

**POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE
24th JULY 2012**

0915hours

Mr J Beaman, Chairman
Mr R Berry
Mr M Birmingham
Mr B Kelly
Mr A Llewellyn
Mr G Sargent
Mr I Tugby

Mr R Burke, Chief Executive
Mrs K A Hatcher-Gaudion, Treasurer
Mrs S Pengilly-Price, EA to the Chief Executive
Mrs E O'Toole, Minute Secretary

Apologies: Mr P Allen, Mr P Arditti and Mr W Walden

ACTION

- 59/2012** **Minutes of the previous meeting** of 26th June 2012 tabled and approved subject to the following items being moved from the Confidential Annexure to the published minutes:
- Item 52.1.2 Marina Advisory Group
 - Item 55.4 Grants to Play Groups
 - Item 55.5 St John's Ambulance
 - Item 57.4 Alderney Electricity Ltd

Mr Kelly requested that the issue discussed under item 53.1.1 be moved from the Confidential Annexure to the published minutes however the Committee was not supportive.

The Chairman advised that the Capital Account will be further discussed at the next meeting of the Committee.

AGENDA ITEM

60/2012**Matters Arising****60.1 Matters arising from the minutes**

60.1.1 States Members Allowances Paper from Treasury dated 19th July 2012 tabled and considered.

RESOLVED by a majority (Mr Kelly, Mr Sargent and Mr Tugby in favour of an increase by RPIX in January 2013) to:-

- **No increase in allowance for 2013;**
- **To annually increase allowances on 1st January by RPIX index, based on 30th September index of the previous year, from January 2014;**
- **To continue to automatically review postage & stationery allowances**

Treasurer to deal.

TREASURER

60.1.2 Alderney Sports Centre Letter from Mr C Williams, Chairman Alderney Community Sport Centre Trust, dated 3rd July 2012 tabled and discussed. It was noted that the Sport Centre Trust is requesting the States to match funds raised by the Trust. A number of concerns were raised with regards to the suitability of the proposed location for the Sport Centre, having consulted with the States Engineering Department.

It was noted that the building on the Crusher Site is currently being leased from the States of Alderney and the terms of the lease does not permit the building being used for any purpose other than light industrial use with ancillary commercial use which may include the sale and storage of goods.

RESOLVED by a majority (Mr Tugby for; Mr Birmingham to defer the matter and obtain more information) not to approve to matched funding for the proposed new Sport Centre. Chief Executive to deal.

CE

60.1.3 Marina Advisory Group In the absence of the MAG Chairman it was agreed that an update will be given at the September meeting of the Committee.

AGENDA ITEM

60.2 Matters Arising from Finance Advisory Group Confidential notes from the Finance Advisory Group (FAG) meeting of 16th July 2012 tabled and **noted**.

Occupiers Rates – The Treasurer advised that FAG recommends that given the current economic climate, where possible rates should not be increased for 2013.

RESOLVED unanimously to approve the recommendation where possible to not increase Occupiers Rates for 2013. Treasurer to deal.

TREASURER

61/2012

Standing Items**61.1 Committee feedback from Chairmen**

61.1.1 General Services Committee Mr Kelly, as deputy Chairman of GSC and in the absence of the Chairman Mr Walden, updated the Committee of matters discussed at the recent GSC meeting, the draft minutes of which will be published on the States of Alderney website shortly. **Noted**.

61.1.2 Building and Development Control Committee Mr Sargent advised that the Alderney Housing Association Exemption Ordinance was amongst matters discussed at the recent meeting of BDCC. **Noted**.

61.1.3 Guernsey Representatives

- Mr Kelly advised that the Home Department wishes to make a departmental visit to Alderney and suggested that rather than a formal meeting with States Members a general visit to the island and informal discussion would be preferable as an induction for the new Guernsey Home Department States Members; Committee agreed. **Mr Kelly to deal.**
- Mr Beaman advised that he and the Chief Executive had a meeting with the Guernsey Chief Minister and the ministers of the Departments responsible for transferred services. Among matter discussed were the residency issue of children born in Alderney. **Noted.**
- Education – The Chairman advised that the Minister for the Education Department had advised of the disparity between the cost of a child schooled in Guernsey and a child in Alderney. Mr Kelly requested a breakdown of the figures. Chairman and Chief Executive to deal.

BK

JB/CE

61.1.4 Sub Group feedback – Constitution and Legislation Advisory Group Mr Llewellyn, as deputy Chairman, advised there had been no meeting since the last P&F and there was nothing to report. **Noted**.

61.2 Alderney Commission for Renewable Energy April to June 2012 report tabled and it was noted that new Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) work has commenced to provide specific data on blocks of the seabed which are not part of the 48 blocks chosen by Alderney Renewable Energy.

61.3 Alderney eGambling Limited Half yearly report from Mr Robin Le Prevost tabled and it was noted that activity and interest in Alderney as a gambling jurisdiction has continued to be strong and the annual target for new applications had been reached during July.
Mr Sargent congratulated the company on its activities.

