

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Anne French Room**  
**8<sup>th</sup> March 2023**  
**0900 hours**

**PRESENT:**

Mr A Snowdon, Chairman  
Mr B Woodhead, Deputy  
Mr I Carter  
Mr S Roberts  
Mr B Kelly  
Mr D Smithurst – Non-Appointed SM

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs E Maurice, Temporary Chief Executive (TCE)  
Mr J Laband, Project Support Officer (PSO)  
Mrs C Gauvain, Tourism Officer (TO-CG) (For items 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 only)  
Ms A-I Boulon, Tourism Officer (TO-AIB) (For items 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 only)  
Ms H Beacom, Chair – Guernsey Tourism Management Board

Apologies: Mr W Abel

Declarations of Interest:

**AGENDA ITEM**

**ACTION**

**01/3/2023**

**Minutes and Matters Arising**

**1.1 Minutes from Previous meeting for approval – 8<sup>th</sup> February – tabled and approved.**

No further comments

**1.2 Confidential Minutes from Previous meeting for approval – 8<sup>th</sup> February – tabled and approved.**

No further comments

**1.3 Minutes from Ferry meeting for approval – 13<sup>th</sup> February – tabled and approved.**

No further comments

**1.4 Decision Log from previous Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> February – tabled and noted**

The Project Support Officer raised that there is an update to the previous decision log of January 18<sup>th</sup>, in relation to the request around clarification of the 20k extra seats from the Chief Executive of Aurigny. It was noted that an update had now been provided and the detailed information would be circulated to the Economic Development Committee Members after the Meeting.

**PSO**

**1.5 Matters Arising**

The Project Support Officer advised that the letters are drafted and are being sent to the regular applicants of Tourism Event Grants.

**TOURISM**

Mr Carter noted that the current visitor survey QR code at the Airport has 2021 on it. It was advised that this would be rectified once there is an update to the survey.

**PSO/TOURISM**

Mr Carter queried how the Committees spending powers were being progressed. It was advised that discussions were to be held at the next Policy & Finance Committee meeting in order to determine those budgetary thresholds. It was also raised that a

paper may need to be presented to the States to formalise those spending thresholds if a resolution of the Policy and Finance Committee was not sufficient.

**CHAIR P&F/TCE**

**02/3/2023**      **Administrative Matters**

**2.1.** Nothing to report

**03/3/2023**      **External Transport and Economy**

**3.1. Shipping Register** – See Confidential Annexure

**3.2. Seasonal Ferry Tender Process** – See Confidential ANnexure

*Mrs. Gauvain, Ms Boulon and Ms Beacom joined the Meeting at 09:32*

**04/3/2023**      **Tourism and Visit Alderney**

**4.1 Guernsey Tourism Management Board** – Discussion with Hannah Beacom.

Following the compilation of the Guernsey Tourism Management Board, Ms Beacom, the Chair of that Board, was invited to attend EDC to discuss the development of the Guernsey Tourism Strategy. It was noted that the first meeting is due to take place at the end of March with a view to defining a 1-year strategy. The second month would be the point where all the Members of the board would interact with the sectors for which they're responsible. At that point there would be integration with stakeholders within those sectors. With a view to the collaborative working, it was suggested that an appropriate States of Alderney representative be included in those stakeholder discussions. Ms Beacom clarified that the Board was Guernsey – centric and its remit did not extend across the Bailiwick, though it saw the importance of all islands in defining its strategy. One of the priorities of the Board is to determine the correlation between the effectiveness of connectivity and the decline in available beds over the previous ten years.

**The Economic Development Committee noted the update and requested that an Email be sent to Ms Beacom thanking her for attending EDC with a view to regular contact and strategy updates over the course of the year.**

**PSO**

*Ms Beacon left the Meeting at 09:42*

**4.2 Accommodation Sector** – Report from the Project Support Officer – Tabled and Considered.

The item was tabled to encourage discussion around the effectiveness of one-to-one meetings between the Tourism Department and the Accommodation Sector. This method of feedback was adopted following the last large scale accommodation sector meeting which took place in 2021. It was highlighted that the one-to-one method has been appreciated by the sector and all members of the sector felt it was a better approach than large scale meetings.

There had been concerns raised in relation to political involvement through this adopted method and that there couldn't be assurances provided by Members in relation to certain matters that arose in the one-to-one meetings.

To ensure a political link within the one-to-one meetings, it was proposed that a States Members should attend each of the sessions and report back to the Committee once the meetings had taken place, this was a compromise to keep the current approach but have political involvement, rather than only holding a large meeting to hear the problems and issues that sector has/ has not experienced.

