

PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE



Minutes of the Parish Assembly

Wednesday 17th June 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Assembly Room, St Lawrence

18/15 Welcome & Apologies

The Connétable welcomed all present, Rector Phil Warren led the Assembly in prayer.

Apologies:

Procureur Michael Ethelston, Mrs E Deffains, Major (Ret'd) Danny Wright

Deputies in Attendance:

Deputy John Le Fondré

Deputy Eddie Noel

19/15 Convening Notice

The Parish Secretary read the convening notice.

PARISH NOTICE

An Assembly of the Principals & Electors of the Parish of St Lawrence will be held in the Parish Hall on Wednesday 17th June at 7.30pm for the following business:

1. To receive and if deemed advisable approve the Minutes of the Acts of the Parish Assembly held on 25th March 2015; these are on display at the Parish Hall.
2. To consider and if deemed advisable to accept the recommendation of the "Rectorat ou Benefice of St Lawrence" to Lease to the Parish of St Lawrence an area of land in the South-East part of Field Number 525, the whole field having the Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) 69202551 for a public amenity garden and car parking facilities at an annual rental of £1.00.
3. If item 2 is agreed to instruct the Connétable and the Procureurs du Bien Public to proceed and pass before the Royal Court a contract lease with the "Rectorat ou Benefice of St Lawrence" for a continuous period of 25 years with an option to renew for a further 25 year continuous period.
4. To support on the proposition of the Connétable, as part of the Village Improvement Plan consultations held in 2014, the Parishioners request for the amenity provision of a village garden and parking in the historic Parish centre, by the creation of a village garden and parking in Field 525, to be known as "The Moignard Liberation Garden".
5. To support the proposition of the Connétable as part of the Village Improvement Plan to create a public footpath through St Lawrence School grounds and sports field to provide safer pedestrian access en route to/from Three Oaks.
6. If Items 4 and 5 are supported, to note that both "The Moignard Liberation Garden" and the new public footpath will be funded from the bequest of the late Mr John Moignard which stated that the residue of his personal and real estate as bequeathed unto the Connétable for the time being of the Parish of St Lawrence shall be utilised for some capital project for the benefit of the Parish, preferably an extension to the Parish School, the Connétable to consult Advocate David Le Quesne and to take account for what he says, knowing Mr Moignard's wishes.

	<p>Connétable</p> <p>Signed : Rector</p>
20/15	<p>1. To receive and if deemed advisable approve the Minutes of the Acts of the Parish Assembly held on 25th March 2015; these are on display at the Parish Hall.</p>
	<p>Proposed: Centenier N Parker-Hood Seconded: Deputy J Le Fondré The minutes were duly adopted.</p>
21/15	<p>2. To consider and if deemed advisable to accept the recommendation of the “Rectorat ou Benefice of St Lawrence” to Lease to the Parish of St Lawrence an area of land in the South-East part of Field Number 525, the whole field having the Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) 69202551 for a public amenity garden and car parking facilities at an annual rental of £1.00.</p>
	<p>The Connétable explained to the Assembly that at the end of 2013 the States of Jersey Transport & Technical Services Department (TTS) had approached her to advise that in 2016 they are scheduled to make road improvements to La Grande Route de Saint Laurent and hoped to take the opportunity to work with the Parish in improving road safety in the historic village area. The Connétable had appointed Deputies Le Fondré and Noel to sit, with her as Chairman, on a Project Board to work with TTS and Parishioners on a Village Improvement Plan. Parishioners had been consulted during 2014 when there had been three public consultation meetings, all domestic properties had been contacted in writing twice (fliers delivered by Jersey Post) and by way of articles in the Parish magazine (the past six editions). During the public meetings with TTS it had become apparent that as part of the proposed road safety improvements, there was likely to be a reduction in on-road parking. Parishioners who had attended requested that if that was the case, off-road parking should be provided as there was a lack of available parking in the area. They also suggested that if a new garden could be located near to any new off-road car parking it would improve amenity provision in the area.</p> <p>Some years ago the Parish had purchased Field 525 (south of the new cemetery) to be used as an extension to the cemetery so when Field 525 had been identified by the Planning Department as being the most suitable for use as a garden and to provide car parking, the Connétable had consulted with the Rector, as Chairman of the Rectorat. He was extremely supportive of the project and accordingly, the Rectorat (consisting of the Rector, the Connétable, Procureurs and Churchwardens) had formally agreed to lease the field back to the Parish for that use. The Connétable informed the Assembly that as the Parish had purchased the field for use by the Church as a cemetery we would be leasing the field back from the Church for a peppercorn rent of £1.00 per annum. She said that the Project Board had worked with Waddington Landscape Architects on a design for the garden and parking and that Planning permission had been received; there had been no objections or comments from the public.</p> <p>It was the Connétable's intention to fund the garden and car parking from the bequest in 2001 of the late Mr John Moignard, that bequest being <i>“the residue of my personal estate and my real estate unto the Connétable for the time being of the Parish of St Lawrence with the request that it be spent on some capital project for the benefit of the Parish, preferable an extension to the Parish School. I would like the Connétable to consult with Advocate David Le Quesne and to take account for what he says. For he knows my wishes.”</i></p> <p>Reverend Phil Warren then informed the Assembly that he valued the relationship between the Parish and the Church and that prior to the Connétable talking to him about the possibility of creating a garden in Field 525 the Church had been considering what they might do with the field. He confirmed to the Assembly that he had been involved and had been part of the discussions throughout the whole process, being fully supportive of the project. He considered that it would have a great benefit for the community and would enhance the Parish. At an Ecclesiastical Assembly held on the 21st May a proposal was put forward to lease part of Field 525 to the Parish for the sum of £1.00 each year for 25 years, renewable for a further 25 years thereafter. The proposition had been carried by the Ecclesiastical Assembly and the</p>

