



OFFICIAL REPORT

OF THE

STATES OF THE

ISLAND OF ALDERNEY

HANSARD

The Court House, Alderney, Wednesday, 17th April 2019

*All published Official Reports can be found on the
official States of Alderney website www.alderney.gov.gg*

Volume 7, No. 3

Present:

Mr Stuart Trought, President

Members

Ms Annie Burgess
Mr Mike Dean
Mr James Dent
Mr David Earl
Mr Kevin Gentle
Mr Christian Harris
Mr Louis Jean
Mr Graham McKinley
Mr Steve Roberts
Mr Alexander Snowdon

The Greffier of the Court

Mr Jonathan Anderson

Business transacted

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States of Alderney

*The States met at 5.30 p.m. in the presence of
His Excellency Vice Admiral Sir Ian Corder KBE, CB,
Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Bailiwick of Guernsey*

[THE PRESIDENT *in the Chair*]

PRAYERS

The Greffier

The Greffier: Good evening, Mr President. If you are ready I will take the Roll Call.

5 **The President:** Yes, and if we make a slight pause after the Roll, I have an announcement to make.

ROLL CALL

The Greffier

The Greffier: All 10 States Members are present this evening.

Welcome to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Ian and Lady Corder

The President: Thank you very much, and I would like to use this occasion to welcome His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Ian and Lady Corder to the meeting this evening. You are very welcome here, we are glad to have you here.

Convener's Report of the People's Meeting held on 10th April 2019

10 **The President:** So if we could move on from there, could we have the Convener's Report please?
Mr Gentle.

15 **Mr Gentle:** Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow colleagues, there were four members of the public in attendance at the public meeting; six members of the Press; six States Members plus myself; with the President, the CEO and the Acting Head of Finance present.

Mr McKinley and Mr Earl sent me apologies. Mr Roberts had also apologised but they were not minuted; they arrived later.

20 **The President:** Thank you very much indeed.

Billet d'État for Wednesday, 17th April 2019

I. The European Communities (Food and Feed Controls) (Alderney) Ordinance, 2019 – Item approved unanimously

Item I

The States of Alderney is asked to approve 'The European Communities (Food and Feed Controls) (Alderney) Ordinance, 2019'.

The President: Now, we move on to Item I, please, Monsieur Greffier.

The Greffier: Thank you, sir.

Item I this evening is the European Communities (Food and Feed Controls) (Alderney) Ordinance, 2019.

A letter has been received from Mr Dent as Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee and the States of Alderney are asked to approve 'The European Communities (Food and Feed Controls) (Alderney) Ordinance, 2019'.

The President: Thank you very much.

Mr Gentle, as Convener, were there any comments on this Item, please?

Mr Gentle: Yes, sir.

When the Billet Item was announced, two people at the same time asked the question, 'what's it all about?' Mr Dent, as the proposer was asked to answer, and he basically clarified the meaning of the Billet Item, and the CEO further advised the same, saying it is a tidying-up exercise.

Thank you.

The President: Thank you very much.

Do you have a copy of the Convener's Report?

Mr Gentle: Yes, sir. On my phone.

The President: Okay. I think what you said covers it adequately. Thank you very much.

Mr Dent, I believe you wish to propose this?

Mr Dent: Your Excellency, Mr President, colleagues, this Ordinance repeals the European Communities (Food and Feed Controls) (Alderney) Ordinance 2017, which with the UK's withdrawal from the EU and our discontinued association with the EU would cease to have relevance.

Most importantly, come Brexit, this new Ordinance will allow Alderney to continue to export agricultural produce to the UK and elsewhere. So to those of you who have said that Alderney does not need these controls, I say sadly it does.

The replacement Ordinance by firstly aligning our enforcement powers and procedures in food safety legislation with those in England and then providing certain regulatory powers to the States of Guernsey Committee *for* Health & Social Care can usefully serve both any continued association with the EU and our more likely disassociation with that body.

60 The Ordinance, amongst other things, updates necessary references to EU regulations, aligns our food temperature controls with controls in force in England and provides that ‘approved examiners’ and ‘designated laboratories’ be those examiners and laboratories qualified or appointed under food safety legislation in England.

Thank you.

65 **The President:** Thank you very much.
Mr Earl, I believe you wish to second this?

Mr Earl: Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members, I have nothing further to add Mr Dent’s explanation.

70 **The President:** Except you wish to second it.

Mr Earl: I would very much like to second it.

75 **The President:** Thank you very much.
Does any other Member wish to speak on Item I? Mr McKinley.

Mr McKinley: Thank you, Mr President.

80 Just to say, and it is related, that as a matter of interest, the farm shop is opening a milk supply tomorrow which is going to be ... since three of these options here are to do with milk – they will be providing milk through bottles and a big tank, rather than through plastic, and we will be the first people in the Bailiwick to do so. Jersey beat us by two days.

The President: Thank you, Mr McKinley.

85 Does any other Member wish to speak on Item I? No other Member wishes to speak on Item I. Seeing as we have had –
I take it you are in approval, Mr McKinley?

Mr McKinley: Oh, yes, sir.

90 **The President:** You are in approval; you wish to approve this?

Mr McKinley: Yes, of course.

95 **The President:** Okay, that is fine. In that case, we do not need to have a vote. That is passed.
Thank you very much indeed.

We now move on to Questions and Reports. We have four questions and reports.

100 **Mr Dean:** Just a point of clarification. When you opened the Meeting, after the Roll Call, you were going to announce something, but you didn’t?

The President: I did. I welcomed His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

Mr Dean: Ah, sorry, I thought you were going to say something else. Apologies.

105 **The President:** Accepted.

**II. Questions and Reports –
Four questions for verbal reply**

Item II.

The following questions had been received:

1. Question from Mr Dent for the two Alderney Representatives in the States of Guernsey, Mr Steve Roberts and Mr Alex Snowdon:-

‘Can you briefly summarise the matters of important to Alderney that were debated during the March Guernsey States of Deliberation meeting and any subsequent dealings with Guernsey politicians or officers?’

I would be particularly grateful if you would outline the outcome to the debate on the rights of children born in Alderney and Sark or brought to these islands as minors.’

2. Question from Mr Dent for the Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee, Mr David Earl:

‘Would the Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee comment on the recent article in the Alderney Press concerning the alleged reductions in the grant awarded to the Baby and Toddlers Group.’