61.4 Alderney Gambling Control Commission quarterly report as at 30th June 2012 from Mr André Wilsenach, dated 17th July 2012, tabled and **noted**.

61.5 Alderney Electricity Limited Mr Kelly gave a brief verbal report and the following items were noted:-

- The Board of AEL interviewed two candidates for the chairmanship of the Board on Thursday 19th July 2012 and has appointed Mr Michael Richards as chairman of the Board of AEL. Mr Richards is a former financial director and chief executive of International Energy Group, a leading natural gas and LPG (liquid petroleum gas) distributor and supplier in the Channel Islands.
- The Board also appointed Mr Robert McDowell, an Alderney resident, as a non-executive director on the Board of AEL to fill a vacant position.
- The new Memorandum and Articles of Association were approved at the recent Extraordinary General Meeting. **Noted.**

Mr Tugby enquired if anything can be done to reduce the price of AVGAS; Mr Kelly advised that the Board had discussed the matter and the delivery costs of AVGAS to the Island are very high. It was noted that AEL had agreed to offer discount to 20 planes for 4 events in conjunction with the States and Chamber of Commerce offer.

The Chief Executive was requested to obtain the relevant information on the AVGAS agreement of AEL for discussion at the next meeting of the Committee.

CE/AGENDA ITEM

The Committee unanimously approved of the actions taken by the Chief Executive at the recent AGM and EGM of Alderney Electricity Limited. It was specifically unanimously resolved that they ratified the authority of the Chief Executive to exercise a vote on behalf of the States of Alderney as shareholder of Alderney Electricity Limited in favour of the special resolution to adopt the new Memorandum and Articles of Association at the General Meeting held on 12th July 2012 and to effect this by the appointment of the Chairman of the meeting as the States of Alderney proxy.

62/2012

Budgetary and Financial Matters

62.1 Fire Brigade Equipment Paper from the Engineering Department and the Alderney Fire Brigade dated June 2012 tabled and considered. Mr Kelly advised that the item was tabled and approved by the General Services Committee.

RESOLVED unanimously to approve the replacement of cliff rescue equipment and training with SAR for the Alderney Fire Brigade at an estimated cost of £26,000. It was further agreed that the training element should be charged to revenue as opposed to capital. Treasury to deal.

TREASURY

62.2 Fort Doyle – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – See CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE.

10:50-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 Dr Stephen Bridgman, Director of Public Health Guernsey, joined the meeting

63/2012

Public Health and Welfare Annual Report Dr Bridgman gave a power point presentation of the main theme of his report which this year is Child Maltreatment and he outlined the recommendations being made to HSSD in Guernsey. **Noted.**

11:45 Dr Stephen Bridgman, Director of Public Health Guernsey, left the meeting

64/2012

Legislation and Conventions

64.1 Legislation Select Committee items

- **Merchant Shipping (BoG) Law, 2002 (Commencement) Ordinance 2012**
- **Merchant Shipping (Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) (BoG) Ordinance, 2012**
- **Sea Fish Licensing (BoG) Law, 2012 (Commencement) Ordinance, 2012**

The Committee raised no comments and noted the items sent to the Legislation Select Committee. **Noted.**

- 64.2 States Armourer** Paper from the Chief Executive dated 18th July 2012 tabled and considered.
RESOLVED unanimously to appoint Mr Chris Walker as the new States Armourer. Chief Executive to deal. CE
- 64.3 Firearms query** Letter to the Chief Executive from an interest party wishing to become a registered firearms dealer on the Island tabled and considered.
The Committee were not in favour of such a proposal at this time. Chief Executive to deal. CE
- 65/2012 Open Government** Paper from Mr Berry tabled and discussed. Mr Berry requested that improvements are made to involve the public more in States issues.
 The Committee agreed to defer the matter and requested the Chief Executive prepare a paper on a Community Engagement Strategy for 2013 for discussion at the September meeting of the Committee. CE/AGENDA ITEM
- 66/2012 Economic Planning & Tourism and Marketing**
- 65.1 Tourism Report** circulated by email, tabled and **noted**. Mr Birmingham advised that the proposal for a Go-Karting event on the Island is progressing and he will be attending another meeting with Mr Alan Smart. It is anticipated that a proposal will be brought to the Committee in due course. **Noted.**
- 65.2 Transport Statistics** Harbour Statistics, Commercial Passenger Statistics and Cargo Import/Export figures for quarter two of 2012 tabled and **noted**.
 Chief Executive requested to obtain any data available on the geographical location of passengers collected by Aurigny Airlines. CE
- 67/2012 Any Other Business**
- 67.1 Campsite** Mr Tugby advised that a Business and Site Development Plan from the Campsite Operators was tabled at the recent GSC meeting, however not discussed.
 It was noted that the Committee was broadly supportive of proposals subject to further approvals and consideration by GSC. Chief Executive to deal. CE
- 68/2012 For Information**
- **St John (Alderney) Ambulance Letter of thanks**

/eot

Meeting closed: 12:15pm

Signed: Mr J Beaman

Date: 25th September 2012