

**POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
ANNE FRENCH ROOM
25th July 2019
0915 hours**

PRESENT:

Mr J Dent, Chairman
Mr C Harris
Mr S Roberts
Mr G McKinley
Mr M Dean
Mr A Snowdon
Mr L Jean
Ms A Burgess
Mr K Gentle

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr A Muter, Chief Executive (CE)
Mrs E Maurice, Acting Head of Finance
(TREASURY)
Mrs S Pengilly-Price, Executive Officer
to the Chief Executive (EO);
Mr P Veron, Strategic Adviser (SA) (for
item 55/2019)

Apologies: Mr D Earl;

ACTION**53/2019****Matters Arising****53.1 Committee feedback from Chairmen (BDCC, GSC, Finance & Tourism) & Guernsey Representatives**

BDCC – 11 July meeting was postponed to 15th July. A Summons has been received for a Court appearance on 5th September.

GSC – Progress is being made with capital projects – the Connaught extension tender process for the first phase has started. Old Connaught – currently evaluating tenders. Town pavements - work is being planned on this. Water taxi problems have been resolved in the short term. Relocation of waste bins at Harbour is being considered. Work is being carried out at Fort Clonque which requires planning consent.

Finance – Alderney Ambulance Service are in dialogue with the States about the need to take account of new regulations. Coins issues and Commonwealth Mint were discussed.

Alderney Representatives in the States of Guernsey – Peter Ferbrache has indicated that he is willing to come and speak about Aurigny and it was **resolved that the Chairman of P&F would write to invite him to Alderney as soon as possible.**

CHAIRMAN P&F

CTED – No formal meeting since last P&F. Film workshop opportunity for next year is being pursued. There is interest in establishing a local distillery. It was noted that the scrutiny work on Aurigny in the States of Guernsey will probably be after the dialogue is due to take place on the outcome of the PSO.

53.2 External Relations

APPCIG meeting in London included discussion about the Blue Island Conference (and approach to minimising the use of single-use plastics) and Beneficial Ownership. Bailiwick Council meeting covered Brexit, Maritime seas and Fishing. Note that London Fisheries Agreement will end with Brexit. The Small Island Economies presentation made by David Earl was well-received. Cannabis policy was discussed. Probate revenue – pressed for an appropriate share for Alderney.

Following discussion and the recent extension of our territorial waters it was resolved by Policy & Finance Committee that the advice of the Law Officers should be sought in respect of the benefits of seeking ownership of the sea bed between 3 and 12 miles.

CE

54/2019

Legislation, Conventions & Policy and Finance

54.1 Minimum Wage – Letter from Chairman dated 15th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved unanimously (other than for the final bullet point, which Mr Jean voted against), as a first step, to request:

- **The Law Officers to advise on the legal instruments required in order to introduce a minimum wage and any corollary impacts and/or legislative impediments that might need to be addressed in parallel with the introduction of a minimum wage;**
- **The CEO to engage with the Chamber of Commerce and others in business and the public in order that they might indicate their views on how the introduction of a minimum wage might impact their businesses;**
- **The CEO to prepare further policy advice on the introduction of a minimum wage, including whether basic employment contract law could be fast-tracked;**
- **When capacity is available in the future, to engage with the Chamber of Commerce and others in business and the public, to identify options and priorities for the introduction of basic employment law and in the meantime to consider what basic elements are needed in order to introduce minimum wages and basic employment protection practices; and**
- **To continue to liaise with the States of Guernsey on the development of disability discrimination and health and well-being strategies.**

The Policy and Finance Committee additionally considered that it wished to engage in a parallel public consultation with the one currently being undertaken in Guernsey on the subject of Discrimination Legislation. The intention would be to seek separately the opinions of Alderney residents/businesses so that a bespoke approach could be constructed for Alderney.

CE

54.2 Lessons from the Presidential Election

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved that, having considered the lessons from the Presidential By-Election, they would decide to take no further action.

54.3 Care Homes, Sheltered Accommodation & Home Care – Report from Chairman dated 15th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved by a majority (Mr Jean against) to agree a policy review of the funding of care for older people.

54.4 States of Alderney Cash Limit – Report from Chief Executive dated 18th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved unanimously that the proposed change from a cash limit to a grant will be welcomed and that the attached response letter is approved.

