider new legislation that would provide for parishes to charge the Church of England for the use of parish rectories.</p> <p>It was agreed not to consider the matter unless there was a formal request from another Douzaine or the GDC collectively.</p>	
Parish Road Signs	<p>AF highlighted the fact that granite road (directional) signs are becoming (in many cases) difficult to read and suggested that they should be repainted.</p> <p>AT said that in 2016 (as Constable) he had arranged for one to be repainted by a sign writer and the cost was in excess of £200.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Constable would liaise with AT (who has agreed to repaint some signs, - on a trial basis) and if this was satisfactory – to agree a rate for repainting all signs that needed attention. The amelioration account should be used for this purpose.</p>	AT/NLP
Parish Bank Accounts	<p>NLP reminded the Douzaine that since Mr K de La Mare had resigned his position as Constable in August the signatories to the various parish bank accounts, held at Natwest Bank, were Messrs N Le Poidevin (NLP), D Bertrand (DB) and G Chapman (GC). Mr P Connolly (PC) would be joining the Douzaine in January 2018 as Junior Constable and it would be normal practice for him to also become a signatory.</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed that the necessary paperwork should be completed in order for NLP, DB, PC and GC to be authorised signatories.</p>	NLP
Correspondence	<p><b>Land at Rue des Issues.</b></p> <p>NLP said that he had received email correspondence from a man who was due to complete the conveyance of property at Rue des Issues. The deeds of the property in question suggested that land that had been part of previous Floral Guernsey entries by the parish was not in fact parish land. There is no suggestion that the new owner wishes to do anything other than maintain the land in current usage but he wished to know if officials considered it to be land owned by the parish.</p> <p>RdG said that he has maintained the land in recent years, although since the former Strawberry Farm is no longer part of the entry for Floral Guernsey the land in question is also not part of the entry. RdG is not aware that there are any documents to suggest that the parish owns the land.</p>	

	<p>It was agreed that the Constable should reply to the effect that ownership is not claimed by the parish and to thank the new (potential) owner for agreeing to maintain the land for use of the public.</p> <p><b>La Gazette Notices.</b></p> <p>NLP said that the Chair of GDC has asked if the Douzaine would support an approach to the States Assembly and Constitution Committee asking them to follow the lead of Jersey in removing the requirement to publish official notices in The Guernsey Press (La Gazette), - instead publishing notices on a dedicated official website.</p> <p>NLP said that the average spend over the last 4 years is in excess of £2,200 per annum, which is some 2% of the occupiers rates. It was agreed that the Douzaine would support such an initiative.</p>	<p>NLP</p> <p>NLP</p>
Any other Business	<p><b>Christmas Lights.</b></p> <p>NLP asked for assistance to put up the Christmas lights – the morning of Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. DB, AT and GC agreed to assist.</p> <p>NLP asked for agreement to <b>purchase 3 additional 10 metre lengths</b> of lights at a cost of approximately £180 (50% of the cost will be met by the Community Centre management). It was agreed that the amelioration fund should be used for this expense.</p> <p><b>2018 Guernsey Design Awards.</b></p> <p>RdG said that he had been made aware that the meadow at Sous L'Eglise would be entered into the 2018 Design Awards competition. The Floral Guernsey co-ordinator (Mrs E Pirouet-Douglas) has given the nomination her approval.</p>	<p>NLP</p>
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm	
	The next meeting is to be held at the Douzaine Room at 7.00pm on Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2017.	