FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNE FRENCH ROOM 12th July 2021 14:30

Mr C Harris, Chairman

Mrs E A Maurice, Head of Finance/ Treasurer (HOF)

Mrs E O'Toole, Finance Manager/Minutes (FM/Treasury)

Mr B Abel

Mr I Carter Mr K Gentle

Apologies: Ms A Burgess

In attendance: Ms K Jones, Chief Executive (CE) via MS Teams until 15:45; Mr S Taylor,

Strategic Financial Advisor (SFA) via MS Teams; Mr B Kelly, Chairman

General Services Committee for item 32.2 & 32.3

Mrs L Elward, Commonwealth Mint & Mrs S Cronin, Commonwealth Mint for

item 33.1

29/2021 Matters Arising

29.1 Minutes & Confidential annexure from 11th May 2021 and minutes of the special meeting held on the 26th May 2021 tabled and confirmed.

30/2021 Revenue Account

30.1 Budget Strategy – see confidential annexure.

31/2021 Delegated Items – Coins

31.1 Coin Contract - Performance & Lessons Learned - see confidential annexure.

30/2021 Revenue Account (continued)

30.2 Major Income Monitoring Report tabled and noted that Property Transfer Duty & Document Duty have already exceeded budget therefore the projected year-end surplus is currently more favourable which will potentially allow additional allocation to reserves. **Noted**

32/2021 Capital Account

32.1 AGCC Future Allocation of Profits – Confidential – see confidential annexure.

1600 – Mr Kelly, General Services Committee Chairman, joined the meeting

32.2 <u>Harbour Crane update</u> Mr Kelly gave a brief report on the current situation following the breakdown of the new crane.

Mr Kelly advised that he met with Treasurer, Head of Government Support, as the Chief Executive was attending a meeting off island, and the Harbour Master this morning. It was noted at present the hired crane will remain on island until the 15th July thus allowing normal discharges for the week. **Noted**

Mr Kelly advised that the options to deal with the immediate issue were as follows:-

Option 1 – Seek to retain the existing hired crane. Noted that it is due to return
to the hirers in Jersey as they have other work waiting for it. Current cost is £10k
to mobilise and demobilise and a hire charge of £2k per day.

- Option 2 Do nothing as the engineers are arriving on the 14th July and will be able to undertake further temporary repairs.
- Option 3 Return the current hired crane to Jersey and hire another from the UK, which the Harbour staff could source and arrange. Two quotes have been obtained ranging from £9,8k per week to £14k per week, the latter one costing £20k each mobilisation and demobilisation. Due to the first being sited in a different location it is hoped the mobilisation etc. costs will be more affordable.
- Option 4 Don't hire another crane and hope the engineers can repair the crane, but cancel next week's boat deliveries to prevent the possibility of further food wastage etc.

The Committee agreed to recommend to Policy & Finance Committee to meet at their earliest opportunity to decide in principle on which option to use and for the Chief Executive to action.

DEFERRED/PFC

32.3 Connaught Extension Phase 3 Brief report from Mr Gentle circulated at the meeting and discussed. It was noted that the tenders received are currently being evaluated and a paper will be put forward to Policy and Finance Committee to consider. **Noted**

1630 – Mr Kelly left the meeting

33/2021 Delegated Items – Grants

33.1 <u>Grant Request – Alderney Mind</u> Report from Treasury, grant application and supporting documentation tabled and considered. The Chairman and Mr Gentle declared an interest as mental health volunteers.

It was agreed that this item should be considered by email as the Committee was not currently quorate given the Chairman and Mr Gentle declaring an interest and Ms Burgess absent.

DEFERRED/EMAIL CONSIDERATION

33.2 <u>Grant Request – Alderney Dig</u> Report from Treasury, grant application and supporting documentation tabled and considered.

The Committee resolved to:-

- a) Agree in principle to a grant of £2,000 for Dig Alderney in 2021; and
- b) To defer any payment subject to receipt and satisfactory analysis of estimated costs and income from Dig Alderney for 2021 and 2022.

TREASURY

33.3 Summary of Grants 2021 to date tabled and noted.

31/2021 <u>Delegated Items – Coins (continued)</u>

- **31.2 Updated Coin Specification list** tabled for information and **noted**.
- **31.3** Confidential schedule of proposed coin releases for 2021 tabled for information and noted.
- **31.4** Coin Issue for approval see confidential annexure.
- **31.5** <u>Coin Communications</u> see confidential annexure.

34/2021 Delegated Items – Stamps

34.1 Stamp Issue for noting – see confidential annexure.

34.2 Stamp Issues for 2022/23 The Committee were advised that Guernsey Post is drafting the stamp calendar for 2022 and 2023. The Head of Philatelic have requested any topics Alderney wish put forward for consideration to be advised as soon as possible. **Noted**

The President's office and Tourism department will also be consulted for any topics and notable anniversaries that can be put forward for consideration.

TREASURY

35/2021 Leases & Contracts

35.1 <u>Alderney Broadcasting Company Ltd – Lease of unit at Fort Albert – for ratification</u> This matter was considered by email on the 30th June.

The Committee agreed to ratify the decision reached by email to approve by majority (Mr Harris abstained) for a peppercorn rent of £100 pa for the lease of a unit at Fort Albert by ABC Ltd (Quay FM).

CE OFFICE

35.2 <u>Alderney Cricket Club</u> Report from Chief Executives office tabled and discussed. The HOF advised that there was still 10 years left on the lease therefore it was agreed for the item to be withdrawn. CE office to be advised.

WITHDRAWN/ TREASURY/ CE OFFICE

35.3 <u>Alderney Gravel Co Ltd – Lease of Gravel Works</u> Report from Chief Executives office tabled and considered.

The Committee agreed:-

- a) The new 1 year licence to be increased by RPIX for royalty charge rate, by March 2021 index; and
- b) Rent to be increased by March 2021 RPIX with similar terms and conditions as the existing licence, wef 1st July 2021.

TREASURY/ CE OFFICE

35.4 <u>Corblets Quarry Fishing Platforms</u> Report from Chief Executives office tabled and considered.

The Committee agreed the rent for the land and fishing platforms at Corblets Quarry to remain at its current level of £30 per year.

TREASURY/ CE OFFICE

35.5 <u>Trinity Store</u> Report from Chief Executives office tabled and considered. The HOF advised that unfortunately the figures quoted on the paper tabled were not accurate and it was noted that the Harbour Master had not yet carried out a rental review as was suggested would be done last year. **Noted**

The Committee agreed for the rent to be increased by March 2021 RPIX.

TREASURY/ CE OFFICE

35.6 <u>States owned land – Increase rental rates</u> Report from Chief Executives office tabled and considered.

It was noted that rental rates for arable land owned by the States has not been increased since 2008.

The Committee agreed that the CE office should review and make appropriate increases to the rate per perch and vergee for arable land due to the growth and cultivation of cannabis increasing the rental demand for States owned land.

TREASURY/ CE OFFICE

The Committee agreed that a States Leases Policy should be drafted for consideration to ensure that all Committees are making recommendations along the same lines, which

may well be that suitable commercial rents are charged and with those affected being able to apply for a States grant annually if needed. It was also suggested that within the lease policy, certain suitable leases subject to annual/RPIX increases should be deferred to the Treasurer's office to process and apply as necessary without recourse to the Finance committee.

LEASE POLICY/ TREASURY

35.7 <u>School Bus Contract</u> – see confidential annexure.

36/2021 AOB – none.

37/2021 For information & noting

• Price Paid Data Q2 2021

Meeting closed: 17:30pm

Signed: Mr C Harris, Chairman Date: 13th September 2021