3. Question from Mr Gentle for the Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee, Mr James Dent:

‘It is now a year since the States debated and unanimously requested that the Law Officers progressed with the drafting of bespoke Partnership Law for Alderney. Can the Chairman of Policy and Finance Committee indicate any progress to date and any possible reasons as to why this may be stuck in limbo?’

4. Questions from Mr Jean for the Chairman of the General Services Committee, Mr Graham McKinley

‘Would the Chairman agree with me that the coastal erosion under the Victorian wall at the Arsenal is in urgent need of repair?’

Would the Chairman agree with me that if repairs do not take place this summer, next year will be too late?’

Would the Chairman agree with me that the recent decision taken regarding the Nunnery by the GSC should be declared null and void in the grounds that the rest of the States Members should be involved?’

Would the Chairman agree with me that the whole States was involved at Policy and Finance level when the original terms for the Nunnery were agreed?’

Would the Chairman agree with me that the Nunnery is of such importance to Alderney, as our roman fort, that the whole States and public are entitled to full involvement, and to give their opinions at all the new changes to the proposals for the Nunnery? Especially as those previous arrangements in which all States members were involved, as this was at the time dealt with by Policy and Finance Committee?’

The President: We move on to Questions and Reports, of which we have several.

Mr Gentle, as Convener, were there any comments on the Questions and Reports?

110

Mr Gentle: It was noted that there was a question for the Chairman of P&F regarding Partnership Law.

The President: Thank you very much indeed, Mr Gentle.

Alderney matters raised in Guernsey States of Deliberation

115 **The President:** Mr Dent, you have a question for the Alderney Reps. Would you please stand and proceed with your question.

Mr Dent: Thank you, Mr President.

120 Could our two Alderney Representatives briefly summarise the matters of importance to Alderney that were debated during the March States of Guernsey meeting and any subsequent dealings with Guernsey politicians or officers?

I would be particularly grateful if they would outline the outcome to the debate on the rights of children born in Alderney and Sark or brought to these Islands as minors.

Thank you.

125 **The President:** Mr Roberts or Mr Snowden? You defer to Mr Roberts?
Mr Roberts, would you care to respond?

Mr Roberts: Thank you, sir.

I will briefly give you an update on the whole meeting, is that okay?

130

The President: If you could confine your response to the question you were asked.

Mr Roberts: Fine, I will just skip the rest then.

135 We then came to the treatment of persons born or first resident as minors in Alderney or Sark under the Population Law. An amendment from Deputy Tindall, seconded by my colleague Mr Snowden, resulted in another amendment from Mrs Mary Lowe, which was more acceptable to the rest of the House.

I believed that amendment was about to fail. However, it was useful to the fact that Mrs Lowe came back with an improved avenue.

140 Our amendment was then withdrawn, resulting in a very successful outcome. Deputy Roffey and Deputy Ferbrache were particularly supportive and the lower age of 29 was thrown out, I think, by a two-vote margin.

145 I thanked Deputy Lowe for bringing this forward and pointed out that local children, after being educated in the Bailiwick, are the lifeblood of our communities. A young person from Sark or Alderney who starts their working life within the Bailiwick was more likely to make a substantial contribution to the economy and to the tax revenues of the Bailiwick, and we did not want to lose them to the UK.

150 I pointed out also that our dependency ratio here was 0.55%, as our population ages, pointing to the need to address the age imbalance. It was a very important victory for Alderney and we were delighted.

Sorry, I missed a paragraph there ...

When in place, our children will now have a brighter future.

I then read out a statement from Conseiller Sam La Trobe from Sark, on their view for Sark children. I believe we are more of a community for these changes.

155 But I have to pay respects for the Reps over the last 20 years who have been fighting for Guernsey rights for Alderney children and over the years have laid the ground – not forgetting Mr Jean and Mr McKinley.

I see nothing in this volume in the Guernsey Billet for 24th April – in answer to your second question, Mr Dent – although things can materialise.

160 But you know, it was nice to have played in the final, and it was nice to have won.
Thank you.

The President: Thank you very much, Mr Roberts.
Mr Snowdon, do you have anything you wish to add to that?

165 **Mr Snowdon:** Thank you, President.
Your Excellency, President, fellow colleagues. Thank you, Mr Roberts, that was a very good update.

170 Just a few little bits to update. We had a Bailiwick Council meeting this morning, and we did raise when actually it was going to be implemented with Home Affairs. They indicated that hopefully that policy will be in force in the next few months, so we will make sure that we are quite held fast on that one and hopefully it will be implemented.

I also went to an equality workshop with other Deputies in Guernsey and I reported to P&F yesterday, so hopefully that will be coming up to us, both human rights, workwise etc.

175 A fiscal union workshop, we did go to. That is a policy thing and I think I did say yesterday that I will try and update P&F, with Gavin's approval, on that situation.

180 And just a brief update on the 1948 Agreement: I think we are still looking for an independent chair going forward with that and hopefully we will be talking to Policy & Resources in the near future about how we move forward on that. Going back to what we achieved with help from the previous Reps down there, I think it was a fantastic result from that March meeting.

Thank you.

The President: Thank you very much, Mr Snowdon.

185 Does any Member have any secondary questions for either Mr Roberts or Mr Snowdon with regard to the responses they have just given? No?

Grant awarded to Baby and Toddlers Group

The President: Right, we move on to the second question, which is a question from Mr Dent for the Chair of the Finance Committee, Mr Earl.

Mr Dent, if you care to rise and ask your question.

190 **Mr Dent:** I am not sure I have the text with me – thank you very much.

Would the Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee comment on the recent article in the *Alderney Press* concerning alleged reductions in the grant awarded to the Baby and Toddlers Group?

195 **The President:** Thank you very much, Mr Dent.
Mr Earl.

200 **Mr Earl:** Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members, the recent *Alderney Press* article to which Mr Dent refers stated and I quote:

Probably the most important plea for help came from the Baby and Toddlers Group organisers that meet at the Bute Centre taken over by the States who have just doubled their weekly rent.

As this is a matter for General Services and not the Finance Committee, I suggest this statement is referred to Mr McKinley for comment.

205 However, the *Alderney Press* article goes on to suggest that the annual grant to the Baby and Toddlers Group has been cut from £4,000 to £1,000. This statement is misleading, although I believe it was reported in good faith by the *Alderney Press*.

210 Having checked with Treasury, the Baby and Toddlers Group have received varying annual grants based on their current requirements, their previous year's accounts and alongside grants to other under-fives service providers. However, the Baby and Toddlers Group or its predecessors has never received an annual grant from the States of Alderney as high as £4,000.

