

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Anne French Room
18th November 2020
0915 hours**

PRESENT:

**Mr J Dent, Chairman
Mr K Gentle, Deputy Chairman
Mr S Roberts
Mr G McKinley
Mr A Snowdon
Ms A Burgess
Mr C Harris
Mr L Jean
Mr W Abel**

IN ATTENDANCE:

**Mr A R Lewis, Temporary Chief Executive (CE)
Mrs E Maurice, Acting Head of Finance (TREASURY)
Mrs S Pengilly-Price, Executive Officer to the Chief Executive (EO)
Mr S Taylor, Strategic Financial Advisor (vis Teams);**

Apologies: Mr M Dean

In Attendance: Mr J McLellan and Mr C Brock for item 66.1; Mr R Lee for item 66.2;

ACTION**65/2020 Matters Arising****65.1 Any relevant comments from Chairmen (re BDCC, GSC, CfTED & Finance), & Guernsey Representatives**

BDCC: the Committee noted the update provided by the Deputy Chairman, BDCC on recent high profile applications and the policy discussions about housing needs, trees generally and BDCC's LUP monitoring annual statement for the December States.

GSC: The Committee noted the report from the Chairman on recent GSC discussions with a particular interest in Whitegates and the need for a decision. It also discussed Fort Doyle and coastal erosion by the Arsenal, the issues over traffic in the town area and the Marina concept was being explored further with discussions with the developer.

CfTED: The Committee noted the report from the Chairman on recent matters including heritage sites, small business grants, campsite, cannabis production and export issues, meeting with Guernsey officers regarding revive and thrive. The Committee was also continuing to discuss economic opportunities.

Finance: The Committee noted the report from the Chairman of Finance on recent activities including grant applications agreed based on need following reviews of the level of reserves held by the grant applicants. The committee also reviewed various matters including an application for grant funding for mental health services, deferred pending wider strategic consideration, and support for the ABO which was referred back to GSC. In addition, matters such as the Swimming Pool funding and numismatics were discussed.

Alderney Reps: The Committee noted the report from the Alderney representatives including the recent budget discussions. It was also noted that Deputy Mark Helyar the Policy & Resources Committee's liaison for Alderney would be visiting the Island on Friday.

65.2 External Relations including update on Fisheries 'Permissive Extent Clause'

The Chairman provided an update on the EU/UK and CD negotiations and also provided an update on the Channel Island All Party Parliamentary Group discussions.

It was also agreed to invite the President to provide updates as and when he had dialogue with members of the UK parliament.

CE

66/2020 Legislation, Conventions, Policy & Finance

66.1 Employment Law & Minimum Wage – Report from Chris Brock dated 12th November 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved

- to draw attention to the fact it had previously agreed to introduce contract of employment legislation; and
- to request the Law Officers draft the necessary contract of employment legislation, subject to confirmation that the Guernsey Industrial disputes tribunal would be prepared to deal with Alderney cases, and
- to agree that the introduction of minimum wage be deferred to be a subsequent phase to the Contract of Employment Law, and
- not to seek at the moment any employment related legislation in respect of Maternity Leave and Sex Discrimination.

EO

66.2 Alderney Employment Permit Law Review/Change - Report from Law Officer Roy Lee dated 21st October 2020 tabled and considered, along with a draft regulation tabled during the discussion.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved:-

- to request the Guernsey Policy Resources Committee implement the draft regulation using its Brexit Emergency powers to effect an urgent amendment to the employment permit legislation to ensure it did not discriminate on grounds of nationality; and
- to seek a review of the employment permit legislation considering whether it required further changes to make it appropriate for Alderney's current needs and to ensure compliance with other legislation and conventions.

EO

66.3 Future Work on WW2 Issues – Report from Chief Executive dated 31st October 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved:-

- To note that the views in the paper were those of the Chief Executive who had not advised the Chairman or the Temporary Chief Executive of its submission; and
- To seek to ascertain how the item came to be on the agenda for this meeting, and
- To seek an update from the BDCC on its policy work to safeguard sites of historic interest, and
- by a majority with Messrs Gentle, Jean and Snowdon dissenting, to agree that, given the issues identified were important, the report be returned to the agenda for consideration following further research under the direction of the temporary Chief Executive and for this to include seeking the advice of the Law Officers.

