

**POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
ANNE FRENCH ROOM
27th JANUARY 2015
0915 hours**

Mr N Harvey, Chairman
Mr F Simonet,
Mr G McKinley
Mr S Roberts

Mr W V Brownlees, Chief Executive
Mr B Adams, Interim States Engineer
Mrs K A Hatcher-Gaudion, Treasurer
Mrs S Pengilly-Price, EA to the Chief Executive
Miss Laura Gaudion, Minute Secretary

Mr L Jean
Mr R McDowall
Mrs N Paris
Mr C Rowley
Mr I Tugby
Mr M Birmingham

Apologies:

ACTION

- 01/2015** **Minutes of the previous meeting** of 16th December 2014 tabled and **approved**.
Notes from the Finance Committee meeting – No meeting held this month.
Notes from the Business Development, Tourism & Marketing Committee meeting –
No meeting held this month.
- 02/2015** **Administration**
2.1 Annual Appointments The following appointments were proposed by the Chairman and unanimously approved by the Committee:
- i. Deputy Chairman – Mr Robert McDowall*
 - ii. Chairman of Finance Committee – Mr Robert McDowall*
 - iii. Members of Finance Committee – Mr G McKinley, Mr F Simonet, Mr I Tugby*
 - iv. Chairman of BDTM Committee - Mrs Norma Paris*
 - v. Members of BDTM Committee – Mr M Birmingham, Mr C Rowley, Mr S Roberts*
 - vi. Public Services Department (Breakwater) – Mr Ian Tugby*
 - vii. Members with responsibility for liaison with the following bodies relating to Transferred Services: Mr Robert McDowall is the first point of contact for the following transferred services in respect of financial issues:

 - Health & Social Services Department
 - Social Security Department
 - Education and Home Department
 - Home Department
 Operational contact should be relevant civil servant while:

 - Education Department – Mr Louis Jean
 - Liaison for Children and Young People Services – Mr Louis Jean*

- **Home Department (Police) – Mr Graham McKinley**

- viii. Board Member of the Royal Connaught Residential Home and the Jubilee Sydney Herival House – Appointment vacant for present**
- ix. Board Member of the St John Alderney Ambulance Service – Mr Matthew Birmingham**
- x. Trustee to the Butes Centre Trust – Mr Matthew Birmingham**
- xi. States Appointed Director of Alderney Electricity Limited – Mr Matthew Birmingham**
- xii. Appointment of a Chairman and members to the Board of Alderney eGambling Limited – Mr F Simonet – Mr R McDowall, Mr M Birmingham**
- xiii. Alderney External Relations Group - /Alderney Liaison Group - Mr N Harvey, Mr I Tugby, Mr M Birmingham, Mrs Norma Paris, Mr R McDowall**
- xiv. States of Alderney Pensions Trustees – Mr Neil Harvey, Mr Robert McDowall**
- xv. Living Islands – Mrs Norma Paris, Mr W Victor Brownlees**

2.2 Proposed Mandate for Finance Committee for 2015 tabled and considered **RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the Finance Committee mandate for 2015, with slight amendment to Appendix point 3 – replacing GAAP with International Financial Accounting and Reporting Standards.

2.3 Proposed Mandate of Business Development, Tourism and Marketing Committee for 2015 tabled and considered.

RESOLVED unanimously to approve the Business Development, Tourism and Marketing Committee mandate for 2015.

2.4 Changing the Demographic Profile of States Members Report from Mr McDowall dated January 2015 tabled and **noted**.

It was reported that the States of Alderney could encourage the younger public to attend People’s Meetings, and vote at elections, aiding greater involvement and understanding of how the States of Alderney runs. Mrs Paris suggested the possibility of shadowing a States Member over a monthly period, to provide a wider understanding of a politician’s role within our island government. Mr Jean expressed his interest to contribute to Mr McDowall’s committee along with Mr McKinley.

