

**General Services Committee Meeting
Tuesday 16th February 2021
Via Teams
0930 hours**

**Mr B Kelly, Chairman
Ms A Burgess
Mr G McKinley
Mr S Roberts**

**Mr R Nash, Deputy Chief Executive
Mrs S Pengilley-Price, Executive Officer
Mrs L Baines, Minute Secretary
Ms S Ireland, Programme Manager
Mrs E O'Toole, Finance Manager**

Apologies: Mr R Jenkins; Mr J Taylor, Harbour Master

In Attendance: Mrs K Hatcher-Gaudion, Capital Projects Co-ordinator (CPC); & Mr R Phelan, Estates, Environment & Infrastructure Manager (EIM) for item 03/2021; Visit Alderney for item 05/2021

01/2021 Minutes from previous meeting for approval – Draft minutes from January GSC meeting tabled and **approved**.

CE OFFICE

02/2021 Matters Arising

2.1 Alderney Bird Observatory Report

The Committee noted a verbal update from the Deputy Chief Executive that this item is to be discussed at an adjourned GSC meeting on Tuesday 23rd February at 3pm.

ADJOURNED GSC

2.2 States Properties – Whitegates/ Old Connaught/ Old Fire Station Update Report – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 8th February 2021 tabled and considered.

It was advised that all these properties fall under the Asset Register work (Forts, Land, Bunkers, and Property) which is ongoing, and has been pushed back to the March GSC meeting for the first & initial review. It was noted that the Asset Register would include properties leased by the States of Alderney. This has been impacted by COVID-19 delays and current Court workload.

The General Services Committee resolved to note the update.

2.3 Mannez Crane Update Report – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 8th February 2021 tabled and considered.

It was noted that the Mannez Crane belongs to the States of Guernsey, and is part of the States of Guernsey Project Services update booked for March's GSC meeting. In the meantime the site will be roped off again once lockdown restrictions are lifted for health & safety.

The General Services Committee resolved to note the update.

Haulage Issues – Ms Burgess still to meet with the Harbour Master. Noted.

Crusher Site Lease Extension – report from Strategic Financial Adviser to be placed before the Committee at the next meeting for consideration. Noted.

Petanque/Boules Pitch – still awaiting full details from the Rotary Club regarding plans. Noted.

Taxi – It was noted that Island Taxis have not given up their licence, and continues to provide a service. Noted.

03/2021 Departmental Reports

3.1 Capital Projects Status Report – Report dated February 2021 tabled and noted.

Connaught Extension – Phase 3 PQQ's sent out to interested parties. Phase 2 safety works have been carried out at beginning of lockdown.

Harbour Pontoon – The Chairman requested for the proposed plans from the RNLI be circulated to Committee members for information.

Water Board Filtration Plant – It was noted that we have £30k of critical spares stock. The compressor has arrived and is being fitted. An audit is to be done on the plant by Memcore as soon as restrictions allow. Last audit was completed in 2019. EEIM met with Guernsey Water last week, who are happy to help where they can.

Further update deferred to April meeting re Memcore visit and Guernsey Water visit. Noted.

SWD Staff Appointments – It was noted that the staff appointments have been postponed due to the current lockdown and training restrictions. All staff are aware, and will become fully employed as soon as restrictions allow.

Coastal Defences – Geomarine – It was noted that the difference in costs are dependent on materials used – rock armour/ reconstruct wall. The Committee were advised that currently there is £50k in the budget for minor repairs. Liaison with local contractors is also ongoing.

The General Services Committee resolved to note the February Project Status Report.

In the absence of the Harbour Master, the following items are to be discussed at the adjourned GSC meeting on Tuesday 24th February at 3pm.

04/2020 Harbour & Fisheries

4.1 Current Harbour Crane Options Paper

4.2 Crane Shed Report – Options for consideration

4.3 Sand Grabbing Report – Options for consideration

4.4 Alderney Shipping

ADJOURNED GSC

4.5 Marina Update

The Committee noted a verbal update from Deputy Chief Executive.

It was advised that the last meeting with the developers was held in January. A position paper is currently being worked on to provide the Committee with a full up to date position, the next steps, and developer's views. It was also made aware that this project would also link to the Bailiwick recovery and Harbour plan.

Mr McKinley requested to continue being the political liaison on this project, but GSC would be asking that any reports would come through to P&F via the Economic Development Committee. Noted.

05/2020 Recreation, Welfare and Environment (including States Land & Properties)

5.1 Heritage & Tourism

The Committee noted that this is linked to the Asset Register work, where currently a database is being completed. It was noted that discussions are to be had with Visit Alderney and the Alderney Society once the database is finalised. Noted.

5.2 HSBC Easter Egg Hunt – permission to use Memorial Gardens for event – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 18th January 2021 tabled and considered.

