

Paroisse de Saint Sauveur  
Minutes of the Douzaine Meeting held in the Lihou Room at the Community Centre at  
7.00pm on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Present	<p>Messrs K Ball (KB), D Bertrand (DB), J Brache (JB), Mrs C Connolly (CC), Messrs M de Garis (MdG), R de Garis (RdG), Mrs K Fooks (KF), Messrs S Gibbs (SG), J Gillson (JG), P Harris (PH), J Liddy (JL), J Norman(JN), P Connolly (PC) and N Le Poidevin (NLP) (Senior Constable – presiding).</p> <p>Mr G Chapman (GC), Parish Secretary was present to record the minutes.</p>	
Apologies	None	
Billet D’Etat	<p>Deputy S Langlois (SL) attended the meeting to discuss forthcoming States’ business.</p> <p>SL commented that the first sight of the business for the February meeting suggested that there were few controversial matters to be discussed, with the only items likely to generate much debate were the changes to speed limits and Health Care regulations.</p> <p><b>Road Traffic Speed Limit Amendments.</b></p> <p>JB asked SL what he (SL) thought was going to be achieved by lowering speed limits at various locations around the island.</p> <p>SL said that the measure was aimed at making it safer for pedestrians at the side of the roadway, - it was not panacea that would solve every issue concerning traffic but it was part of the overall transport strategy. There was some discussion about the lowering speed limits, and whether there was merit in introducing a lower limit, when the Home Department have stated that they will not have the necessary resources to enforce the new limits.</p> <p>SL said that there is currently a limit of 35mph and the police have a duty to enforce that limit, he could see no merit in the argument and that he would be supporting the measure in the States.</p> <p><b>Electronic Transactions Ordinance.</b></p> <p>SL said that this was simply a ‘sign of the times’ and necessary to comply with current internationally accepted practices.</p> <p><b>Development and Planning (D&amp;P) – Certificates of Lawful Use.</b></p> <p>SL suggested that the granting of a certificate of lawful use would be issued when an (initially) unlawful development had been in place for a specific period of time (SL was unsure what this time period is, but is several years) and no compliance notice had been issued by D&amp;P the development would be entitled to have a certificate of lawful use applied to it. SL said that he could see a circumstance when such developments could present difficulties for neighbours.</p> <p>KF commented that if a neighbour was inconvenienced by a development that did not have the correct permissions she would expect that neighbour to have raised the matter with D&amp;P and not leave it for years without saying anything.</p> <p>SL accepted the point made by KF but insisted that such a situation might arise.</p> <p><b>Health and Care Regulations.</b></p> <p>SL said that the reason for this legislation is that the various pieces of legislation within the Bailiwick had been ‘piecemeal’ and there was a need to have comprehensive legislation that encompassed all healthcare workers. There are various professional bodies that regulate specific</p>	

	<p>roles, such as doctors and nurses, but, for example, care workers are not regulated. Consistency for all health and care staff is a good thing, the policy letter does make sense and he would be supporting the measure.</p> <p><b>Single Property Tax – Alderney.</b></p> <p>SL said that Alderney representatives in the States have been asking for changes to property taxes in Alderney for quite some time. They have considered the taxes set by Guernsey as extortionate and have wanted the States of Alderney to levy property taxes. This would now be the case with Alderney’s States taking responsibility for funding services not directly transferred to Guernsey.</p> <p>DB said that Alderney has particular problems because only about 500 people in Alderney are actually working, there is a disproportionate number of retired people there.</p> <p>SL agreed, and asked where Alderney would be (economically) without the income received from the gambling industry.</p> <p>JN said that Alderney taking control of some of its own finances might bring some reality to the situation.</p> <p>NLP thanked SL for attending the meeting and SL left at 7.20pm.</p>	
Minutes of meeting held on 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	The minutes were agreed without amendment and signed by NLP.	
