

Comité des Connétables

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

Present:

Connétable de St Clément - L. Norman, Chairman
Connétable de St Pierre - J. M. Refault, Vice Chairman
Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft (not present for items 6 – 13 inclusive)
Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian
Connétable de Ste Marie - Mrs J. Gallichan
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 St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre
Connétable de St Jean - C. H. Taylor
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur

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

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

Minutes

1. The minutes of the meetings held on 6th and 20th February 2017, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

MTFP 2016 –
2020: solid and
liquid waste
charging

2. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 6th February 2017, was informed by the Connétable of St Helier that the Court of Appeal had dismissed the appeal by the Parish of St Helier against the Minister for Infrastructure relating to the ‘Bellozanne covenant’ ([2017]JCA027 – Parish of St Helier-v-Minister for Infrastructure 20-Feb-2017). The Connétable of St Helier expressed his concern that a covenant, entered into in 1952 with the agreement of the States, could be overturned as this could have implications for other covenants which parishes had entered into with the States.

LICAR –
driving licences
online

3. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 1 of 4th October 2016, received a report on progress with the driving licence online project for the renewal of a full driving licence and for the replacement of a driving licence which had been lost, stolen or defaced. The Comité was informed that the service would go-live following the coming into force of an amendment to the Motor Vehicle (Driving Licences) (Jersey) Order 2003 which Minister for Infrastructure was expected to make that week. Arising from this the Connétable of St John queried how a driver’s likeness to a photograph submitted online would be assessed and asked that his concerns be recorded.

e-parishes –
funding

4. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 1 of 4th October 2016, considered a paper regarding the e-parishes work undertaken in the last two years and the funding thereof. The Comité also received a report prepared by teleologica which provided a status update and outlined variances to the initial estimates with the reasons for those variances. The actual hours worked exceeded estimates by around 8% overall with variances due to a variety of reasons including, in some cases, protracted delays and scope changes imposed on a work stream.

The Comité recalled that the overall programme had been planned and executed in the context of an uncertain and fast changing environment. Those uncertainties included the future form and availability of Jersey government corporate components (single sign on, digital identity, online payments, People Directory, integration etc.). The approach had therefore been to design digital services in a way that made it practical and cost effective for parishioners to obtain significant benefits early while recognising that these services were expected to converge with the Jersey government future state as and when this became available.

The Comité noted that parishes had provided funding for projects within the 2016/17 budgets taking into account the eGov contribution offered by the States Public Sector Reform Political Oversight Group (minute no. 9 of 18th July 2016 refers) which was subject to conditions of appropriate financial governance, a defined set of deliverables and alignment with eGov principles. The Comité confirmed the eGov contribution should be applied in full to the costs in the current financial year and should further work be required to integrate and align parish online services with eGov portals, as these were delivered, this would be provided in future parish budgets. The Comité requested that a summary of all e-parishes projects be compiled prior to Parish Assemblies to set the 2017/18 budgets.

Jersey Road
Safety Action
Plan 2017-2019
(R.132/2016) -
speed limit
policy and
implementation
plan

5. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 4 of 16th January 2017, received the Minister for Infrastructure, the Director of Engineering and Infrastructure and the Transport Planner, Department for Infrastructure (DfI) to discuss the speed limit policy and implementation plan arising from the Jersey Road Safety Action Plan 2017 - 2019 (R.132/2016). The Plan had been developed following road safety workshops held in 2015 and 2016 involving representatives of States departments and the parishes, including the States and Honorary Police; these workshops had identified three immediate priorities namely increased use of 20 m.p.h. and 30 m.p.h. zones where appropriate; lower drink-drive levels and the introduction of a penalty points system with the threat of disqualification for repeat offenders and lower thresholds for novice drivers.

The delegation discussed with the Connétables the proposed action outlined in the Plan to review local speed limits under the current framework, in consultation with individual parishes and local communities, and implement all changes by the end of 2019. The all-island maximum limit would remain at 40 m.p.h. and lower speed limits would be introduced where vulnerable road users needed to be protected and where there were clear road safety benefits. All Connétables were asked to undertake consultation within their parish and to seek the support of a Parish Assembly to proposed changes; DfI would offer assistance but would not have the resources to support all parishes at the same time hence a phased approach was envisaged over the next three years.

The Comité considered that road safety should be the priority and questioned whether the review should focus on areas known for speeding issues rather than be parish based. The Minister explained that whilst accident black-spots could be identified speed was not always a contributory factor; he considered the proposed approach gave each parish the opportunity to bring forward proposals as these were completed rather than having to wait for all-island agreement. The Parish of St Brelade had recently agreed a policy for its roads and St Clement had taken a similar approach some years ago. The cost to each parish would relate to the signage for by-roads but DfI would provide limited technical support without charge and would pay for signs on main roads.