	<p>Rector added that the Dean and the Lieutenant Governor were also fully supportive of the project and he had received written confirmation from them to that effect. The Connétable then asked if there were any questions?</p> <p><i>Mr A Bougourd</i> asked about garden maintenance and the Connétable explained that maintenance would become the responsibility of the Parish, however, as she anticipated that there would be some funds left from the bequest they would be put towards maintenance in the first instance but at some stage the cost would be needed from Parish rates. <i>Mrs K Le Maistre</i> enquired what would happen when the cemetery was full and the Rector said that that had been one of his concerns. He explained that since he had become Rector the burials had increased but when the Church acquired Field 525 from the Parish it was not their intention for it all to be cemetery, they envisaged hard and soft landscaping and they have plans for a garden of remembrance. The Rector said that Jersey as a whole will need to look at the way forward for burials in the future; however he informed the Assembly that in his opinion St Lawrence would not have a problem for the next 50 to 75 years. He also advised that Mr W Le Brun was kindly working on a draft lease that would be finalised by the Parish solicitors if the project was to go ahead. There being no further questions the Connétable put the item to the vote.</p> <p>All were in favour with none against.</p>
22/15	<p>3. If item 2 is agreed to instruct the Connétable and the Procureurs du Bien Public to proceed and pass before the Royal Court a contract lease with the “Rectorat ou Benefice of St Lawrence” for a continuous period of 25 years with an option to renew for a further 25 year continuous period.</p>
	<p>The Connétable thanked Mr W Le Brun who has drafted a lease at no charge to the Parish and which will be sent to the Parish Solicitor to be finalised. They would then undertake all matters required for the contract to be passed by the Royal Court. There being no questions the Connétable put the item to the vote.</p> <p>All were in favour with none against.</p>
23/15	<p>4. To support on the proposition of the Connétable, as part of the Village Improvement Plan consultations held in 2014, the Parishioners request for the amenity provision of a village garden and parking in the historic Parish centre, by the creation of a village garden and parking in Field 525, to be known as “The Moignard Liberation Garden”.</p>
	<p>The Connétable informed the Assembly that Mr John Henry Moignard had passed away in 2004. She read the terms of the bequest: <i>“the residue of my personal estate and my real estate unto the Connétable for the time being of the Parish of St Lawrence with the request that it be spent on some capital project for the benefit of the Parish, preferable an extension to the Parish School. I would like the Connétable to consult with Advocate David Le Quesne and to take account for what he says. For he knows my wishes.”</i></p> <p>The Connétable explained that Mr Moignard’s property known as Kerity (his real estate) had been sold and the proceeds had earned a small amount of interest over the years; she understood that the sum available was now in the region of £378,000. She hoped to use the funds to create the requested garden and parking and, in this 70th year of the Island’s Liberation, it was her intention to recognise that by calling it “The Moignard Liberation Garden”. The Connétable informed the Assembly that, as required, she had consulted with Advocate David Le Quesne and had explained her intentions. He had been extremely supportive and the Connétable read his response to the Assembly: <i>“I have no doubt that John would have been pleased to contribute towards a village garden. He has vivid memories of the occupation, so I think that the fact that the garden is to be connected to the Liberation would, I believe, further please him. I suspect that he would have taken a similar view of the footpath”</i>. The Connétable informed the Assembly that Mr Moignard had been imprisoned by the Germans during the Occupation for keeping radio parts at his garage and he had served time in Newgate Street Prison and subsequently spent six months imprisoned in France. When she had spoken to Advocate Le Quesne he had recalled that Mr Moignard would always speak to him about the Occupation and his experiences during it and the Advocate had told her that to commemorate the Liberation in this way was ideal. The Connétable informed the Assembly that she had also met with the Education Minister as a preference in the bequest was for an extension to the Parish School but he had assured her verbally and in writing that there are no plans to extend St Lawrence School now or in the foreseeable future. She had explained to him that she</p>

