

Paroisse de Saint Sauveur
Minutes of the Douzaine Meeting held in the Lihou Room at the Community Centre at
7.00pm on Monday 11th December 2017

Present	<p>Messrs D Bertrand (DB), J Brache (JB), R de Garis (RdG), P Duquemin (PD), Mrs A Foley (AF), Mrs K Fooks (KF), Mr S Gibbs (SG), Miss M Macdonald (MM), Messrs J Norman (JN), 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	<p>Mr M de Garis (MdG)</p> <p>RdG opened the meeting by welcoming JN to the Douzaine.</p>	
Billet d'Etat	<p>Deputy A Brouard (AB) attended the meeting to discuss forthcoming States' business and was welcomed by NLP.</p> <p>Election of a President of the Committee for Economic Development.</p> <p>AB said that there had been much said in the media about the resignation of Deputy P Ferbrache which had caused the election but that AB did not wish to comment on the matter other than to say that he expected Deputy C Parkinson to be elected.</p> <p>Education Department.</p> <p>JB asked AB why there was opposition to the Department's proposals for a 3 (secondary) school model for 11 – 16 education when it had previously been agreed as the preferred option for progress in the post 11 plus era.</p> <p>AB explained his interpretation of the position as 4 States' members preferring a 2 school model to include 11 – 18 students and that this suggestion had gained momentum, but the Department had insufficient resources to allow for research into this. Eventually Policy & Resources (P&R) had been approached and asked to provide £93k for the purpose when it was clear that the Department could not (or would not) provide the requested information. This was a majority decision of P&R, with AB (who is a member of P&R) making it clear that he did not support the request for funding.</p> <p>SG said that he considers the States are debating the wrong issues, - it is clear that the priority is how best to provide for the best education for the future of the island and not to be so concerned with the various properties within the Education Department's estate.</p> <p>AB reminded the Douzaine that the debate about secondary education, and how it should be provided, started back in 2002 and it sometimes appears as if little or no progress has been made in almost 2 decades.</p> <p>JN asked how the new system might provide vocational training.</p> <p>AB admitted that he had no idea how vocational training might be provided but suggested that the Department would bring an amendment to the States with proposals in due course but that in any case vocational training would not be part of the educational needs for another 5 years.</p> <p>KF asked what the proposals were for 2 schools, adding that if it was believed that this model would provide a better education outcome for students that it should be the preferred choice for Deputies no matter</p>	

what they may have promised at the last election. She suggested that educational matters evolve and this might well be one of them, some Deputies appear to be losing sight of the most important part of the debate – what is best for the students, and instead are focusing more trivial matters.

Health and Social Care – A Partnership of Purpose.

AB said that this item seemed to be a bit ‘woolly’ but there was no doubt that people are living longer and this is costing more, as savings are made there is more demand on services and the savings will be ‘eaten up’.

Waste Strategy Implementation.

AB said that the original plan, - that the cost of waste disposal would be met by a ‘pay as you throw’ system of charges to a fixed annual charge. He said that he believes the annual charge will provide more certain funding for the Department.

DB said that at the most recent meeting of officials (of all parishes) with political representatives, it was clear that parishes are not keen on collecting the fixed annual charge on behalf of the States of Guernsey. He added that the fixed charge would mean that the owners of small properties would face significant increase in costs whilst owners of larger properties might find their annual costs decreasing.

JN asked why the States had believed it necessary to ‘fix something that was not broken’ because the present arrangements have worked (and are still working) well.

SG said that for some people the waste charges would increase massively and when this becomes a reality there will be a lot of discontent.

AB said that the States had responded to public concern and calls for an increase in recycling of waste, but agreed that the new charging system was not perfect.

DB suggested that fly tipping would be an inevitable consequence of the new waste strategy.

AB said that environmental standards have improved in recent years and that he hoped that islanders would not resort to fly tipping.

MM asked what the States were doing to reduce unnecessary packaging of goods.

AB said that, very slowly, things were moving in the right direction and the amount of unnecessary packaging is reducing, but perhaps Douzaines should take the lead on this and write to shops asking them to take measures to reduce packaging.

AT said that UK legislation is frequently changing, giving the example that from 2018 it will not be possible to dispose of fluorescent tubes in the UK. No doubt Guernsey will have to follow the guidelines adopted by the UK government, but he suggested that it is for Guernsey Deputies to lead the call for a reduction in unnecessary packaging.

MM agreed with AT, adding that at the Airport Café, food and drink is served in disposable polystyrene containers. The States should lead by example where possible and this is a point in question.

AB said that the costs for disposing of residual waste will focus the thoughts of islanders.

Inert Waste.

AB said that there was some opposition to the suggestion that inert waste should be disposed of by reclaiming land from the sea at Bulwer Avenue, but that there was no viable alternative. It makes sense to do this in an area where the land zoning will be for industrial use.