CE OFFICE

54.5 Environmental Policy Briefing – Report from Strategic Adviser dated 18th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee:

- **Resolved to authorise the Chairman to see whether or not it may be possible for Alderney to sign up to the Blue Islands Charter, as one of the key outcomes**

from the Inter Island Environmental Conference, which it is hosting in September;

- Resolved that States of Alderney staff should take advantage of the resources being deployed in Guernsey to progress habitat and species protection legislation, subject to Alderney retaining legislative control for these issues;
- Indicated that it was potentially interested in recommending the States to declare a climate emergency – this subject to further consideration of the merits/demerits and liaison with the relevant authorities in the States of Guernsey;
- Resolved that the views of BDCC and GSC should be sought on the above two bullet point items
- Resolves to submit to the States for debate and decision the following propositions 1) that the States should progress habitat and species protection legislation 2) that a Climate Emergency should be declared

SA

54.6 Change to Rules of Procedure & Protocol – Report from Chief Executive dated 18th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved that:

- The States of Alderney should refer to the States a proposition to replace Rule 11 in the Rules of Procedure for States Committees with the following:

11. Minutes shall be approved by the Committee at its next full meeting and shall be circulated to all States Members. Minutes should only be set out in confidential annexures where they accord with the criteria set out in the Protocol for access to information and confidentiality which has been determined by the Policy & Finance Committee.

- And resolved to approve the Protocol on Confidentiality and Access to Information for States Members.

CE

54.7 Good Governance – Report from Chief Executive dated 18th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to defer a decision pending referral to a further meeting of the Good Governance Group and recommendations to Policy & Finance Committee.

CE

54.8 IHRA Charter for Best Practice in Safeguarding Sites – Report from Chairman dated 15th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to welcome the proposals set out by Dr Carr in respect of developing a charter for best practice in safeguarding sites, subject to feedback on the details of the programme and agreed that it would be appropriate to have feedback to the States at the end of the visit. It was also resolved that the CEO be asked to put together information for States Members regarding the background to this work to inform future work on WW2 related issues.

CE

55/2019

Transport

55.1 Air Transport Update - See Confidential Annexure

55.2 Letter Received from Deputy Ferbrache re Aurigny Efficiency Review – Letter dated 15th July 2019, and Benchmarking Review dated 15th February 2019 tabled and noted.

Policy & Finance Committee resolved unanimously that a response challenging the way the term ‘economic enabler’ is used should be sent by the Chairman of Policy and Finance.

CE OFFICE

56/2019

Economy & Renewable Energy

Nothing to report at this meeting. A report expected for the September meeting.

57/2019

Any Other Business

September States Billet – Report from Chairman dated 18th July 2019 tabled and noted.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved unanimously to:

- 1) review the Rules of Procedure in respect of States business;**
- 2) draft proposals for regular reports to the States; and**
- 3) agree that resolutions about Brexit and Air Links should be considered at future States meetings but that resolutions would be agreed by circulation to add to the States Billet.**

Policy & Finance Committee resolved unanimously that a proposition to move the Bank Holiday on the first Monday of May (Monday 4th May) in 2020 to Friday 8th May 2020 should be submitted to the States.

The problems with broadcasting the States Meeting were discussed and it was proposed that the tape from the last States meeting could be broadcast and an approach would be made to the CPA for possible assistance.

GREFFIER

Suggestions from members of the public for reductions in Conge and Fuel duty would be referred to Finance Committee.

TREASURY

Other items discussed were Fort Tourgis, and the possibility of a ‘traffic light’ system for tracking progress.

58/2019

Agenda Resolutions – Confirmation

The above draft resolutions were confirmed by the Committee Members at the meeting as being a correct record of the decisions arising from the meeting.

59/2019

For Information & Noting

The following reports/letters were noted:-

- Resolutions of Previous Meeting – circulated via email**
- Management Accounts Summary – 30th June 2019**
- EDR Summary**
- Timetable – Revised Budget 2019 & Budget 2020**
- Pension Scheme Meeting Minutes – May 2019**

60/2019 **Items Scheduled for Future Meetings**

Meeting closed: 1pm

Signed: James Dent

Date: 26th July 2019