

Paroisse de Saint Sauveur  
Minutes of the Douzaine Meeting held in the Douzaine Room at the Community  
Centre on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.35 pm

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| Present  | <p>Messrs D Bertrand (DB), J Brache (JB), R de Garis (RdG), Mrs K Fooks (KF), Messrs S Gibbs (SG), J Gillson (JG), P Harris (PH), Mrs P Kennedy (PK), Messrs J Norman (JN), Mrs L Norman (LN), Messrs P Connolly (PC), and N Le Poidevin (NLP) (Constable – presiding).</p> <p>Mr G Chapman (GC), Parish Secretary was present to record the minutes.</p>   |  |
| Apologies  | Mr R Murray (RM)  |  |
| Minutes of Meeting held on 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2021 | The minutes were agreed and signed by the Constable.  |  |
| Matters Arising  | <p><b>Constables' Accounts.</b><br/> NLP reported that there might be some progress concerning the cap of £250k (as per the 2013 Parochial Administration Law) and the need for full audit of accounts where income exceeded this figure. He has been contacted by Deputy S Aldwell (SA) who asked him to consent to his name being used on a document that would seek to have the law changed so that at least RPI should be applied to the figure.<br/> As NLP understands it, SA is confident that the law will be amended in the near future.</p>   |  |
| Guernsey Waste - update                                | <p>SG confirmed that he had attended a meeting (with Guernsey Waste (GW) and contractors) the previous week where the following matters were discussed.</p> <p><b>Island Wide Waste.</b><br/> There is no data available to indicate which parts of the island contractors are having to leave waste uncollected for various reasons.</p> <p><b>Fixed Charges.</b><br/> Guernsey Waste will soon be starting legal proceedings to recover unpaid charges.</p> <p><b>Bring Banks.</b><br/> There will be further consideration as to whether these will continue to be provided. GW were not able to indicate what the costs of running these facilities is but said that it was into 6 figures. SG said that he asked for this information to be provided so that islanders could evaluate whether it was financially sustainable when all of the items that can be taken to bring banks can be readily collected as part of the household collection services provided by parishes.</p> <p><b>Waste Consumables.</b><br/> SG confirmed that GW now has a new supply of both food caddies and glass bags and that they will be distributed to Douzaines and islanders as and when their old consumables need replacing. The glass bags are white, and are larger and have a heavier base than the previous ones. The food caddies will be silver in colour.</p> |  |
| Financial Matters                                      | <p>NLP advised the Douzaine that there had been a meeting of the Finance Committee and they have some recommendations to make.</p> <p><b>Bank Balances.</b></p>   |  |

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|                                     | <p>The Committee are satisfied that the current balances are sufficient to pay all anticipated accounts before the annual rates accounts are sent out in June. The parish meeting (held earlier on 26<sup>th</sup> April) had approved the annual Constables' Accounts for 2020.</p> <p><b>Bank Charges.</b><br/>The Constables have been advised (by Natwest International) that monthly fees (£10) will be applied to 2 accounts that were previously free and that the Constables' current account would have the higher monthly fee of £10 applied from the end of May 2021. In addition, all manual payments (in and out of these accounts) will attract a £2.50 charge and cash payments into the account would have a 2.5% charge applied. Electronic payments (in and out) are (currently) free</p> <p>The Constables already encourage parishioners to pay their rates accounts by electronic means, but in 2020 there was still a little under half of the accounts paid by cheque.</p> <p>The Committee had considered changing banks, but in light of suggestions that the other 'high street' banks are likely to follow the example set by Natwest and introduce similar charges there seemed little point.</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the Douzaine accepts these higher charges and continues to encourage parishioners to pay accounts by electronic means. Any charges incurred will have to be absorbed and passed on to parishioners as part of the 2022 rates demand.</p> <p>The Douzaine unanimously approved the recommendation.</p> <p>NLP then addressed the matter of payments out. Currently the mandate requires two signatures on all cheques issued by the Constables. During the 2 'covid' lockdowns (in 2020 and 2021) some payments had been made electronically but with only one-person authorising payment. In the exceptional circumstances that prevailed this was considered appropriate. However, ongoing, if each cheque issued is to incur a £2.50 charge, the Committee recommends investigating an electronic system called EQ (operated by Natwest) for payments out. This will require 2 people to authorise payments and will be cheaper than cheques but does incur charges.</p> <p>The Douzaine approved the recommendation.</p> <p><b>Deposit Accounts.</b><br/>NLP explained that the Committee had suggested that the funds held as deposit and reserve should be placed with another bank where interest is paid.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Constables should investigate this possibility and report back to the Douzaine.</p> | <p>NLP/PC</p> <p>NLP/PC</p> <p>NLP/PC</p> |
| New Parish Secretary                | <p>NLP reported that he had met with someone who had expressed interest in taking over the position as parish secretary when the incumbent retires at the end of 2021. The person is suitably qualified and has experience of accounts and parish matters. Additionally, the person is able to start on 1<sup>st</sup> October to work alongside the incumbent to ensure a smooth handover.</p> <p>The Finance Committee have approved the appointment and NLP asked the Douzaine to confirm their approval, which was unanimously given.</p>   | <p>NLP/PC</p>                             |
| St Saviours Community Centre (SSCC) | <p><b>New Trustee.</b> PH said that he and RM had met with Mrs A Vine who has expressed an interest in becoming a Trustee of SSCC. He had circulated Mrs Vine's cv to all officials.</p>  |   |