Matters Arising	<p><b>Identity Cards</b></p> <p>PC confirmed that cards had now been produced and would be distributed to all.</p> <p><b>‘Hedge Veg’ stall at Les Buttes.</b></p> <p>NLP said that the ‘hedge veg’ stall that had been placed on parish land at Les Buttes has now been removed.</p> <p><b>Wi-Fi in the Douzaine Room.</b></p> <p>NLP confirmed that the Constables have installed equipment within the Constables’ Office which should provide Douzeniers with adequate wi-fi facilities within the Douzaine room, and that the necessary passwords have been provided to parish officials.</p>	
Waste Strategy	<p>SG had attended the most recent Waste Strategy meeting.</p> <p><b>Household units and waste charges.</b></p> <p>SG said that there was some discussion about a reduction in the number of units of accommodation that would receive charges. The Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) team had sent letters to some householders inviting them to review the number of habitable units in a property where it appeared they were conjoined. This would financially benefit the individual but by changing LAPIS and reducing the number of units will impact the parish’s number of properties and therefore impact the Remede calculation.</p> <p>KF said that at the Douzaine Liaison Group (DLG) meeting (held on 15<sup>th</sup> February) this matter was also discussed and it was suggested that the changes had been made without authority and would be looked into.</p> <p><b>Standardisation of Collection times at Christmas.</b></p> <p>SG reported that the WDA are keen to see standardisation when collections have to be changed, for example at Christmas. The WDA would like to see collections change in the same way instead of some going forward and others backwards. However, some present suggested this would not be possible, and that it would be helpful if the WDA were able to confirm opening times for the disposal facilities before asking parishes for details concerning changes to collection days.</p>	

	The meeting scheduled for March will be suspended and (instead) the opportunity to visit the disposal facility will be considered.	
Sub Committees	<p><b>Finance Committee</b> NLP reported that MdG has indicated his wish to stand down from the Finance subcommittee. It was agreed that he would not be replaced since there will still be 4 Douzeniers on the Committee.</p> <p><b>Terms of Reference.</b> DB presented draft (revised) terms of reference for both the <b>finance</b> and <b>property</b> committees and these were approved. SG presented draft (revised) terms of reference for the <b>planning</b> committee and these were approved.</p>	
Planning Applications	There were no requests for the Constables to obtain copies of any applications.	
Bornement	The Douzaine approved an application for a bornement in respect of building work in La Biloterie Road.	
General Election – 2020.	<p>RdG attended a meeting at the end of January and updated the Douzaine on plans that the States Assembly and Constitution Committee (SACC) have for the island wide General election in June 2020. Matters under consideration include;-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production of a manifesto booklet to include all candidates' manifestos.</li> <li>• Encouraging more postal votes</li> <li>• Having polling stations open for more than 12 hours (previously stations have been open from 8.00am until 8.00pm)</li> <li>• Having polling stations open for 2 consecutive days</li> <li>• The potential for 'electronic' voting</li> <li>• Pre polling stations to be open at strategic sites on the weekend before polling day</li> <li>• The need for 'polling cards' and ID before casting votes</li> <li>• Electorate being able to vote at any polling station on the island</li> <li>• Payments for those manning polling stations</li> <li>• Counting of votes to take place on the 2 – 3 days following the election – and the possibility of obtaining a machine to assist.</li> <li>• The need to change legislation to provide for the new arrangements.</li> </ul> <p>RdG added that SACC made it clear that all of the above matters are 'up for discussion' and that at present they do not have any funding allocated for any of the election process. JN asked if candidates would have election expenses increased so that they could reach the island wide electorate. RdG said that this was not clear. JB asked how localised 'hustings' would be arranged. RdG confirmed that this has not yet been addressed but personally he could not see how it could happen. KF confirmed that the most recent DLG meeting (15<sup>th</sup> February) had been informed that SACC has now determined that the electorate (who choose to vote at a polling station) will only be able to vote in the parish in which they are resident. RdG pointed out that Douzaine did not support the idea of opening polling stations on 2 consecutive days. SG said that it is obvious that the Douzaines do not possess the infrastructure to allow most of the suggestions to be implemented and said that he believes that the Douzaine communicates this belief to</p>	