In addition, it was agreed that for continuity purposes this would be the same member throughout. Mr Kelly was proposed and agreed to take on this task. It was proposed that pre and post tourist season accommodation sector meetings should take place in order to keep regular contact with the sector. As a result of the thoughts of the Committee it was suggested that the draft letter replying to the accommodation sector should be amended to outline the Economic Development Committee's new approach to liaising with the sector.

**The Economic Development Committee resolved;**

- i. for the Tourism Department and a single Economic Development Committee representative (Mr Kelly) to hold pre and post season one-to-one meetings with the Accommodation Sector and to receive reports following those meetings; and**
- ii. to approve the letter for circulation subject to the proposed amendments raised by Members which would include information on the revised liaison approach.**

**PSO-JL/ TOURISM**

**4.3 Telegraph Tower** – Report from the Tourism Department – Tabled and Noted.

It was highlighted that there has been ongoing volunteer works on Telegraph Tower which has been helpful as it has improved certain elements and aspects of the building. The structure will be fitted with heritage boards and other visitor experience attractions in line with those that are present at The Nunnery and The Odeon. Quotes for replacement windows and roof repairs are being sought but this is taking longer than expected. Regardless of this delay, the project is currently on course to be open in the Summer.

**The Economic Development Committee resolved to note the update.**

**4.4 Tourism Strategy Meeting Outcomes** – See Confidential Annexure

**4.5 Marketing & Tourism Budget for 2023** – See Confidential Annexure

**05/3/2023**

**Items for Development/Discussion**

**5.1 Island Plan – Updates, Progress and Discussion** – Report From the Project Support Officer – Tabled and Considered.

The rationale for the item was to discuss the current EDC priorities that are already listed in the Island Plan. The current priorities would be discussed at a workshop of P&F which will be facilitated by the Chair of that Committee, new workstreams may also be considered at that meeting.

The Committee discussed the current areas and determined that the following areas should be retained within the Island Plan;

- One-stop-shop for businesses – this integrates with current Committee relations and workstreams.
- Test Bed for Energy – this is very much under way through the energy group, but the promotion of such initiatives would take place through EDC.
- Development of Marine Transport – it was felt that this should remain on the Island Plan for future possibilities including passenger, freight, and integrated services. It was noted that all Full Committees could be involved with this

workstreams as there a number of elements to it which fall within the Mandates of the other Committees.

- Digital Infrastructure – it was highlighted that the provision of current service is good although there may be room for further development in the future based on Guernsey’s current developments (fibre to household).

There was also some discussion as to whether the development of Tourism should become a substantive item in the Island Plan which could be voiced at the Island Plan workshop.

Members agreed to take their thoughts to the P&F workshop for the Island Plan, scheduled for 14/3/23.

**5.2 Economic Development Committee - Key Areas for Development** – Report from the Chairman - tabled and Considered.

It was noted that another external body which should be considered for the Committee to liaise with is the Economic Development Committee in Jersey, this could provide assistance in the promotion of the business sector.

Members discussed the range of items that were put forward in the paper which identified possibilities which the Committee should consider as workstreams.

It was noted that some of the workstreams already exist and that a mechanism to determine which Members or groups are responsible should be produced.

**The Economic Development Committee resolved for a “Members Responsibilities Model” to be produced in order to appoint Members to the relevant responsibilities and act as liaisons with the sectors/ external bodies to which they relate.**

PSO

**5.3 Confidential Item HSBC** – See Confidential Annexure

**5.4 Crypto Asset Regulation** – Report from Mr Carter – Tabled and Considered

This item had been tabled with a view to further investigation as to whether this could be regulated through a similar model implemented by the AGCC, for gambling. This may create an income stream for the States of Alderney in the future.

It was noted that this subject had been raised before by AeGL and it was proposed that some investigation should take place, however the conclusion of this work stream is not known and as such, It was suggested that an approach could be made to seek further information on the workstream.

Mr Kelly noted that he would discuss the regulation of crypto currency in relation to Gaming to the Managing Director of AeGL.

It was noted that Greengage bank is a crypto currency merchant bank, and they could be approached in order to provide further information to the Committee relating to the industry.

**The Economic Development Committee resolved to engage with a reputable crypto asset consultant/specialist to seek further advice as to whether there is a niche area which could be regulated through an organisation similar in structure and function to the AGCC.**

IC/PSO

06/3/2023

**Any Other Business**

**6.1. Economic Impact Study** – See Confidential Annexure

**6.2. ID Cards/ Checks** – See Confidential Annexure

**07/3/2023      Resolutions Made**

**As stated within the minutes above.**

**Meeting closed: 11:30am**

**Signed: Alex Snowdon**

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023**