hoped that by providing a garden and additional off road parking it would encourage parents to park there and walk their children to and from school, which he had wholeheartedly supported. The Connétable referred all present to the information on the four “pop ups” at the front of the Parish Hall which gave additional information on the consultation process, the proposed garden and parking design, on the bequest and further information on Mr Moignard. She then invited Mrs Audrey Moody to address the Assembly, explaining that Mrs Moody and her husband Brian had been close personal friends of Mr Moignard.

Mrs Moody informed the Assembly that Mr Moignard had owned Moignards Garage at Bel Royal and had worked there during the Occupation. He had told Mr & Mrs Moody that his name would always be in the Parish but when he had sold the garage and the name had been changed they had been disappointed as his name was no longer in the Parish. Mr & Mrs Moody had worked with the previous Connétable to somehow return his name to the Parish by using the bequest but sadly nothing had materialised. Both she and her husband had been delighted when the present Connétable had contacted them regarding the proposed garden and the fact that it would be named after him. They hoped that the Assembly would support the proposition as they did. There being no questions the Connétable put the item to the vote.

All were in favour with none against.

24/15

5. To support the proposition of the Connétable as part of the Village Improvement Plan to create a public footpath through St Lawrence School grounds and sports field to provide safer pedestrian access en route to/from Three Oaks.

The Connétable informed the Assembly that as part of the Village Improvement Plan, consideration had been given to creating a footpath through St Lawrence School grounds next to La Grande Route de St Laurent. The intention was that it would allow the public to park in the new car park and be able to walk almost continuously to Three Oaks without having to walk the whole way on the busy main road.

Although the intention was that the footpath would exit from the school playing field onto La Grande Route de St Laurent, at the moment the public are able to walk off road through the field used by the Horse Carriage Driving Society on the other side of the road from the School, after which there is only one field width where we must walk on the main road. She noted that the Project Board would in course contact the owner of the field nearest to Three Oaks to discuss the possibility of creating a pathway through that field. She was grateful to Deputy Noel for liaising with the Education Department about the school path which has the full support of the Education Minister and the Head Teacher of St Lawrence School. Deputy Eddie Noel informed the Assembly that Andium Homes (the owners of St Lawrence Arsenal) are in full support of the pathway and that last summer members from TTS, the Parish and St Lawrence Battle of Flowers Association met regarding the possibility of creating a footpath. TTS could not support the project as it was on Public Land which is why the Parish had progressed it with the Education Department. The Deputy noted that whilst the pathway may not be wheelchair friendly due to the various levels, it would be a lot safer than the current situation of everyone needing to walk along the main road. The Connétable then opened the floor to questions.

Mr R Pallot asked if there would be a crossing marked on the road opposite the horse driving field? In his capacity as TTS Minister, Deputy Noel explained that there would be a different road service to indicate a crossing area. Centenier N Parker-Hood enquired if TTS would put the small strips of lights in the crossings they have in town but Deputy Noel explained that these are only required for residential areas. Mr D Mezbourian enquired whether there would be a centre island but the Connétable explained that the Project Board understood that the road was not wide enough for that. Mr M Orpin enquired if the Parish had considered extending the green lanes to the western side of the Parish as part of the road safety improvements? The Connétable explained that green lanes are considered by the Roads Committee in each Parish, after which the Parish would consult with TTS. However, in this instance the Project Board had not considered extending the green lane system. Deputy Noel explained that all twelve Connétables and other Parish officials were meeting on the 26th June to discuss such matters with TTS. There being no further questions the Connétable put the item to the vote.