210 For the information of States Members, the Baby and Toddlers Group grant application for 2019 has yet to be agreed. It will be discussed sympathetically by the Finance Committee at its next meeting.

The President: Thank you, Mr Earl.

215 Does any Member have any secondary questions for Mr Earl in response to the answer he has just given? Mr McKinley.

Mr McKinley: Thank you, Mr President.

220 I was not aware of this coming up or of my being mentioned in it, but I could just say that I have been in discussion with the Baby and Toddlers Group and also with those who use the Island Hall in the mornings. There are concerns about the size of the Island Hall at the moment and whether it will be able to fit in the number of children expected in the next term.

225 There are also concerns about the suitability of the Butes Centre at the moment, which others know is in a bad state. We are looking at that and the General Services Committee will be discussing both options at their next meeting.

The President: Thank you very much, Mr McKinley.

I will remind you that you are supposed to be asking secondary questions, although your response was very interesting.

230 Thank you.

Mr McKinley: Thank you, sir.

The President: Mr Snowdon.

235

Mr Snowdon: Just one question to the Chairman of the Finance Committee: I may have misunderstood but when we had our MIND meeting, did they say the Baby and Toddler Group were going to use the new MIND building; or did I not hear that? I was not quite sure. So that would get round your problem with double rent.

240

Mr Earl: Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members, I did not hear that comment so I cannot answer that question, I am afraid.

The President: That is absolutely fine, thank you.

245

Does any other Member have any questions for Mr Earl, as a result of the responses he gave to his previous question? No? Thank you very much indeed.

Partnership Law for Alderney

The President: We move on to the next question, which is a question from Mr Gentle for the Chair of P&F, Mr Dent. Mr Gentle, if you would care to rise and ask your question.

250 **Mr Gentle:** Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow colleagues, a question to the Chairman of Policy and Finance: it is now a year since the States debated and unanimously requested that the Law Officers progress with the drafting of bespoke Partnership Law for Alderney. Can the Chairman of Policy and Finance indicate any progress to date and any possible reasons as to why this may be stuck in limbo?’

Thank you.

255

The President: Thank you, Mr Gentle.
Mr Dent, would you care to rise and respond?

260 **Mr Dent:** Your Excellency, Mr President and Mr Gentle, may I thank you for providing me with the opportunity to update everyone on this, in my view, very important issue.

If I may, I will begin by providing a little history and I apologise to those of my colleagues who may have heard this before, but it is important background.

265 Firstly you need to know that for some three years, the States of Alderney have been actively promoting the introduction of partnership legislation. There was never a great cry for it from longstanding Alderney businesses, but it was seen as an economic enabler that would attract new businesses and residents. Indeed, one group operating a number of UK partnerships indicated that they would relocate to the Island when appropriate legislation was in place.

270 Adopting Guernsey partnership legislation would of course have been the simplest course to follow. However, the Guernsey legislation was deemed by many to be overly complex and, as you all may or may not know, Guernsey has two separate laws – one governing general partnerships and one governing limited partnerships.

275 A key feature of the proposed Alderney Partnership Law is in fact to be the concept of the administrative partner – an idea now being introduced in other jurisdictions but currently not available in Guernsey. In our case, the administrative partner would have had limited liability but would be required to reside in Alderney. The active other fully liable partners would be able to operate in other jurisdictions.

280 And now something important for those of you following the recent debates on beneficial ownership. The proposed Alderney Partnership Law will require that all partners are properly identified and their full details registered with the relevant authorities here in Alderney – a safeguard incidentally not provided for in UK, Scottish or Northern Ireland legislation.

285 Mr President, colleagues, it was for these reasons that two years ago we concluded that the Guernsey Laws were not a useful foundation for our own bespoke modern legislation – legislation that would complement what was on offer in Guernsey. And colleagues, I think you all know that I believe that Alderney does best when it can offer a product that is a little different from that being offered in Guernsey.

290 Mr President, colleagues, you need also to know that a lot of background work took place to explore the ups and downs of this initiative. One of our first steps was a roundtable discussion in Guernsey attended by ourselves, representatives of the groups who had indicated a desire to relocate here when legislation was in place, representatives from the Law Officers and representatives from Guernsey financial services. The intention was to obtain clarity on any perceived reputational risks. Usefully, none were identified.

Consequently, about 18 months ago, we understood that the Law Officers were happy to prepare a draft legal text. The Law Officers were, however, keen that the legal text should conform to normal Bailiwick legal architecture and we were of course happy to agree to this.

295 Mr Gentle and my other colleagues, as you just noted, it was in April last year that the States formally requested the Law Officers to draft the necessary legislation. Following this and at the Law Officers’ request, further consultation with businesses and other stakeholders in Alderney was carried out. This consultation revealed no new obstacles and we reported back to the Law Officers, making it clear that we wished for no further delays in the process.

300 As there were to be a number of differences with the Guernsey Law, the Law Officers suggested that it would be prudent to consult the Ministry of Justice before and not after detailed drafting. Brexit was looming and was beginning to dominate their work schedule and they felt this approach would allow a better use of their time and resources. It was noted also that this should make the final stages leading to Royal Assent easier.

305 This referral to the Minister of Justice was made in the last quarter of 2018. Unfortunately, in recent months, dealing with Brexit has eaten up most government legal resources, not only in Guernsey but also in London. There has been little time left for other matters.

310 However, the good news now is that feedback from the Ministry of Justice is expected shortly, and if there are no material issues raised, then the draft legislation can at last be prepared.

Now, before I finish, I want to say two more things. This story about our draft partnership legislation is symptomatic of many other things – things that are not happening. We and others are flatlining simply because of Brexit and the resources that it is absorbing. Civil Service and other resources that should be going into plans that will make our future better are being eaten up by the Brexit beast.

315 And finally, back to partnerships. There are some very large partnerships around the world and Alderney has, and I hope still has, the opportunity to become their spiritual home. We must not let this opportunity slip us by. We often hear that Alderney is not helping itself but here is one example of Alderney *trying* to help itself and being frustrated by events – events sadly outside our control.

Thank you.

The President: Thank you, Mr Dent.

325 Does any Member have any questions for Mr Dent as a result of the response he has just given? Mr Snowdon.

Mr Snowdon: Thank you, President, Your Excellency.

330 Could you just clarify, one company is looking to come over at the moment, is it, when this is implemented? Did you say in your initial start of your speech that one company is looking to take this opportunity up in Alderney. I mean, hopefully more are as well!

Thank you.

