

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
ANNE FRENCH ROOM
26th June 2017
0915hours

PRESENT:

Mr J Dent, Chairman
 Mr A Barnes
 Mrs N Paris
 Mr S Roberts
 Mr G McKinley
 Mr L Jean
 Mr M Dean
 Mr A Snowdon

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A Lewis, Interim Chief Executive (CE)
 Mrs S Pengilly-Price, Executive Officer to the Chief Executive (EO)
 Mrs K A Hatcher-Gaudion, Treasurer (TREASURY)
 Mr P Veron, Economic Development Officer (EDO)

Apologies: Stephen Taylor, Strategic Financial Advisor (SFA), Mr I Tugby

In Attendance: Colin Vaudin & Ian Haywood for item 79/2017 via conference call

ACTION**78/2017****Matters Arising****70.1 Committee feedback from Chairmen (B&DCC, GSC & Transport & Tourism) & Guernsey Representatives**

BDCC - The Committee noted a verbal update from the Deputy Chairman of BDCC, covering a range of matters including the LUP.

GSC – The Committee noted a verbal update from the Chairman of GSC, covering a range of matters including the Town Centre Traffic Survey, the breakwater, harbour fuel, sand extraction and lighting in the Airport car park.

Tourism – The Committee noted a verbal update from Tourism lead on various matters including Visit Guernsey being on island, the Fly-In and the Food Festival; and the greater use of social media advertising; and the opportunities to highlight Alderney’s rich archaeological history given the recent Roman finds.

Guernsey Representatives – The Committee noted an update on the recent deliberations in respect of the 2016 Audited Accounts and the proposals for Island-wide voting. It was also agreed to explore in due course, the possibility of the Chairman of P&F or an equivalent representative having a seat on the Policy & resources Committee.

EDO

Education – The Committee noted that there will be a presentation to States Members from the Director of Education and the Head Teacher of St Anne’s School on 5th July 2017, and that there would be a further presentation later in the month regarding the future plans for secondary education in the Bailiwick.

EO

0935 Colin Vaudin joined meeting via conference call

79/2017**Digital Connectivity Update**

The Committee resolved to work with the two main telecom providers (Sure & JT) with a view to accelerating the delivery of Superfast Broadband services (both fixed line and mobile) to Alderney. The details of this to be worked out in due course, and following further liaison with the Telecoms and advice from the Chief Information Officer in Guernsey. It was also agreed to establish a ‘Digital Economic Development Fund’ and in due course to invite expressions of interest from telecommunications

firms (and others) to draw down that fund. This would require confirmation of criteria for accessing the fund based on:

- **New employment opportunities;**
- **New taxation and other revenue opportunities;**
- **Reputational enhancements to Alderney as a business centre; and**
- **Enabling businesses that will lead to other new business opportunities.**

It was further noted that the above expenditure would require States approval.

EDO/TREASURY/IH

1000 Colin Vaudin left meeting

80/2017

Transport Update

80.1 Air Links

80.1.1 Aurigny

The Committee noted a verbal update from the Chairman regarding updates on the progress of the Aurigny Review. The Committee also noted its serious concerns over the impacts on the economy and community of the recent disruptions to the air services.

EDO

80.1.2 Medevac – Report from Chief Executive dated 22nd June 2017 tabled and noted.
The Committee resolved:

- **That the Medevac situation be included on the agenda for the ALG meeting in mid-July; and**
- **To reply to the letter from Deputy Brouard with appreciation for the proactive way in which the Medevac situation is being managed, but at the same time looking forward to the more secure future arrangements.**

EDO

80.1.3 Air Alderney

The Committee noted a verbal update on the progress being made by Air Alderney to secure its Air Operators Certificate.

80.2 Sea Links

80.2.1 MTWG Membership – Report from Deputy Chairman of General Services Committee dated 22nd June 2017.

The Committee agreed that:

- **The Harbour Master be invited to advise the MTWG in advance of it holding any discussions with potential bidders for future Freight and/or Passenger Services; and that**
- **GSC be invited to nominate one member to be involved in the same process.**

EDO

80.2.2 Freight Contract & Passenger Service

The Committee noted that expressions of interest were being sought in respect of a potentially joint Freight and Passenger Service to operate inter-island. It was also agreed to raise no objections to the General Services Committee simultaneously seeking tenders for the Guernsey/Alderney Freight Only contract. It further affirmed the need for GSC and P&F to work closely in respect of the Sea Transport Contracts.