All were in favour with none against.

25/15	<p>6. If Items 4 and 5 are supported, to note that both “The Moignard Liberation Garden” and the new public footpath will be funded from the bequest of the late Mr John Moignard which stated that the residue of his personal and real estate as bequeathed unto the Connétable for the time being of the Parish of St Lawrence shall be utilised for some capital project for the benefit of the Parish, preferably an extension to the Parish School, the Connétable to consult Advocate David Le Quesne and to take account for what he says, knowing Mr Moignard’s wishes.</p>
	<p>The Connétable invited questions from the Assembly on this item. Mrs K Le Maistre asked if the Project Board had considered putting the money towards sheltered housing? The Connétable explained that the Parish sheltered housing has its own fund but that presently no suitable land has been identified for further development. Mr M Orpin enquired what the budget was for the garden? The Connétable explained that a quantity surveyor had given estimates based upon the in principle design as approved by the Planning Department, however, these were subject to change when the final design had been worked up. The current estimates were: Garden and parking £230,000. Project manager for the garden and parking £18,000. School path £23,000. Project manager for the school path £7,000. Total estimate £278,000. John Moignard Bequest £378,000. Balance £100,000. The Connétable informed the Assembly that as the plans have been approved by Planning the next Project Board meeting is in July to discuss the process for the project. Procureur B Harrison asked for clarification regarding the role of Procureur on this project as they generally advise the Connétable on financial matters. He wondered whether in this instance it was proposed that the Project Board would have financial control without input from the Procureur’s? The Connetable explained that she had not considered that this project would be any different to other Parish projects and that the Procureurs would be involved with this project from a financial advice perspective. However, she understood that the wording of the bequest meant that the Procureurs may not necessarily need to offer financial advice in this instance. Mr Harrison asked what would happen if there was an overspend and the Procureurs had not been involved? The Connétable advised the Assembly that there would not be an overspend as the estimates were clearly well within the balance of the Moignard monies. However, for clarity she would take advice from the Parish Solicitor. She also confirmed that the whole project would be open and transparent. Mr A Mauger asked whether there would be lighting in the carpark and the pathway? The Connétable confirmed that although the final design had not been agreed adequate lighting would be included. In answer to Mr B Moody, who enquired if the garden would be started this year, the Connétable advised that she hoped that it would start later this year with the planting this Autumn and the Spring of next year. Mr A Morton asked whether he would be contacted regarding the petanque terrain and the Connetable confirmed that would happen. Mr R Pallot enquired if there was going to be a memorial plaque in memory of Mr Moignard and the Connétable confirmed that there would be some form of plaque or memorial headed “The Moignard Liberation Garden”.</p> <p>There being no further questions, the Connétable explained that under the terms of Mr Moignard’s bequest she understood that the Connétable for the time being did not need specific approval from the Assembly as to how the Connétable would utilise the funds on a capital project. That being the case, this item on the agenda (Item 6) referred specifically to the Assembly being required to note that both “The Moignard Liberation Garden” and the new public footpath will be funded from the bequest of the late Mr John Moignard which stated that the residue of his personal and real estate as bequeathed unto the Connétable for the time being of the Parish of St Lawrence shall be utilised for some capital project for the benefit of the Parish, preferably an extension to the Parish School, the Connétable to consult Advocate David Le Quesne and to take account for what he says, knowing Mr Moignard’s wishes. However, the Connétable chose to seek the support of the Assembly and she therefore asked for a show of hands in support of the Moignard Funds being used to create The Moignard Liberation Garden and the proposed new public footpath.</p> <p>On a show of hands all were in favour with none against.</p>
26/15	<p>The Connétable thanked all those who had attended for their support towards the Parish Liberation 70 Project, the creation of The Moignard Liberation Garden and new public footpath.</p> <p>Meeting Closed</p>

There being no further business the Connétable closed the meeting at 8.30 pm

Signed: Deidre Mezbourian

Date 8th July 2015

Deidre Mezbourian, Connétable
President of the Assembly