The President: Mr Dent.

335 **Mr Dent:** One *group* is. I think it is improper to refer to them as a company because this is the whole point of partnership law.

Thank you.

The President: Thank you very much.

340 Does any other Member have a question for Mr Dent as a result of his responses? No?

Victorian wall at the Arsenal and the Nunnery

The President: In that case we will move on. Mr Jean, I believe you have a question for the Chair of General Services Committee. Would you care to rise and ask your question of Mr McKinley?

345 **Mr Jean:** Thank you, sir, Your Excellency.

Would the Chairman agree with me that the coastal erosion under the Victorian wall at the Arsenal is in urgent need of repair?

Would you like me to stop at the end of each?

350 **The President:** No, I am sure Mr McKinley is ... If you ask them all, he can respond to them all at the same time.

Mr Jean: Would the Chairman agree with me that if repairs do not take place this summer, next year may be too late?

355 I will stop there, because the other questions are on the Nunnery.

The President: You do not want to be bobbing up and down all the time. If you would care to ask him all your questions, he is in receipt of them; I am sure he can answer them all.

360 **Mr Jean:** Okay, fine.

Would the Chairman agree with me that the recent decision taken regarding the Nunnery by the General Services Committee should be declared null and void on the grounds that the rest of the States Members should be involved?

365 Would the Chairman agree with me that the whole States was involved at P&F level when the original terms for the Nunnery were agreed?

Would the Chairman agree with me that the Nunnery is of such importance to Alderney, as our Roman fort, that the whole States and public are entitled to full involvement, and to give their opinions at all the new changes to the proposals for the Nunnery – especially as those previous arrangements in which all States Members were involved, as this was at the time dealt with by Policy and Finance Committee?

370

The President: Thank you very much, Mr Jean.

Mr McKinley, would you care to rise and answer those questions in the order in which they were posed to you?

375

Mr McKinley: Indeed, sir, Your Excellency, Mr President, Members of the Assembly.

Yes, I agree that the coastal erosion under the Victorian wall at the Arsenal is in urgent need of repair. I also agree that the repairs do not take place this summer, there may be more damage. I am not going to say that it will be too late, but I would say that it is not the States' business because it is privately owned. It is owned, as you know, not by the States; by a family.

380

Like other areas in the Island, such as the road from Fort Tourgis to Fort Clonque and one or two others, where there are worries about the collapse of the wall there, the collapse of the road, we the States can do nothing about it or we set a precedent, spending our own money on private property.

385

I think that is the answer to that one.

As a matter of interest, coastal erosion actually is a major issue, I should just say, and we are looking at areas such as Corblets; we are looking Fort Clonque; and we are looking at the Tank Wall. But those are owned by the States, and those are our responsibility.

390

Regarding the Nunnery, I am sure that we all acknowledge that the Nunnery is a unique feature of Alderney. The iconic 2,000-plus-year-old building is recognised by archaeologists and historians, not just in the Channel Islands, but throughout the UK, throughout Europe and for some, across the world.

395

Just briefly, Jason Monaghan and his team of archaeologists will be visiting in August to excavate the Rue des Mielles, in front of Coastguards, where they found some Roman remains last year. They will be accompanied by a number of students from a University in England, which will be the first time, so youngsters will be coming to look at it also. You will perhaps know that

the Nunnery will be open to the public daily from this Friday, Good Friday, until the end of the summer season.

400 Perhaps I could remind you of the decision by the Policy and Finance Committee two years ago, before I take you to the present situation. In March 2017, the Policy and Finance Committee agreed to continue to support the aim of using the Nunnery as a field centre, providing hostel accommodation for the Alderney Bird Observatory and heritage groups, so that income can help maintain and improve the fabric of this most important heritage site and guarantee public access. They asked GSC to bring recommendations with regard to the proposed
405 lease and the changes to the use to the P&F meeting on 4th April 2017.

In April 2017, the Policy and Finance Committee resolved to approve the lease terms and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the agreements to the lease and refer the matter to the States for final approval.

410 In May 2017 the States approved the leasing of the building to the Alderney Wildlife Trust for an initial period of five years. Sadly, during the last few months there has been a dispute between the Alderney Wildlife Trust and the Alderney Bird Observatory. It would be inappropriate for me to go into detail – indeed, I cannot go into detail because I do not know the full detail – but some of it is relevant to the way ahead, of course.

415 The General Services Committee has held several meetings with interested parties, namely the Alderney Society, the Alderney Wildlife Trust, the Alderney Bird Observatory and the Alderney Arts Club and others who have asked us questions.

You will know that the Alderney Bird Observatory was once a subgroup of the Alderney Wildlife Trust. It is no longer. It is now a separately registered company.

420 The Alderney Wildlife Trust and the Alderney Bird Observatory have recently signed a memorandum of understanding which outlines clearly the responsibilities and rights of both parties. The Alderney Wildlife Trust have surrendered their lease on the Nunnery, which does *not* mean that their visitors can no longer stay there.

425 I should make it clear that the Nunnery belongs to the States and not to the Alderney Society or the Alderney Wildlife Trust or the Alderney Bird Observatory. But we have to decide who is responsible for opening and closing, taking bookings for accommodation, cleaning and maintenance inside and outside, and other things too.

We are hoping to find tenants for the two-storey apartments, which will bring in some revenue for the upkeep of the Nunnery, and we may lease the one-bedroom apartment to the Alderney Bird Observatory (ABO) for the Junior Bird Watcher or Bird Ringer, and he or she would
430 also be responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the inside of the area that they use.

Hostel accommodation will be available for visitors and we will be meeting with the Alderney Wildlife Trust and the ABO in the next few days. We have only recently got the full details of the MoU, but we are meeting with them to discuss how we do all the bookings and how we clean it, and who maintains and who maintains the inside and the outside etc. – so the responsibilities of
435 each party.

We shall have a press release following that, and informing the P&F Committee of the details.

I think that if we wished, we could discuss this in any P&F meeting; we could discuss it here if we put it on the Billet here, so there is nothing to stop openness and transparency. Indeed that is what we want.

440 So I hope that answers your question, clarifies the situation and if there are any further questions I would be delighted to try and answer them, sir.

The President: Thank you very much, Mr McKinley.

We have got a bit of a queue going on here. We will start with Mr Dean, please.

445

Mr Dean: Just a point of correction, sir, Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members –

450 **The President:** Before anybody goes any further – sorry to interrupt, my apologies. Before anybody goes any further, any further questions – and that is what these are: secondary questions – should be related to the response which Mr McKinley has given. This is not an opportunity to expand the conversation.