TREASURY/EDO

81/2017**Legislation, Conventions & Policy****81.1 Tourism & Marketing Strategy Report** – Report from TAG dated 20th June 2017 tabled and noted.**The Committee resolved to:-**

1. Agree the paper which had been circulated and endorse its general principles;
2. Direct the Tourism Advisory Group (TAG) to continue its work to develop the ten year Tourism and Marketing Strategy, and to report back to P&F with progress in due course;
3. Direct TAG to restructure the 2018 tourism and marketing budget, for submission to P&F as part of the overall budget, in line with the recommendations in this paper; and
4. Approve in principle the following funding from the Economic Development Fund:-
 - a) Promotional Air Fares – up to £150,000 (in 2018 potentially replacing underwriting additional rotations on GCI and SOU);
 - b) Passenger Ferry Subsidy – up to £100,000 (already in EDF);
 - c) Protect our Product - £40,000 – already in EDF for 2018 and 2019 but broaden qualifying projects;
 - d) Resources - £25,000 (one contract post for Visit Alderney to help with both the delivery of the tourism and marketing operations and strategy development) - £25,000 in each of 2018 and 2019
 - e) Digital marketing - £30,000 in each of 2018 and 2019
 - f) New Route Programme - £50,000 for new routes in each of 2018 and 2019 (already in EDP for assistance to Air Alderney £25,000 for 2017, £50,000 for 2018).
5. Note that the total additional spend from EDF of £55,000 in each of 2018 and 2019 would be subject to approval by the States as part of the annual budget process.

EO

81.2 The Pension Licensees & Domestic and Interational Pension Scheme Rules 2017 – Report from Chief Executive dated 19th June 2017 tabled and noted.**The Committee resolved to advise the Policy & resources Committee that it raises no objections to the proposed Pension Licensee rules.**

EO

81.3 Prioritisation of States & Committee Business – Report from Chief Executive dated 22nd June 2017 tabled and noted.**The Committee agreed to:**

- Hold a workshop for all States Members with a view to ranking, in order of relative importance, the multiple activities and initiatives which the States is seeking to progress; and
- Request that Chief Executive make the necessary arrangements for the workshop.

EO/CE

81.4 Order of Items – States Meeting – Report from Chief Executive dated 21st June 2017 tabled and noted.**The Committee agreed to request the President to consider:**

- Providing a means whereby all States Members and members of the public can be aware, near the start of any States Meeting, of the specific topics to be covered in 'Statements or Reports' and any 'Questions of Chairmen'; and
- Inviting members of the public who wish to ask Billet related questions at the People's Meeting (Part 1) to lodge these by noon on the Monday immediately preceding the meeting.

EO

82/2017

Budgetary, Financial & Employment Matters**82.1 Swimming Pool – Progress Update**

The Committee noted the latest position with regard to the funding challenge being faced by the Alderney Community Swimming Pool Trust. It was further agreed to place the matter on the ALG agenda for the next meeting.

EO/TREASURY

83/2017

ARE/FABLink - CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – See Confidential Annexure.

84/2017

Any Other Business

84.1 ALG & Bailiwick Council – Confirmation of Attendees – Report from Chief Executive dated 22nd June 2017 tabled and noted.

The Committee agreed, in light of the predicted agenda content, that its political representation at the next ALG meeting would be the Chairman of P&F, the Chairman of GSC, and Alderney Representative McKinley. Further to that, representation at the Bailiwick Council later in July would be the same plus the President of the States.

EDO/EO

84.2 Brexit Update – Report from Strategic Financial Adviser dated 25th June 2017 tabled and noted.

The Committee noted the issues set out in the update report, provided for information only at this stage, and for policy consideration at a later date when more detail is available.

SFA

84.3 Channel Islands Brussels Office (CIBO)

The Committee noted that a representative of CIBO would be available to visit Alderney on 21st July 2017, and it was agreed that arrangements be made for Members to meet him.

EO

84.4 Surgery Option for States Members

The Committee agreed that public access to States Members as a present were satisfactory, but if individual Members wished to hold surgeries they were free to do so.

84.5 Philately

The Committee agreed that the options for reviewing the philately situation be considered at the next meeting.

EO

84.6 Harbour Driving Licences

The Committee noted concerns voiced by Mr Snowdon regarding certain complications which were understood to exist in respect of driving HGV articulated vehicles at the Harbour.

84.7 Affordability of Access to Medical Care for Children

The Committee noted that concerns had been expressed that some families were not taking their children to receive medical assessment of treatment on Alderney or to Guernsey due to the costs. It was agreed that additional information be sought regarding these concerns in order to assess what support was available and to ensure that this was known to parents/carers.

TREASURY

84.8 Director of Business Development

The Committee noted the post was being advertised in Alderney and on the States of Guernsey website.

84.9 Insurance Update

The Committee noted that the existing States wide insurance policy would be extended by 5 months to 30th November 2017.

TREASURY

84.10 Economic Development Reserve Fund – Update

The Committee noted the update on the Economic Development Reserve.

EO

85/2017 Agenda Resolutions – Confirmation

86/2017 For Information & Noting

The following reports/letters were noted:-

- Resolutions of Previous Meeting – circulated via email
- Aged Debtors Report – Confidential Item
- Management Accounts – as at 31/05/2017
- Budget 2018 & Revised Budget 2017 – Timetable
- Economic Development Reserve Fund – as at 19/06/2017
- Non Profit Organisations – Proposed Consultation Process
- Military History Research Update

Meeting closed: 1pm

Signed: James Dent

Date: 27th June 2017