

Comité des Connétables

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 6th February 2017
at the Parish Hall, St Brelade.

Present:

Connétable de St Clément - L. Norman, Chairman
Connétable de St Pierre - J. M. Refault, Vice Chairman
Connétable de St Héliier - A. S. Crowcroft (present for items 1 – 3 inclusive)
Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian
Connétable de St Ouën - M. J. Paddock
Connétable de St Brélade - S. W. Pallett
Connétable de St Martin - M. P. S. Le Troquer
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre
Connétable de St Jean - C. H. Taylor
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur

Apologies for absence were received from the Connétable de Ste Marie - Mrs J. Gallichan and the Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard.

In attendance: Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary

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

Minutes

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2017, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Honorary
Police –
application
form

2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 14th November 2016, received the Vice Chairman of the Comité des Chefs de Police and considered a draft 'Application form' which persons seeking election as a member of the Honorary Police might be invited to use. The Comité was mindful that members of the Honorary Police were elected to office and a person might stand for election without having indicated his or her intention so to do. However it agreed that there was an expectation that a person seeking election would provide relevant information about his or her interests and experience and that the draft form would enable a person to voluntarily provide such information to the parish. The Comité requested that the form be circulated to parishes for use on this basis. The Vice Chairman was thanked for attending and then withdrew from the meeting.

MTFP 2016 -
2020: solid and
liquid waste
charging

3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 19th September 2016, received the Minister for Infrastructure; the Chief Officer and the Business Development and Change Manager, Department for Infrastructure (DfI), who provided an update on the proposals for commercial waste charging as set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan 2016-2020 which had been agreed by the States. The Minister thanked the Connétables for the assistance provided by their parishes in gathering information about commercial waste collections so that proposals for waste charging could be developed.

The Comité was informed that user pays charges for liquid and solid waste would apply to non-domestic users from early 2018 and the funds raised would be ring fenced as a trading operation. Liquid waste charges would be based on water usage but a water audit would be carried out for non-standard customers to provide an assessed charge. Solid waste charges would relate to quantities disposed of with charges paid direct to DfI. In reply to questions, the delegation outlined how charges might be assessed for users with

a bore hole but on mains drains and the work to address fly-tipping. Domestic waste charging did not form part of the current MTFP and the delegation would consider providing additional bring banks should a need be identified by a parish (a commercial recycling centre was also under consideration). Following discussion the delegation was thanked for attending and then withdrew from the meeting.

Honorary
Police - group
insurance panel

4. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 8 of 16th January 2017, recalled that the Connétables of St Brelade, St Martin and St Lawrence, together with a representative of each of the Comité des Chefs de Police and Honorary Police Association, made up the panel to manage the group insurance policies contract on behalf of the Comité. The Connétable of St Lawrence had been unable to attend recent meetings and asked whether the Comité wished to appoint another Connetable to replace her on the panel. Following discussion the Comité decided that for the purposes of overseeing the current contract it could be represented by two Connétables.

Police
(Complaints
and Discipline)
(Jersey) Law
1999:
complaints
register

5. The Comité was informed that, prompted by the Jersey Police Complaints Authority's annual inspection which had identified differences between the Honorary Police complaints registers kept by each Connetable in accordance with Article 20 of the Police (Complaints and Discipline) (Jersey) Law 1999, the Law Officers' Department had reviewed the registers and had updated the format for the recording of complaints suitable for Informal Resolution and those where Formal Resolution was required. The Comité requested the proposed format be circulated to all parishes for use with immediate effect.

Property search
fee

6. The Comité reviewed the fee charged for a property search report and noted that the fee was last increased from £25 (£25.75 inclusive of 3% GST) to £35 (inclusive of 5% GST) from 1st June 2009. The fee was reviewed in 2013 but no change was made. Having noted the increase in the retail price index from March 2009 to December 2016, the Comité decided the fee should be increased from £35 to £40 (inclusive of GST) with effect from 1st May 2017. The Comité noted that, on occasions, reports were sought at short notice on the day a property transaction was due to take place; whilst parishes endeavoured to respond this could impact on other work and Connétables considered it was reasonable for a request to be made at least 7 days prior to contract being passed to allow for the issue of such a report and, should a request be submitted within a shorter period, a Connétable might reasonably consider imposing a 50% surcharge.

Loi (1914) sur
la Voirie –
Roads
Inspectors

7. The Comité discussed the provisions of the Loi (1914) sur la Voirie and the requirement to elect two Road Works Inspectors in each Cueillette/Vingtaine. Whilst the role undertaken by the Roads Inspectors had changed over the years, the Comité nevertheless considered that, together with the Roads Committee, the Roads Inspectors provided a valuable service to the parish and no alteration to the number was required.

Miss Parish
competitions

8. The Comité discussed whether parishes might arrange joint advertisements or promotions of forthcoming 'Miss Parish' competitions. Having noted that the events might be organised by an independent group, such as a parish Battle of Flowers association, rather than the parish, and that the events were not necessarily held at the same time, the Comité decided there was no merit in seeking to arrange joint promotions.

Senators and
Deputies:
candidates'
qualifications
P.1/2017

9. The Comité considered the proposition "Senators and Deputies: candidates' qualifications" (P.1/2017) due for debate by the States on 14th February 2017 but agreed it was not a matter on which the Comité wished to express an opinion.

P.30 permits

10. The Comité discussed the issue of P.30 permits to over-size vehicles so that they might be used on island roads in accordance with the provisions of the Road Traffic (Jersey) Law 1956 and the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Jersey) Order 1998. The Inspector of Motor Traffic might grant a P.30 permit to a motor vehicle, and to a trailer, if he considered it desirable in the public interest so to do and such licences were granted subject to the conditions specified on the licence which, other than for exceptional reasons, included that prior permission must be obtained from the relevant Connétable before using any minor roads. The Comité noted that when considering a request to use a P.30 vehicle on parish by-roads, the Connétable would decide whether or not it could be justified and, if granted, permission might be for a single journey only or for multiple journeys, and might be time limited. Following discussion, and pending any future decision on a standard approach, the Comité decided that each Connétable should continue to apply such conditions as he/she considered appropriate when permitting a P.30 vehicle to use by-roads of the Parish.

Public Elections (Jersey) Law 2002 – amendment to date for sending Annual Statement

11. The Comité noted that a request had been made to the Greffier of the States on behalf of the parishes to seek an amendment to Article 7 of the Public Elections (Jersey) Law 2002 to alter the date by which an annual statement should be sent to every unit of dwelling accommodation in 2017 and future years. This followed from the date for the elections of States members moving from October to May; elector details would thus be captured in the autumn, rather than the spring, of 2017 thus updating the electoral registers closer to the elections. The amendment, if approved, would also avoid the Annual Statements being sent immediately after the 2018 general election.

Next meeting

12. The Connétable of St Brelade was thanked for his hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting was on 6th March 2017.

Chairman*L. Norman*..... Date*6/3/2017*.....