

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
ANNE FRENCH ROOM
21st January 2019
14:30**

Mr D Earl, Chairman
Mr J Dent
Mr M Dean
Mr C Harris

Mrs E A Maurice, Assistant Treasurer
Mrs E O'Toole, Treasury Assistant/Minutes
Mr S Taylor, Strategic Financial Advisor (SFA)
(from 15:35)

In attendance: Mr D Smith, States of Guernsey, Finance Business Partner
Apologies: Mr A Muter, Chief Executive (CE) and Mr C Brock, Director of Business Development (DBD)

ACTION

01/2019

Administration

1.1 Appointment of Deputy Chairman Mr Dent was proposed and appointed.

1.2 Confirmation of Committee Mandate 2019 The Committee noted the minor changes to the Mandate, as approved by the Policy and Finance Committee, in relation to Tourism and Events Grants allocations.

02/2019

Matters Arising

2.1 Swimming Pool project update – see Confidential Annexure.

03/2019

Revenue Account

3.1 Conge, Leasehold & Transfer Duty – 2018 (final) & Price Paid Data Q4 2018 tabled and noted. The Chairman suggested that the local Estate Agent(s) be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss possible trends on property sales, which was agreed.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

Mr Dent raised a query regarding recent changes to certain categories of Document Duty. He stated that this was part of the review of the financial relationship and would be combined with Conge payable to the States of Alderney, similar to the new Property Tax combining TRP & Occupiers Rates, however progress has been very slow. Mr Smith advised that he would be able to look into the matter and advise.

It was noted that the single property tax changes was the first phase of this process and that other proposed changes would follow in due course.

Mr Earl also requested that the Conge data be presented in a more visual format moving forward – Treasury to deal.

TREASURY

3.2 Management Accounts Summary – December V2 The Assistant Treasurer explained that the December / Year End 2018 accounts are being produced weekly while in the suspense period and thus this is a very early indication of the year end position, which was still subject to change, for noting. **Noted**

The Committee noted the continued underspend on the Capital programme for 2018 and requested the Chairman draft a letter to the General Services Committee (GSC) to raise concern as the majority of projects fall under GSC's remit.

TREASURY/CHAIRMAN

3.3 Building Regulations Fees Papers as circulated prior to the meeting, tabled and discussed. Mr Dean, as chairman of the Building and Development Control Committee (BDCC), advised that following the approval of Planning fees, BDCC are looking to increase Building Regulation fees in order to cover costs.

It was noted that a public consultation will be undertaken for a minimum of 28 days, following which the feedback will be reviewed and should all approvals and necessary drafting by the Law Officers go according to plan, the new fees should take effect in June 2019. Mr Dean advised that the proposed fees covered the cost of providing the service and was not seen as an income generating exercise. Changes were noted. **Noted**

04/2019 **Capital Account**

4.1 AGCC – Q4 distributions (as previously circulated by email) tabled and **noted**.

4.2 Financial Update – Ongoing Capital Projects report as at 31st December 2018 tabled and **noted**. Treasury was requested to provide the Chairman and Mr Harris with the report on the Nunnery Refurbishment capital expenditure which was tabled at a GSC meeting in 2018.

TREASURY

05/2019 **Economic Development Reserve**

5.1 EDR – Summary and Projects update report as at 31st December 2018 tabled and **noted**.

It was noted that the Chairman has requested the DBD to prepare a presentation for the next meeting on the 11th March to provide a better understanding of each project.

AGENDA ITEM/DBD

06/2019 **Leases & Contracts**

6.1 Crusher Site – Lease Extension Request – see Confidential Annexure.

6.2 Harbour Laundrette Lease – see Confidential Annexure.

07/2019 **Review of Financial Relationship**

7.1 New Single Property Tax – update Proposition on the States of Alderney New Single Property Tax recently lodged with HM Greffier, tabled and noted. The Committee noted that this is as approved by the States of Alderney in 2018 and will be considered at the States of Deliberations meeting on the 30th January 2019.

Mr Dent stated that this enables the States to greater possibility to manage our economy and is not an opportunity to reduce taxes. **Noted**

08/2019 **Delegated Items – Coins**

8.1 Coin Issues – Ratification of email approvals – see Confidential Annexure.

8.2 Coin update – see Confidential Annexure.

8.3 Coin Issue for approval – see Confidential Annexure.

8.4 Proposed visit from Commonwealth Mint – see Confidential Annexure.

15:35 SFA joined the meeting

09/2019 **Delegated Items – Grants**

9.1 Summary of Grants Issued in 2018 Summary tabled and **noted**.

The Committee discussed a number of proposed guidelines and recommendations for Tourism and Events grants which are now under the remit of the Committee for Tourism and Economic Development (cTED).

It was agreed for this to be collated into a letter/report from the Chairman to cTED.

TREASURY/CHAIRMAN

9.2 Alderney Island Games – Ratification of grant request

The Committee ratified their decisions reached by email on the 28th November 2018 to approve a grant of £3,000 to the Alderney Island Games Association.

9.3 Alderney Ambulance – Ratification of additional grant

The Committee ratified their decisions reached by email on the 28th December 2018 to approve an additional grant of £10,029 to Alderney Ambulance Service Ltd (AAS) in respect of their capital purchase of new doors at the station.

The Committee noted the ‘statement of comfort’ requested when the additional grant had been considered and the AAS wishing to meet to discuss further.

It was agreed to invite the AAS to the meeting of the 11th March. Treasury to arrange.

TREASURY/AGENDA ITEM

10/2019 Delegated Items – Stamps

10.1 Future Stamp issue – Update for noting – see Confidential Annexure.

11/2019 Any Other Business

11.1 Alderney Housing Association – see Confidential Annexure.

12/2019 For Information & noting

- Approved minutes from 13th December 2018 special meeting
- Letters of thanks from Mrs R James on behalf of Junior Tennis

Meeting closed: 16:15pm

Signed: Mr D Earl

Date: 28th January 2019