Bearing that in mind, please continue.

455 **Mr Dean:** Thank you, sir.

It was just a point of correction. Mr McKinley did state that the Clonque was owned by the States. It is not; it is owned by Landmark Trust.

460 **The President:** Thank you very much.

Mr Dent.

Mr Dent: Thank you, Mr President.

I want the Chairman of GSC to know that I very much appreciate all the hard work his Committee has done in order to resolve issues surrounding the Nunnery.

465 However, given the motion that was passed in the States in May 2017, I would like his assurance that the revised decisions will be brought before P&F and to the States as of February.

The President: Mr McKinley.

470 **Mr McKinley:** I hope I made that clear in the last couple of sentences of my briefing. But yes, indeed they will. And we all believe in openness and transparency. The more, the better.

Thank you.

Mr Dent: Thank you.

475

The President: Thank you, Mr McKinley.

Mr Snowdon.

480 **Mr Snowdon:** Thank you. Your Excellency, President, fellow colleagues, it is a bit of a sore point for me, the Nunnery, because I think we have been going on about it for so many years.

Going back to the P&F resolution, when we had our old States there, I am pretty sure that the P&F resolution ... because I always made sure that it actually went onto P&F so that only groups connected to heritage and wildlife would stay down in the Nunnery.

485 I would like some reassurance that that is still the case. I am not part of Tourism any more, but there was quite some hoo-ha recently and there has been in the past, and then when we look at the Visit Alderney brochure from 2019, it says 'Stay for £15 at the Nunnery'. It does not say that that is just for those criteria. So it needs to be a lot clearer because I think it might be a little bit more reassuring to the accommodation providers, who are really struggling in the market at the moment –

490

The President: Can you pose your questions, please.

495 **Mr Snowdon:** Okay, so my question is: can you clarify that that will be written into any agreement that you go into with either party? Those parties do a fantastic job but if you could just clarify that position.

Thank you.

Mr McKinley: I can clarify, I am not aware of this at all. I heard that ... I did not know it was in this.

500 But it is only for the parties that you mentioned: the heritage sites, the Bird Observatory, the Wildlife Trust. Indeed the Wildlife Trust have a number of the bookings already, which are going to stand, even though it will probably change now to maintenance by the Bird Observatory.

The President: Thank you, Mr McKinley.

505 Do you have some questions for Mr McKinley? (**Mr Jean:** I do.) Please go ahead.

Mr Jean: Thank you, Your Excellency, sir.

510 Would the Chairman agree with me, in the statement regarding the privacy and the fact that it is private property, should we really be waiting for that argument to take place or should something be done to the Arsenal wall? It is extremely serious, and also I would like to point out, it is part of our heritage. Would the Chairman agree with me that that is an important part of our heritage?

515 If I can, on the Nunnery, my second question would be that this would mean ... Your statement seems to include, and would the Chairman agree with me, that the States itself in full session will have a chance to give its views and make its own decisions regarding the Nunnery, rather than what we have been led to believe, which was that the decisions from GSC relating to the Nunnery were broadcast out there and approved and completed, which is one of the aims of my questions?

Thank you, sir.

520

The President: Thank you, Mr Jean.
Mr McKinley.

525 **Mr McKinley:** Regarding the article, sir, and the heritage site, I quite understand that, but if we set the precedent, looking after private property out of States money, we have an awful lot of work – *major* projects – ahead of us at the moment, some of which are in the half million, probably more ... In fact some of them are considerably more than that.

We do not have the money, frankly, to maintain what is private property. If we start doing that, we would have to maintain perhaps quite a lot of other private properties as well.

530 So it is something that we should perhaps debate within P&F, but I do not think we have got the funding.

535 Regarding the Nunnery, yes of course, but one of the problems that has happened is that because of the fall-out between the Alderney Wildlife Trust and the ABO, it has taken a very long time for us to get to the Memorandum of Understanding between the two and we are about to enter the season where people want to come here and stay in the Nunnery, the heritage site that it is. So what we hope to be able to do is to meet within the next 10 days or so. Such is the short notice of this that not even the General Service Committee members know that this is an option at the moment, because I have not told them. We only got it a day or so ago, and the emails have been breaking down, as you know.

540 So anyway, yes, we need to get things started as soon as possible for the benefit of the Island. We certainly need to ask the opinions of other States Members, but of course other States Members are entitled to attend General Service Committee meetings as well, if they so wish.

So, that is all I have to say, sir.

545

The President: Thank you, Mr McKinley.
Do you have a question?

Mr Roberts: Yes I do, for Mr McKinley.

550 Would Mr McKinley not agree that the remit of the Nunnery and other States-owned properties is by the GSC?

Mr McKinley: I am not quite sure what you mean by the remit, I am sorry.

555

Mr Roberts: The remit to look after States properties is the GSC's responsibility.

Mr McKinley: It is one of our responsibilities, yes.

Mr Roberts: Okay, you would agree with me?

560

Mr McKinley: Yes indeed.

Mr Roberts: Thank you.

565

The President: Thank you, Mr McKinley.

Does any other Member have any secondary questions? Mr Earl.

570

Mr Earl: Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members, if as the Chairman suggests the Nunnery is a building of such historic importance, could he explain why it is only going to be open to the public from 10 o'clock until 4.30 each day, especially as we are coming into the main tourist season?

575

Mr McKinley: I cannot really answer that. It has not been open for such a long time, I thought everybody would be delighted that it is opening on Friday at 10 o'clock! (**A Member:** That's true!)

It requires a States Member, possibly at the moment – we have not sorted out who will hold the key to the front door – but it requires someone to get up early in the morning, every morning, and go and open it and then go back in the evening to close it. We have not worked out who is actually going to do that at the moment. This is something we will discuss in our meeting to cover the detail in the next 10 days. We will let you all know – and maybe we will be able to extend the opening time. I hope so.

580

The President: Thank you very much.

Does anybody else any further questions for Mr McKinley? No? All right. Thank you very much. That completes questions on Billet No. 1.

585

We have no reports, so that completes the business of Billet No. 1.

Billet d'État No. 2 for Wednesday, 17th April 2019

I. Retirement and Election of New President – Item as amended approved unanimously

Notice of Election: Thursday 18th April
Nominations: Open at 9.00am on Friday 19th April
Close at 4.00pm on Friday 26th April
Voting: Saturday 11th May
between 9.00am and 6.00pm in the Island Hall
Followed by counting and declaration of result

The States of Alderney is asked to approve the dates proposed above for the election of a President to succeed Mr W Stuart Trought on 15th May 2019 until 31st December 2020.