The Comité noted that a number of changes, already identified, across several parishes were likely to be progressed in 2017 and the proposed approach would enable each parish to move at its own pace with its own priorities. However changing speed limits did not necessarily lead to a change in driver behaviour and enforcement was an issue.

Road Works
and Events
(Jersey) Law

6. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 2 of 16th January 2017, discussed with the Minister for Infrastructure, the Director of Engineering and Infrastructure and the Transport Planner, Department for Infrastructure (DfI), the delegation from the

- 2016 –
licensing of
events
- Department to the parochial highway authorities of responsibility for licensing and administration of events on a main road as provided under Parts 12 and 13 of the Road Works and Events (Jersey) Law 2016 to the extent and within the terms set out in the letter of delegation. The delegation did not in any way prejudice DfI's roles and duties as 'Relevant Highway Authority' in all other respects of the Law and DfI retained the right, at its absolute discretion and without qualification, to impose its own conditions on the approval (or licencing) of events otherwise delegated to the Parish Highway Authority to approve or license; and to veto the approval (or licencing) of events otherwise delegated to the Parish Highway Authority to approve or license (this right would only be exercised in the interest of DfI's 'network management duty' under Article 9). The delegation was conditional on the Parish Highway Authority complying with the Licence Procedure and the Notice Procedures prepared by DfI (as amended from time to time).
- In relation to the licensing of an event on a road, the Comité agreed a minimum of two weeks' notice was required from an event organiser to enable due consideration to be given to an application and it was noted that a licence could be granted subject to conditions, for example the provision of marshals. The Comité asked that a template for public notices should be prepared so that road users could be notified of an event taking place. Following further discussion the Minister and officers were thanked for attending and then withdrew from the meeting.
- Silkworth
Extreme Team
Challenge
7. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 13 of 14th March 2016, considered a letter from the Chief Executive Officer, Silkworth Charity Group, seeking permission to hold the Silkworth Extreme Team Challenge on Saturday 2nd September 2017. The Comité requested the Chairman to reply that, subject to cyclists complying with legal requirements and not using footpaths designated solely for pedestrians, the Connétables were content with the holding of the proposed event and asking that the organisers liaise directly with each Connétable about the specific routes through his/her parish as the Connétable might wish to make further comment, offer advice or impose conditions.
- Stray Dogs
8. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 5 of 12th December 2016, noted that the panel had met the Chief Executive of the Jersey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (JSPCA) to review the first two years of the contract to collect and house stray dogs; a report would be presented to the next meeting. The Comité further noted that, in accordance with the terms of the contract, a small increase had been made in year 3 to the charge for collection (from £30 to £35 per journey leg) and housing (from £18 to £19 per 24 hour period or any part thereof) and this had been applied from 1st March 2017.
- Driving licence
cost
9. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 14 of 6th February 2017, noted the Minister for Infrastructure had confirmed he supported the Comité's proposals for an increase in the cost of a driving licence from 1st May 2017, which fell broadly in line with the cost of living increases since 2007, and the necessary law drafting instructions would be prepared.
- Honorary
Police group
meeting
10. The Comité received notes of the recent Honorary Police group meeting and noted that:
- a) Insurance - all queries relating to the insurance cover under the group Honorary Police policies had been addressed to the satisfaction of officers;
 - b) Licensing of events on roads - Connétables had been asked to ensure they consulted their Chef de Police prior to granting consent; and
 - c) Operation Resilient would take place from 6th – 10th March 2017 but no operational involvement was required from members of the Honorary Police; the Chairman was requested to ascertain the reasons and whether parish emergency supports officers were involved in the simulation.

The Comité also heard that assistance from members of the Honorary Police had not been requested for the missing person search over the weekend and agreed it should enquire as to the reasons.

Honorary
Police –
safeguarding
issues

11. The Comité, with reference to its minute no. 16 of 6th February 2017, noted the Chairman and Connétable of St Lawrence would be meeting with the Independent Chair for Children and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding to discuss matters arising from the recent serious case reviews.

HPA AGM and
dinner

12. The Comité noted that the Annual General Meeting of the Honorary Police Association (HPA) would be held on 22nd April 2017, followed by the annual dinner.

Next meeting

13. The Connétable of St Saviour was thanked for her hospitality and the Comité noted the next meeting would be on 10th April 2017.

Chairman*L Norman*..... Date*10/4/2017*.....