	<p>Employment and Social Security, Longer Working Lives. AB pointed out that there is a consultation planned to determine how best to prepare islanders for longer working lives. AB has some sympathy for the plight of older manual workers, but added that it is common now for machines to do much of the heavy manual work. There are some suggestions that companies should be required to retrain older workers but there is little detail as to how this might be achieved. AB welcomes the consultation and will be keen to see the detail of what evolves. AB left the meeting at 7.45pm.</p>	
Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 th November 2017	The minutes of the meeting held on 27 th November 2017 were agreed and signed by NLP.	
Matters Arising	<p>Waste Strategy. DB said that, on 29th November, he and SG had attended a meeting of officials from all parishes with members of the political boards responsible for the Waste Strategy. As discussed earlier (with Deputy Brouard) it had been made clear (although St Saviour had been prepared to consider doing so) that all other parishes were against collecting an annual standing charge on behalf of the States of Guernsey. There appears to be other suggestions currently being discussed by politicians, a lower standing charge with higher bag charges with many options but it is clear that there needs to be sufficient income in order to finance the operation of the waste transfer station. RdG said that if the States agree charges per bag, no matter what the cost, there will be an increase in fly tipping. DB said that he believes this will be the case but there is nothing further the Douzaine can do until the Deputies agree the final system, and even then it will just be a question of having to deal with the outcome(s). St Saviour's Tunnels. NLP said that parish officials (and Mr N Bachmann (NB) – adjoining landowner) had met with Mr I Bland (IB) from the Building Control Department on 6th December (at the tunnel complex, and fully explained the parish's position. IB had told officials it was unfortunate that the Fire Officer who had made recommendations to the Department was unable to be present and now agreed (having now seen the tunnels at first hand) that there were many hazards within the complex and that the site visit had been very useful to him and assisted greatly in allowing him to appreciate matters. AT said that IB had suggested that the construction of a concrete wall had impacted on the ventilation available within the tunnels, so officials had offered to drill core holes in the wall to improve this. NLP said that officials and NB had made it perfectly clear to IB that they should not be expected to make provision for (and pay for) the emergency exit arrangements for a third party, when there was no agreement in place with that third party so to do. IB had said that now he had a fuller understanding of the position he would have to consult with senior managers to determine the way forward and that he will then write to the Constables to explain the Department's position.</p>	
Planning Department	The Constables were asked to obtain a copy of one planning application.	NLP

Douzaine Rules of Procedure – Review.	The rules of procedure were reviewed and several amendments suggested. The Constable will arrange for the suggested changes to be made and the revised document circulated for confirmation at the January meeting.	NLP
Election of Dean and Vice Dean for 2018	RdG was proposed by KF as Dean for 2018 and seconded by SG. RdG was unanimously elected. JB was proposed by KF as Vice Dean for 2018 and seconded by SG. JB was unanimously elected.	
2017 Budget	NLP reported that at the year-end it was likely that the Constables account would be within budget.	
Constables' Accounts	NLP said that PD (who is retiring as a Douzenier at the end of 2017) has assisted in preparation of the Constables annual accounts and has offered to continue doing so in future years. The Douzaine agreed that they should accept PD's offer and thanked him for it.	
St Saviour's Community Centre (SSCC) Trust	RdG said that he understands that PD's term as a Trustee ends on 31 st December 2017 and proposed that PD should be appointed for a further term. MM seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed.	NLP
SSCC – Use of Parish Funds	NLP reported that the Property Committee had met earlier on 11 th December to consider a request from the SSCC Trustees to spend parish funds on site preparation and architects fees totalling almost £17k. In April 2017 the Trustees had entered into an agreement with an architect's firm for the preparation of drawings (in 6 stages) for phase 3 of SSCC development. Payment of the accounts to date (£17k) will cover stages 1 and 2. However, at this stage there had been no consultation with parish officials concerning the expense. At the end of November the Constable had been presented with these accounts to pay. Reluctantly, the Property Committee had agreed to pay the accounts because SSCC did not have available funds at this time. The Constable will be writing to the Trustees to make it clear that no further expenses (involving parish funds) should be agreed without prior approval of the Property Committee and Constables. If the Trustees believe that working drawings and detailed design drawings (stages 3 and 4 of the fee proposal) are necessary for meaningful fundraising to take place, the Trustees will have to satisfy the Property Committee that this is so before the Committee is prepared to recommend that the Douzaine covers the cost by the use of parish funds. RdG said that he agreed with NLP and proposed (JB seconded) that the Douzaine should confirm this position. This was agreed by 10 members, one member abstaining from the vote.	NLP
Christmas Disbursements	NLP said that 2 local organisations had each made £600 available for disbursements to needy parishioners this Christmas. It was agreed that JB, MdG and AT would finalise details of the beneficiaries of the £1,200.	JB,AT,MdG
Correspondence	Rue des Crabbes - Drainage NLP advised that work has started on the improvements. SSCC 2016 Accounts, (attached to these minutes) PD said that the Accountants have now finalised the SSCC 2016 accounts, which are the same as the draft accounts presented to the Douzaine previously. PD explained that the LBG is solvent with a profit of £18,500 for 2016. The Douzaine noted the accounts.	

<p>Any other Business</p>	<p>Rectory – Water Damage. RdG advised the Douzaine that there has been a problem with the Rectory Boiler expansion tank leading to an escape of water that has caused damage. He will be seeking to have repairs carried out and proceed with an insurance claim.</p> <p>Thanks to Retiring Members. RdG offered the thanks of Parishioners to PD, AF and MM who are retiring from the Douzaine after many years of service.</p> <p>Christmas Greetings. RdG wished all members a very happy Christmas.</p> <p>Parish Signs. AF said that she noted that AT had commenced repainting the signs and congratulated him on the standard of work. It was agreed that AT should continue the process of repainting the signs that needed attention.</p>	<p>AT/NLP</p>
	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm</p>	
	<p>The next meeting is to be held at the Douzaine Room at 7.00pm on Monday 29th January 2018.</p>	