The President: We now move to Billet No. 2.
Monsieur Greffier, would you please introduce Item I on Billet No. 2?

The Greffier: Thank you, sir.

590 Item I of Billet No. 2 is the Retirement and Election of a new President.

Sir, I will read a corrected Proposition just for clarity.

A letter has been received from yourself and the States are asked to approve the date of 18th May 2019 as appointed as the date of the presidential by-election.

595 **The President:** Thank you very much indeed.

You will have to listen carefully as this gets slightly complicated. After the Billet No. 2 was put in, we received some advice from the Law Officers and this was received during the last 24 hours. So I will read this out to you:

600 Advice received from the Law Officers in the last 24 hours cast some doubt on whether the States can necessarily appoint a date under section 28(4) of the Government of Alderney Law 2004 unless a vacancy occurs. Notwithstanding the precedent set in 2011 it is possible that the legality of an election held on 11th May could be in doubt given that a casual vacancy will not occur until after the President's resignation on 15th May.

605 In view of this advice it is proposed that a revised timetable should be considered by the States in which an election would take place on 18th May. This would provide certainty that under section 28(4) of the Law a date is appointed by the States for the election after a casual vacancy has occurred.

610 The revised timetable would be 25th April for notice of election. Nominations would open at nine o'clock on 26th April and close at four o'clock on 3rd May. Voting would take place on 18th May.

So the States is therefore asked to approve that the date of 18th May is appointed as the date of the presidential by-election.

615 I will get the Greffier to read the last bit out again in a minute, but basically what is being said here is that the Law Officers are advising that until I have actually resigned, they do not want us to hold an election prior to the date of the President's resignation, as has been the case in previous times.

So things are just going to have to change slightly there. That is what this correction is about: it is on advice from the Law Officers.

620 Having said that, Monsieur Greffier, can you now read out what we are actually asking the States to vote on, with the result of the correction that has been made on the advice of the Law Officers.

The Greffier: Thank you, sir.

625 For clarity, the revised timetable will be: notice of election on 25th April 2019. Nominations are open at 9 a.m. on 26th April and will close at 4 p.m. on 3rd May, with voting to take place on Saturday, 18th May.

The States are therefore asked to approve that the date of 18th May 2019 is appointed as the date of the presidential by-election.

630 **The President:** Thank you very much indeed.

Now, as this was put on as a letter from the President it did not have a proposer and a seconder, so there will not be any opening or closing or seconding speeches.

However, there are some States Members who wish to put an amendment to this letter. Mr Dean, I believe you have an amendment which you wish to put to the States.

635

Mr Dean: I do, sir. Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members, myself and fellow States Member, Mr Snowdon would like to replace the resolution with the following:

The States of Alderney:

(a) is asked to appoint 22nd June 2019 as the day upon which there shall be held a presidential by-election to fill the vacancy occurring in the office of President following the resignation of Mr W Stuart Trought with effect on 15th May 2019, and

(b) requests the Returning Officer to make such arrangements as may be necessary for conducting the election on that date in accordance with the law as to elections in Alderney.

Rather than put two amendments we have also added:

If the above Proposition fails the States of Alderney is asked to consider substituting the following Proposition:

The States of Alderney:

(i) request the President of the States, Mr W Stuart Trought, to confirm that he wishes his resignation from office to take effect in any event from 15th May 2019, and

(ii) subject to the President so confirming, directs the Policy and Finance Committee to revert to the States with proposals for a date for a presidential by-election to fill the vacancy occurring in the office of President following Mr Trought's resignation.

Explanatory Note

The amendment is intended to provide additional time for potential candidates to consider standing for the office of President.

640 I think many of the Island's population were surprised to hear the news that the President has handed in his resignation prematurely. The majority of people were expecting Mr Trought to continue for another 17 months at least and maybe even stand for a third term of office. So the Island has no reason to expect an election for a new President until the President's term of office has finished.

645 We do have a number of talented people on this Island who might well make a good replacement for Mr Trought. But – and this is the problem as I see it – these possible candidates have just not had the time to consider standing.

650 In other words, had Mr Trought done a full term in office and then stated he would not be standing for re-election before his term finished, a number of people would have had the chance to have decided to put themselves forward for election.

655 The office of President of Alderney is a very important one and it is essential that the people of Alderney have the chance to elect the best possible candidate with the biggest number of possible supporters. This takes time – time for candidates to decide if they want to stand; time for those candidates to speak with their families to decide if they can free up enough time to fulfil the many responsibilities of the President; time for those candidates to prepare their manifestos and run their election campaigns; time for the people of Alderney to consider those manifestos and decide who they want to vote for. This cannot be done in the number of days that is on Billet 2, Item I to elect a new President.

660 Why is there a need to rush this through, instead of allowing the necessary time for the people to elect a popular replacement? Why the rush? It is not democratic, it is not efficient and it is certainly not fair.

665 With this in mind, Mr Snowdon and myself have tabled this amendment to allow the people of Alderney time to consider as many candidates who would wish to stand and then select the best. You all, my fellow States Members, are representatives of the people of Alderney and we believe it is your duty to look after their interests and allow them time to follow a proper electoral procedure in a practical timeframe. The Item on the Billet currently does neither.

I urge you all to back our amendment.

670 **The President:** Thank you very much, Mr Dean.
Mr Snowdon, I believe you wish to second this?

Mr Snowdon: I would wish to second this and reserve my right to speak, sir, if that is okay?

675 **The President:** Okay, that is fine.
Does any other Member wish to speak on the amendment?
Mr Dent.

680 **Mr Dent:** Your Excellency, Mr President, colleagues, we have a couple of alternative amendments before us. Before I start let me make it clear that too much delay is just as bad as too little notice. I therefore support the one-week delay that has been incorporated into the corrected Billet Item, but I am opposed to the delay until 22nd June, over nine weeks from today.

685 Mr Dean, am I right that you are bringing your amendment because people have spoken to you, asking for this lengthy delay? If so, please know that other people have spoken to *me* asking that we get on with things.

690 I must also say that I am a little confused. Mr Dean, yesterday your amendment or a similar one was to have been seconded by Mr Jean. Mr Jean yesterday was indicating to me that he was a potential candidate. So may I ask you if there are any other specific Members of the electorate who are seeking this lengthy delay, and if there are, may we know if these specific persons are also potential candidates?