HSBC are looking to put on an event for the children of Alderney. The Committee approved for HSBC to use the Memorial Gardens to hold The Great HSBC Easter Egg Hunt in 2019 and 2020 (2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19).

The General Services Committee resolved to approve as landlords, permission for HSBC to hold an Easter Egg Hunt in the Memorial Gardens on the morning of Saturday 27th March 2021.

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5.3 Land Purchase Request at Longis for reconsideration – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 25th January 2021 tabled and considered.

The General Services Committee considered this same request at their meeting on 19th May 2020. They resolved the following:

16/2020 Recreation, Welfare and Environment 16.1 Land Purchase Request – Letter from H McGregor tabled and considered. The General Services Committee noted that this area was included in the designated area according to the Land Use Plan and resolved not to support the sale of the area of States land identified in the attached plan as it would set precedent.

The Committee members noted that this natural feature has its own wildlife value which comes and goes during the seasons.

The General Services Committee resolved to note the previous decision made by GSC last year, and refuse the request on the same grounds (Mr McKinley for the sale of land).

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5.4 Request for authorisation of Seabird Monitoring cameras on Burhou – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 9th February 2021 tabled and considered.

5.5 Draft AWT Ramsar Review 2020 – for information and consideration at March meeting - Draft Ramsar Review 2020 tabled and noted.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the Ramsar Officer for the draft report.

The General Services Committee resolved to approve:

- The draft Alderney's West Coast and Burhou Island Ramsar Site and Other Sites Annual Ramsar Review 2020; and
- The continuation of the works outlined in section 4.1.1 of the review, namely to 'install and maintain seabird monitoring cameras and equipment on Burhou,' so that works can continue pending formal consideration of the 2021 Action Plan at the March GSC meeting; and
- For a presentation of the proposed Ramsar Action Plan 2021 by the AWT to be scheduled for the March GSC meeting.

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5.6 Nunnery Sun Room Condition Report – Report from Estates, Environment & Infrastructure Manager dated 9th February 2021 tabled and considered.

The ‘Sun Room’, which is located within the grounds of the Nunnery Heritage Site is in a dilapidated and dangerous condition and a decision on its future needs to be determined.

The Committee recognised that this is used by the ABO as their ringing room, and that an alternative location could be looked into. Mr Roberts and Mr McKinley expressed reservations regarding the demolition of the sun room, and that this would impact the ABO with their ringing activities.

Other members expressed concerns that the room was now too dangerous for use, and that it is also detrimental to the heritage aspect of the Nunnery site. It was also noted that the potential cost of repair is too high.

The General Services Committee resolved to approve (Mr Roberts and Mr McKinley against – Chairman used his casting vote) for the EEIM to make an application to the Building & Development Control Committee for the removal of the building.

EEIM

06/2021 Roads and Transport

6.1 Guernsey Kart & Motor Club – Hill Climb Dates 2021 – Process confirmation & approval – Report from Chief Executive Office dated 18th January 2021 tabled and considered.

The GKMC is proposing to organise its annual sprint and hill climbs during September and will be looking to hold the events on the following dates:-

16 September – Fort Corblets Sprint

17 September – Grand Val Speed Event

18 September – Fort Tourgis Hill Climb

This approval process is managed at an operational level, where the relevant legislation is placed on the Billet for full States approval. The dates are tabled at the relevant GSC meeting for noting, before being placed on the Billet.

The General Services Committee resolved to approve the current process of confirmation and approval for the annual event.

CE OFFICE/BILLET ITEM

07/2021 For Information & Noting

Nothing to report.

08/2021 Any Other Business

Whitegates – As previously reported, it was advised that Whitegates is included within the Asset Register work that is currently underway for all States of Alderney properties, forts, land, and bunkers. Report for Whitegates to include current valuation of land, cost of demolition, and cost of renovation for Committee consideration at a future meeting.

PROGRAMME MANAGER/EEIM

Working with States of Guernsey re GSC matters – The Chairman advised that a meeting was held yesterday with himself, Ms Burgess, and Adrian Lewis to discuss any GSC matters that the States of Guernsey could assist with. Areas discussed were parking and enforcement; roads – scope of using expertise from Guernsey engineers; SWD – assistance re central system for plant/parts and combining resources; and closer working with Guernsey Harbour. Noted.

Fort Grosnez – As previously reported, it was advised that a detailed update on Fort Grosnez is to be provided at the March GSC with the attendance of Guernsey Property Services. Noted.

Old Connaught Site Visit – To be arranged once lockdown restrictions are lifted. Noted.

Insurance Claim – the Committee were advised that an insurance claim was being investigated by the States of Alderney Insurers after seeking advice from the Law Officers. Noted.

Meeting Closed: 11.34am - adjourned to 3pm 23rd February 2021

Signed: Boyd Kelly

Date: February 2021