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|                    | <p>DB said that he is more than happy to agree to Mrs Vine being appointed as a Trustee, but that in recent years it has been the Douzaine's policy to invite potential Trustees to a Douzaine meeting prior to appointment so that officials can 'put a face to a name'.</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed that Mrs Vine should be invited to the May Douzaine meeting.</p> <p>PH added that perhaps it would be appropriate for the Trustees to attend the May meeting to provide the annual update concerning SSCC and the Douzaine agreed that this should be the case.</p>   | <p>NLP/PC</p> <p>NLP/PC</p> |
| SSCC               | <p><b>Andy's House.</b></p> <p>The SSCC LBG wishes to apply to the Planning Department for a change of use for the Building known as 'Andy's House' so that it can be used as a community café. There is a prospective tenant who would lease the building if planning permission for change of use to a community café is granted. As owners the Douzaine would have to give consent for such an application to be made.</p> <p>The Douzaine confirmed that there was no objection to this application.</p>   | <p>NLP/PC</p>               |
| Correspondence     | <p><b>Bailiwick Blossom Initiative.</b></p> <p>NLP had previously circulated email correspondence seeking support for this initiative which would involve parishes planting 14 blossom trees in a circle.</p> <p>RdG and KF both commented that it was a very good initiative, and that St Saviour might be able to support it financially, but there is simply no parish land available where it might be sited.</p> <p>The Douzaine agreed and asked the Constables to reply accordingly.</p> <p>Guernsey Motor Rally 2022.</p> <p>NLP reminded the Douzaine that when rallies had been planned previously there had been complaints that the organisers had not notified parishioners along any proposed route at an early stage.</p> <p>Although the Douzaine cannot approve any route for a rally (this being the responsibility of Traffic and Highways) parish officials have also come in for criticism from those who object to the rally being held.</p> <p>Subsequently the rally organisers invited parish officials to a meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April giving notice of a rally in 2022, - NLP had previously (this evening) advised the parish meeting that there were proposals for a rally in 2022.</p> <p>NLP asked if parish officials would attend the meeting with the rally organisers on 29<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>KF and PH confirmed that they will attend.</p> | <p>NLP/PC</p>               |
| Any Other Business | <p>JB asked if consideration could be given to converting the Church Hall into a dwelling. JB is as concerned as ever that the Rectory/Church Hall is again costing ratepayers a significant sum in annual maintenance (over £30k for 2021).</p> <p>NLP explained that as the law concerning parish Rectories is concerned, the Rectory cannot be sold without the incumbent Rector's agreement.</p> <p>NLP has asked previously for the incumbent to consider moving to a smaller less costly accommodation only to be told that this would not be considered. Since the Church Hall is on the same site and shares the same access as the Rectory NLP could see little point in raising the matter again</p>   |                             |
|                    | There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.  |                             |
|                    | The next meeting is to be held at 7.00pm on Monday 24th May 2021.  |                             |

DRAFT