Colleagues, while the timing of elections is a matter for both us all in this Chamber and the Returning Officer, it behoves us as States Members not to be too hasty, but also not to filibuster, not to encourage unnecessary delay and not to time elections to suit the agenda of possible specific candidates.

695 Colleagues, I have spent the last two years frustrated because this Chamber, the States and sometimes outsiders continue to hold up decisions. I truly see no sensible reason for this lengthy delay.

Thank you.

700 **The President:** Thank you, Mr Dent.
Does any other Member wish to speak on the amendment? Mr Jean.

Mr Jean: Yes, I wish to clarify a point or two raised by the Chairman of P&F.
My name was on the amendment, that is correct, and I withdrew because I was asked a
705 direct question, and that question was: did I intend to stand? My reply was: 'I'm thinking about
it.'

However, I have decided not to ruin the chances of this amendment, that there should be
absolutely no ... This for me is not about anything else other than consideration of the public and
the right way of doing things.

710 I think this amendment put forward by Mr Dean and Mr Snowdon is the right way to do
things. The public have – (*Interjection*)

The President: Carry on Mr Jean.

715 **A Member:** Point of order?

The President: Point of order – if you could give way, please.

Mr Dent: Thank you, Mr Jean, for giving way.
720 I would just like to draw your attention to Rules of Procedure 21(1)(c), which states:

On issues which relate specifically to the personal interests of a particular Member, his immediate family ... or a
corporate body ... the Member should declare his interest, take no part in the debate and not vote.

I think that Mr Jean is declaring some interest in this matter.

The President: Thank you.
You do not need to answer that, Mr Jean, if you would carry on and finish your speech,
725 please.

Mr Jean: Thank you.
My belief is that it much better, in serving the public, to give more time to this subject. It is a
very important subject. It does not happen that frequently. The sitting incumbent, Mr Trought
730 has been in office for eight years or thereabouts. This is not a frequent event and it should be
given the proper time, due respect and likewise for the public.

Those are my arguments. Nothing to do with whether I stand or not. That is completely and
utterly a separate matter. This I would do for the public and I would urge every States Member
to do the same and I will be voting for that amendment which gives more time to the public for
735 their consideration and their convenience, and that to me is what it is about.

Thank you very much, sir.

The President: Thank you, Mr Jean.
Yes, please.
740

Ms Burgess: Thank you, Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members.
I have listened to both arguments, and I picked up on Mr Dent's use of 'lengthy', but I do feel
that 22nd June is not exactly what I would call a lengthy wait. I think that it is a very important
role for Alderney. I think that the dates we are looking at do seem rather rushed for the amount
745 of consideration needed in everyday life – family life, everything else – if we are going to give
people a really good chance to decide if this is for them, because this is very important.

750 I just do not think the word 'lengthy' goes with 22nd June. I think it just gives a fair amount of time for the candidates to decide if it really is for them. So I am just putting that forward, that I just feel the word lengthy probably was not really appropriate when we are only talking about 22nd June.

The President: Thank you, Ms Burgess.
Does any other Member – ?
Quick off the mark! Away you go, Mr Roberts.

755

Mr Roberts: I would just like to express my regret that you have decided to leave, Mr President.

The President: Thank you very much.

760

Mr Roberts: Okay. I cannot see how an extra month is going to be detrimental to us electing another President, so I will be voting for that because it is four weeks and I do not see anything wrong with that.

765 It will give the public a chance also for postal votes to be put forward from away. So there may be people from away who just hear about it and want to do a postal vote for a particular candidate, and I think that a month is not too much of a delay.

But I do regret you leaving, sir.
Thank you.

770

The President: Thank you, Mr Roberts.
Does any other Member wish to speak on this? Please.

775 **Mr Harris:** Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members, firstly Mr President, I would like to thank you for your hard work and unwavering commitment to Alderney over the years. Thank you for all you have done for the Island and I wish you all the very best for future.

Mr Roberts and Ms Burgess: Yes.

The President: Thank you very much.

780

785 **Mr Harris:** Having considered both sides of this contentious issue, I see the amendment proposed by Mr Dean as an effort to allow greater time for the people of Alderney to make the best possible decision as to who eventually holds the illustrious title of the President of the States of Alderney. This is not a decision to be taken lightly by any candidate, and in my opinion a greater amount of time and transparency is necessary for those wishing to stand to prepare his or her case and for the Islanders to be given the opportunity to hear from all candidates in a timely manner, and not in the rushed fashion that the proposed election dates might dictate.

790 In the working sector, any position of such importance would likely have to adhere to a prolonged notice period in order to find a suitable candidate and importantly enable a smooth transition to take place.

I wish all potential candidates the greatest of success and hope that the incoming President brings great forward thinking and encouragement to the States because this is an opportunity for change in Alderney. All of us have the right to be given time to make the best possible decision for the Island, and as such I support Mr Dean's amendment.

795

The President: Thank you, Mr Harris.
Does any other Member wish to speak of this amendment? Mr McKinley.

800 **Mr McKinley:** Your Excellency, Mr President, very briefly, talk around town already – we know who is interested in standing. I do not think it is going to take five weeks for people to make up their minds to stand, and in that period, if we extend it to nine weeks, Mr Jean will be Vice-President – what will his position therefore be? This is a question I raise. Is he able to be a States Member and Vice President at the same time? I am not sure of the Rules of Procedure.

805 **The President:** I can answer that for you. The answer yes, he definitely can.
And just so you know, in the absence of a President, the Vice-President carries out the President's duties in addition to his own, and he may carry out the duties of the President within the Chamber. He does not lose his own vote, but he also picks up the President's casting vote.
That is what happens when there is no President.

810 **Mr McKinley:** Thank you sir.
All the same, I think five weeks is quite sufficient, and I will support the amendment.

The President: Thank you very much.
815 Does any other Member wish to speak on this subject? Mr Gentle.

Mr Gentle: Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow colleagues, I initially thought that this amendment was to be opposed, but after hearing the points made on either side, I find that I must declare that I am voting in favour.

820 Nobody wakes up in the morning, looks at the job list and thinks, 'Oh, I think I will stand for President'! Any prospective candidate will have done their homework. They will need to have done their homework. The position will need somebody suitable and prepared, and if giving them a couple more weeks to think about it helps, then I am all for it.

825 **The President:** Thank you, Mr Gentle.
Mr Earl.