	<p>SACC at an early juncture.</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed with the view expressed by SG but decided that RdG should attend the next meeting to discuss any progress made before making a definitive decision about the matter.</p>	
Douzaine Liaison Group (DLG)	<p>KF updated the Douzaine about matters discussed at the DLG meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019 (a copy of her notes is attached to these minutes).</p> <p><b>General Election 2020.</b> This had been covered by the briefing given earlier by RdG.</p> <p><b>Invasive Plant Species.</b></p> <p>Agriculture, Countryside &amp; Land Management (ACLM) would appreciate assistance from Douzaines in as much as when hedge inspections are carried out and discovery of invasive plant species should be reported. DB said that this has been the case for several years and that there is an app available for this purpose.</p> <p>RdG believes that the Constables have always written to property owners (copying in ACLM) when any such plants are identified.</p> <p><b>Waste charges – Habitable Units.</b></p> <p>There is a belief from some Douzaines that the WDA has allowed changes to the designation of habitable units of accommodation to be changed at the owners request without any checks and balances, and perhaps without authority. This will be looked into.</p> <p>Guidance was provided concerning <b>Egress</b> (e mail security), <b>Parochial Church Property legislation, Rectory leases, and fly tipping.</b></p>	
Douzaine Council	<p>KF confirmed that matters are in hand to progress the re-establishment of the Douzaine Council with a further meeting (that KF will attend) planned for early March.</p>	KF
Seafront Enhancement Workshop	<p>KF attended a workshop to discuss Seafront Enhancement of 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019.</p> <p>Three parishes, St Peter Port, St Sampson and Vale made presentations and concerns addressed included climate change and the impact of higher sea levels on the economy of the island and reduced commercial activity at St Sampson's Harbour.</p> <p>The politicians and civil servants present explained that there are no predetermined agendas and that they are keen to listen and take on the views of interested parties.</p> <p>KF suggested that whilst the initial phase concerns the eastern side of the island this will have an impact on all who live on the island and is keen to see Douzaines continue to have input on the subject.</p> <p>JN and SG expressed agreement with KF's view.</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed that it should continue to be involved in discussions about this matter and KF agreed to attend future meetings when available.</p>	KF
Rectory and Church hall	<p><b>Maintenance Work.</b></p> <p>NLP reported that following on from the quinquennial property survey (and condition report) of the Rectory and Church Hall the Constables were requested to obtain quotes for the work required and described as 'urgent', 'within 12 months' and 'annually'.</p> <p>Three firms had expressed interest in quoting for the work, although one has since indicated that they do not wish to be considered. The remaining 2 are in the process of completing their quotes, but initial indications suggest that the cost will be significant, and perhaps unachievable in one financial year, thus having to be spread over a few years.</p>	

<p>St Saviour's Community Centre (SSCC)</p>	<p>JB asked that the decision (by a majority of 9 to 1) made at the January meeting – that is to commission a property survey and condition report on the buildings that comprise SSCC should be revisited.</p> <p>Under the terms of the lease, the parish owned property is to be properly maintained by SSCC.</p> <p>JB confirmed that he has been in contact with SSCC and established that they are not keen for the survey to take place because they believe that the property is being properly maintained and JB cited the following;- JB understands that the wooden hut (formerly Andy's House) belongs to SSCC LBG and not the parish.</p> <p>In 2018 SSCC spent £5.5k on maintenance In 2017 SSCC spent £6k on maintenance</p> <p>JB has been assured that the roof is sound and that all damp is under control.</p> <p>JB himself believes that the buildings are sound and that there is no cause for concern.</p> <p>Although JB accepted that a survey will be necessary in the future, he does not believe that it is the correct time to add the survey cost of £2.9k to the annual Remede.