CE

Mr Snowdon left the meeting at 11:30

66.4 UK OT/CD Ministerial Forum on Environmental Matters – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 19th November 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to confirm that Alderney will participate in the 2021 UK CD/OT Ministerial Conference on Environmental Matters.

EO

66.5 P&F Annual Report 2020 – Report from Chairman James Dent tabled and considered.
The Policy and Finance Committee resolved that the Chairman submit a final version of the Committee’s Annual Report to the President by Friday 20th November.

EO

60.6 Appointment of States Treasurer –Report from Chief Executive Office dated 12th November 2020 tabled and considered.
The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to appoint Elizabeth Maurice as Treasurer of the States of Alderney subject to the approval of H.E. Lieutenant Governor.

EO

60.7 Amendment to Customs Law – Brexit regulations - Consultation – Regulations tabled and considered.
The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to raise no objections to the proposed Customs (Brexit) regulations which have been prepared by the Guernsey Committee for Home Affairs.

EO

66.8 Ordinarily Resident – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 12th November 2020 tabled and considered.
The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to request the temporary Chief Executive arrange a public consultation on the term Ordinarily Resident in the context of Elections and to ask public for their suggestions and views on the appropriate periods and the criteria to be stipulated for persons wishing to be entered onto the electoral register and separately for those seeking to stand for election.

CE

66.9 Credit & Finance Legislation – Legislation tabled and considered.
The Policy & Finance Committee noted the updated version of the policy letter (including paragraph 7.2) and confirmed its supports for the proposals.

EO

66.10 Brexit Related Repeal – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 12th November 2020 tabled and considered.
The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to affirm its previous decision to support the repeal of the law referred to (the “Aliens Law”) and to note the initial view of the Law Officers and that a full report will be tabled at the December meeting of P&F.

EO

66.11 GFSC Fee Consultation – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 12th November 2020 tabled and considered.
The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to raise no objections to the proposed revision in fees by the GFSC and to approve the making of amendment fee regulations by the Policy & Resources Committee; which reflect the changes proposed in Appendix B of the consultation paper.

EO

66.12 Policy Letter GIMLIT – Legislation tabled and considered.
The Policy & Finance Committee resolved to note the proposals.

EO

66.13 Alderney Property Tax Tariffs – Report from Acting Head of Finance dated 18th November 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to submit the draft Alderney Property Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 to the States for approval.

TREASURY

66.14 Occupiers Rate Tariffs 2021 – Report from Acting Head of Finance dated 18th November 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to submit the draft Occupier's Rate (Level for 2021) Ordinance, 2020 to the States for approval.

TREASURY

67/2020 Transport, Economy & Renewable Energy

67.1 Energy Policy – Report from Chairman dated 8th November 2020 tabled and considered.

The Policy and Finance Committee resolved to note the email from the Managing Director of AEL, and requested that the Energy Policy Group reports back to P&F with an update of progress and a timetable for finalising the Energy Policy. It was also agreed that KG be appointed as Chairman of the group.

EO

67.2 ACRE Update – For Information – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 12th November 2020 tabled and noted.

68/2020 Any Other Business

Portraits of Presidents - See Confidential Annexure

Agenda items

It was agreed to confirm that items would only be accepted on the agenda for P&F Committee meetings for the next meeting once they had been viewed by the Chairman and/or the Chief Executive.

EO

Marriage Law

Members noted that the proposals had been circulated by encrypted email and further agreed to provide a decision on the Marriage Law proposals by email circulation.

EO

69/2020 Agenda Resolutions – Confirmation

The above draft resolutions were confirmed by members at the meeting.

70/2020 For Information & Noting

The following reports/letters were noted:-

- Resolutions of Previous Meeting – circulated via email
- EDR Summary as at 31st October 2020
- Management Accounts as at 31st October 2020

Meeting closed: 12.25pm

Signed: James Dent

Date: 19th November 2020