Mr Earl: Your Excellency, Mr President, fellow States Members, I have to say I have no sympathy whatsoever with this amendment. If I remember rightly, having been a newly elected
830 Member to this Assembly, we were given something like two weeks to prepare ourselves for the election for the States of Deliberation's Alderney Representatives and that proved to be more than adequate.

We are talking about twice the amount of time. I do not think any additional time is going to make any difference whatsoever.

835 Thank you.

The President: Thank you, Mr Earl.
You reserved your right to speak, Mr Snowdon. Please rise and do so.

840 **Mr Snowdon:** Thank you Your Excellency, President, fellow colleagues, firstly thank you for all your service you have given to the States of Alderney. It is a tremendous amount of time, eight years, and you well deserve to enjoy your time, hopefully.

The President: Thank you very much.

845 **Mr Snowdon:** Just going back to the point that Mr Earl made, I think with the States of Deliberation, we knew that day was going to up and we know when the States Member will be elected.

850 If we take when another States Member resigned from a sitting seat, that was quite a lengthy process – we were running with nine States Members for a long time until that happened. It did not happen overnight.

I think there have been some very good passionate speeches tonight on both sides, and I would say, look, we should not be getting personal about who is running and who is not running. It is about buying time so we go forward with the right President and there is a fair contest, and I think Mr Roberts' point is quite good about proxy votes. That does concern me that people who might be off-Island may not have enough time to get those proxy votes in, if there are a number of people who submit.

860 So I think it is really important that we give the public the time to get a good President and a good contest, and hopefully good manifestos about what the President will bring forward with things – obviously it is not a political role, but how they would do the procedure. So I think it is a very, very important thing going forward and we have got some really hot topics that we are dealing with at the moment, so let us give this timing the right thing, rather than rush things which normally always go a little bit wrong, as we can see from history.

Thank you.

865

The President: Thank you very much, Mr Snowdon.
Has any other Member not spoken?

The Greffier: No sir, that is everybody.

870

The President: Thank you very much indeed.
In that case, Mr Dean, do you wish to exercise your right of reply?

Mr Dean: I do, sir. I will keep it brief.

875

I would just like to clear up a couple of points because, certainly for Mr Dent, yes, yesterday morning Mr Jean and I did put an amendment in and I have it in front of me, and just for openness and transparency, I will actually read it to you because it is nothing like the amendment that Mr Snowdon and I have put in.

880

The President: Do you feel that you need to do this?

Mr Dean: Yes, I would like to just clear it up.

885

That amendment was to ask the States of Alderney to request the Policy and Finance Committee come up with a realistic date for this prestigious position and the election to take place on 11th August.

After consultation with Mr Jean, and some things that were said in a meeting yesterday morning, I felt it would be more appropriate to put in a fresh amendment with Mr Snowdon, and that started early yesterday. That went on all day and into the night and pretty much all day today.

890

As regards various people wanting to stand, it is not my decision who stands; it is the people's decision and it is the people who vote and decide who gets this prestigious position. We are just giving the people a little bit more time and more opportunity.

895

As regards people wanting to stand, yes, I have had a couple of people who have spoken to me. It would not be appropriate for me to name them here and it is not my decision whether they stand or not. At the end of the day, it is their decision. Some people might be working and would have to give notice period and discuss with their families.

So like Mr Snowdon said, it is not personal. It is about this being a prestigious position. It is about giving the people of Alderney time.

900

We talk about openness and transparency. Let's be open. Let's actually make it a little bit longer. It is really important that we get the right candidate. Thank you.

The President: Thank you very much, Mr Dean.

Monsieur Greffier, if you would be so kind as to read out the first resolution, then we will put that to the vote.

905 **The Greffier:** Thank you, sir.

The States of Alderney (a) is asked to appoint 22nd June 2019 as the day upon which there shall be held a presidential by-election to fill the vacancy occurring in the office of President following the resignation of Mr W Stuart Trought with effect on 15th May 2019, and (b) requests the Returning Officer to make such arrangements as may be necessary for conducting the election on that date in accordance with the law as to elections in Alderney.

910

A vote was taken and the results were as follows:

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
Ms Burgess	Mr Dent	None
Mr Dean	Mr Earl	
Mr Gentle	Mr McKinley	
Mr Harris		
Mr Jean		
Mr Roberts		
Mr Snowdon		

The Greffier: Sir, that is 7 votes for and 3 against. That amendment passes, and in the circumstances I will not proceed with the alternative.

The President: Thank you very much indeed.

915 So we now return to the main Billet Item as amended. If you could read out for the benefit of the States Members and the public what we are now going to continue debating.

The Greffier: Sir, so that is the retirement and election of a new President, taking into account the amendment which has just been voted on, which I will repeat for clarity: that the States of Alderney (a) are asked to appoint 22nd June 2019 as the day upon which there shall be held a presidential by-election to fill the vacancy occurring in the office of President following the resignation of yourself with effect on 15th May 2019, and (b) requests the Returning Officer to make such arrangements as may be necessary for conducting the election on that date in accordance with the law as to elections in Alderney.

925

The President: Thank you very much.

That what we are now voting on, which is Billet Item No. 2 as amended. That has been formally opened. The amendment has now taken place, so all that remains now is for people to vote on the Billet as amended.

930 Is everybody very clear what it is they are voting for? If anybody wants any clarification, now is the time to ask.

Okay, in that case, Monsieur Greffier, if you would put it to the vote, please.

The Greffier: Thank you, sir. Just for clarification, you do not want to put that open to debate at all, we just go straight to the vote?

935

The President: No, I think we have debated that and this was put on not for debate, but for people to vote on. It is now going to be voted on as amended.

940 **The Greffier:** Thank you, sir.

In which case, the States of Alderney again are asked to appoint 22nd June 2019 as the day upon which there shall be held a presidential by-election to fill the vacancy occurring in the office of President following the resignation of yourself with effect on 15th May 2019, and (b) requests the Returning Officer to make such arrangements as may be necessary for conducting the election on that date in accordance with the law as to elections in Alderney.

A vote was taken and the results were as follows:

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
Ms Burgess	None	None
Mr Dean		
Mr Dent		
Mr Earl		
Mr Gentle		
Mr Harris		
Mr Jean		
Mr McKinley		
Mr Roberts		
Mr Snowdon		

The Greffier: Sir, all 10 Members voted in favour.

The President: Thank you very much indeed.

That hereby concludes this evening's business so I will call upon you, Monsieur Greffier, to be so kind as to close the meeting.

PRAYERS

The Greffier

The Assembly adjourned at 6.37 p.m.