</p> <p>NLP said that, as custodians of parish property, the Douzaine recommends to the parish that quinquennial surveys and condition reports are carried out on the Church, Rectory and Church Hall and he sees no reason why this should not be the case for the parish owned buildings that comprise SSCC. Parish meetings have not objected to the costs of previous surveys.</p> <p>SG argued strongly that there is a need for a professional survey to establish the exact condition of the property. He is not happy to accept that the buildings are 'sound' because JB says so.</p> <p>JN said, that as far as he is aware, there is no definitive property condition report. There is no datum on which to make any judgement and there needs to be a definitive measure by competent professional people.</p> <p>JB said that the survey should be shelved for at least 12 months.</p> <p>SG said that the January decision (to commission the survey) should stand, - there is no benchmark to determine what work is needed – what if the survey shows that there is work needed that produces a large bill?</p> <p>JN said that even if there is expensive work to be done, SSCC LBG might not carry out the work.</p> <p>PH proposed that the Property Committee should meet as soon as possible to further consider the matter and make a recommendation to the Douzaine at the March meeting, - JB seconded this proposal which was carried by 10 votes to 2.</p>	<p>NLP/PC</p>
<p>2019 Secular and Refuse Remede</p>	<p>NLP confirmed that the Finance Committee had met to consider the 2019 Secular and Refuse Remede and presented their recommendations (copy attached to these minutes)</p> <p>KF confirmed that the Cemetery Committee had made a typing error and were in fact requesting £16k.</p> <p>JB asked why there is £3k allocated to Floral St Saviour, suggesting that the volunteers should raise more funding themselves.</p> <p>NLP said that there had been no increase in the parish grant since 2013.</p> <p>CC said that the volunteers do a fantastic job around the parish and should be supported where possible. They continue to seek sponsorship, but their cost are rising annually. CC believes the request to be more than reasonable.</p> <p>The decision concerning £2.9k for the property survey and condition</p>	

	<p>report of the buildings that comprise SSCC was adjourned until the March meeting.</p> <p>All other items of expenditure for both the secular and refuse remedé were agreed.</p> <p>RdG confirmed that the Church Property Management Board (CPMB) would be meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February to agree the ecclesiastical remedé.</p>	NLP/PC
Correspondence	<p><b>St Saviour's Tunnels – Bat Survey</b></p> <p>NLP said that he had been approached by the La Societe Guernesiaise Bat Group who have asked to position a 'bat monitor' within the tunnels. The adjacent landowner has been approached and agreed that the group can access the tunnels.</p> <p>The Douzaine raised no objections and NLP will arrange to meet with the co-ordinator at the tunnels.</p> <p><b>Road Safety – Rue de La Corderie.</b></p> <p>NLP reported that he had received an email from Sylvans Sports Club expressing concern that young children crossing the roadway (Rue de La Corderie) from the Sylvans Clubhouse to the sports field are in danger from motorists travelling at inappropriate speeds along the narrow lane. JB said that speed limits are no good because the drivers concerned will pay little attention to them, suggesting that a better solution would be to have temporary no entry signs that could be placed either end of the roadway as necessary.</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed that the Constables should express support for suitable measures to reduce the dangers described.</p> <p>NLP agreed to liaise with Sylvans Sports Club to determine what might be the best way to improve the situation.</p>	NLP/PC
Any Other Business	<p><b>Motor Rally.</b></p> <p>KF said that she wished to place on record her view about the Motor Rally held in St Saviour on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February. KF said that, as someone close to the action, she was extremely impressed by the organisation and how well residents had been kept informed about proceedings. She was impressed by the professional way the whole event was arranged.</p> <p><b>Granite Steps at Perelle Bay.</b></p> <p>PH reported that 3 granite steps (opposite Rue de Hougue Bachele) have recently been washed away. States Works and the Environment Department are aware and will arrange for the area to be cordoned off before repairs are effected.</p>	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.20pm	
	The next meeting is to be held at the Douzaine Room at 7.00pm on Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2019.	