

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 20th April 2020
(virtual meeting conducted online).

Present:

Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Chairman
Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft, Vice Chairman
Connétable de St Clément - L. Norman
Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard
Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre
Connétable de St Jean - C. H. Taylor
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur
Connétable de St Pierre - R. P. Vibert
Connétable de Ste Marie - J. M. Le Bailly
Connétable de St Ouën - R. A. Buchanan
Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone

In attendance:

Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary

Non-exempt (public) under Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2011

COVID-19
Emergencies
Council mtg

1. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 2 of 14th April 2020, received a report from the Chairman on recent Emergency Council meetings.

Community
Task Force and
Steering Group
meetings

2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 14th April 2020, received a report from the Chairman on recent Community Task Force Steering Group meetings.

COVID-19 –
parking scheme
for carers

3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 14th April 2020, was informed by the Connétable of St Helier that he had spoken with Deputy G Southern to advise of the parking permit scheme for carers introduced by the Parish of St Helier for the COVID-19 situation. Deputy Southern would still welcome the opportunity to meet the Comité to consider a similar scheme for carers island-wide to address the concerns raised in the States on 21st January and 4th February 2020. The Connétable of St Helier undertook to provide details of the St Helier scheme prior to that meeting.

Community and
Social Services
Co-op vouchers

4. The Comité noted an enquiry from the Volunteer Hub Co-ordinator, Community Task Force, regarding vouchers redeemed at Co-operative Stores bearing the name “Community and Social Services”. The Comité noted that these had not been distributed through parishes and the Co-ordinator had been advised accordingly.

GoJ - Comms

5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of 14th April 2020, was informed by the Chairman that she had yet to speak with the Director of Communications but hoped to do so later that week.

- COVID-19
JJSVA –
volunteer
groups
6. The Comité noted correspondence outlining the work being undertaken by volunteer groups of the Jersey Joint Services Veterans Association to support those in need during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- COVID-19 -
Road repairs
7. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of 6th April 2020, noted correspondence from the Roadworks and Events Manager, Growth Housing and Environment (GHE), regarding road works authorisation during COVID-19. Only road works that were considered essential to the safe running of the Island were being allowed; this included urgent and emergency Utility Undertaker works. All road works undertakers were asked to provide a COVID-19 risk assessment and a safe work method statement (COVID-19 RAMS) based on the Government COVID-19 safety guidelines. GHE staff were continuing to inspect GHE roads for hazardous trips and pot holes as there was a responsibility to protect the public. With regard to the Parishes' roads, it was imperative that the Parishes maintained their own procedures and measures for the safety on their roads. Parishes would also need to keep a record of all authorised road works, how incidents were escalated and how emergency works were approved. Contractors commissioned to undertake the repairs should provide a COVID Risk Assessment / Safe Working Method Statement.
- Honorary
Police – group
insurance
policies
renewal
8. The Comité discussed a paper covering the renewal of the Honorary Police group insurance policies from 1st May 2020. Islands Insurance had provided renewal terms for all policies with the current level of cover as there had not been any suggestions for changes in cover. The Comité confirmed renewal on these terms noting that the policies applied to 11 parishes (St Helier had separate cover).
- Personal accident policy (Chubb): core benefit and premium remained the same as in 2019.
 - Personal accident – dental top-up policy details (NFU Mutual Insurance Society Ltd): a small increase in premium with cover unchanged.
 - Public liability and torts policy (Insurance Corporation): no change to cover or premium.
 - Public Liability Excess Layer Policy (previously with Barbican Protect but now with Incepta): no change to cover or premium.
 - Legal expenses policy (DAS): no change to cover or premium.
- The Comité noted that the insurance booklet would be updated and issued to each member of the Honorary Police and Connétable of the 11 parishes.
- COVID-19
guidance on
WIDs
9. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 13(c) of 6th April 2020, noted that H M Attorney General had issued guidance in relation to insurance disc offences in Article 16 of the Motor Traffic (Third Party Insurance) (Jersey) Law 1948 in view of the inability of UK based insurers to print and issue insurance discs due to COVID-19.
- COVID-19
Honorary
Police speed
checks and
assistance
10. The Comité was informed that though there was less vehicular traffic on the roads, due to the public being required to stay at home during the COVID-19 restrictions, there had been an increase in the number of vehicles recorded as exceeding the speed limit. This was a matter of concern especially as many people were walking and cycling on the roads to obtain their daily exercise. The Comité heard that members of the Honorary Police were increasing the number of speed checks being undertaken and would be warning offenders for Court (on the instructions of H M Attorney General all Parish Hall Enquiries had been suspended until September 2020 due to COVID-19). The Comité considered the Comité des Chefs de Police should issue a statement reminding the public that speed limits must be observed at all times and that offenders would be prosecuted.

Arising from this the Comité heard from Connétables of the assistance being offered by members of the Honorary Police to other parishes, the parishes having been grouped by geographical area to provide such assistance (the groups were St Brelade, St Peter, St Ouen and St Mary; St Lawrence, St John, Trinity and St Helier; and St Clement, St Saviour, St Martin and Grouville). The Comité welcomed the excellent co-operation and assistance between parishes during the COVID-19 pandemic under Article 5A of the Honorary Police (Jersey) Law 1974. The Comité agreed the Chairman should issue a statement expressing its appreciation.

Liberation 75 –
2020

11. The Comité discussed the decoration of Parish Halls to mark the 75th anniversary of the Liberation of Jersey. Whilst public events had been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Comité agreed it should enquire of the Bailiff's Chief Officer as to how the anniversary would be marked and about the availability of bunting which might be used to decorate parish property.

Next meeting

12. The Comité noted the next meeting would be on 27th April 2020.

Chairman Date