Mr McDowall proposed that the States look at the way in which it might encourage those of working age to contest States elections and report back to the Policy & Finance Committee in July 2015 with a view to any recommendations being discussed and reviewed in time for implementation for the 2016 election.

RMCD/LJ/GMcK

03/2015

Matters Arising

3.1 Matters arising from the minutes

3.1.1 Lager Sylt Mr McDowall reported that the visit to the Lager Sylt was interesting and the research articles provided by Mr Weigold compelling. It was proposed that in order to seek the truth behind the site, and its activities during the

occupation of Alderney during the war, a historiographical review of the area and all relating publications should be completed at an academic level. It was noted that the Imperial War Museum is already researching into such topics, and matters relating to the Holocaust Remembrance. An academic institution, or the Imperial war Museum, would be the ideal organisation to create a historiographical document. Mr Jean expressed his concerns with this proposal, about the States becoming the financial sponsor of a research project into Lager Sylt. Mr Roberts stated that it would be a good way of collating all evidence associated with Lager Sylt, to provide a clearer prospective of the island history associated with the Holocaust. The States of Alderney need to establish a level/measure of control over the issue. Mr McDowall is to provide his academic research proposal to Mr Weigold, to discuss further progress. Mr McDowall to recirculate his Agenda report, and the Chief executive to draft a covering letter to Mr Weigold on this proposal.

CE/RMcD

3.2 Committee feedback from Chairmen (B&DCC and GSC) and Guernsey Representatives and Alderney Liaison Group

B&DCC – Approval of the JT Mast – complied with planning law and other conditions. Next meeting to discuss the Arup Report. Noted.

GSC – Skate Park, looking into acoustic material for prevention of noise. The Mandate includes the Marina proposals, which is being given higher priority to progress. Capital projects slippage to be addressed and projects progressed within timescale. Also the progress of jobs within SWD is being reviewed, to become more time efficient resulting in quicker completion and staying within the budget.

Guernsey Reps – Agreed that Mr McDowall to review the Guernsey Billets with Mr Jean and Mr McKinley to advise on the impact of any economic financial and taxation issues on Alderney, as there were likely to be an increased number of such matters on the Guernsey Billet in 2015.

Alderney Liaison Group – No meeting, nothing to report.

3.3 Employment Permit Report – January (to date) tabled and **noted**.

04/2015

Budgetary and Financial Matters

4.1 Aged Debtors Report – Confidential Item

There were no material aged debtors to report.

4.2 Price Paid Data Report dated 2nd January 2015 tabled and **noted**.

4.3 Purchase of Freehold – Property at Le Banquage – Confidential Item Awaiting valuation, papers to be circulated by email. Mr Jean declared his interest. **Noted**.

CE OFFICE/TREASURY

4.4 States of Alderney 2013 Pension Scheme – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM Report from Treasury dated 20th January 2015, tabled and **noted**.

Chief Executive declared personal interest.

RESOLVED; approved unanimously to offer all employees the option of early joining at the half year date following successful completion of the six month probationary period i.e. 1st January & 1st July, and noting the additional financial costs incurred, and, noting that any member not wishing to join early will continue to be eligible at

the anniversary date of 1st January following successful completion of six month probationary period, as per the current arrangements.

TREASURY

4.5 Fuel Duty Cost In Alderney Report from Mr Birmingham tabled and **noted**.

It was reported that the cost of petrol in Alderney is in the region of 150p per litre, compared to the Guernsey price of 110p per litre. This substantial difference is mainly due to overheads caused by the need for an additional level of handling, shipping, insurance and storage costs. Due to this, the local fishing industry is majorly affected with fuel costs being one of their main overheads. Mr Birmingham advised that the simplest measure to resolve this would be the re - introduction of an Alderney road tax on vehicles, and that this introduction would be in return for a zeroing of fuel duty. The funds raised from this process could then be placed back into Alderney's road maintenance budget, paid and collected in Alderney by the States, keeping finances on island, removing the States of Guernsey to supply funding. Mr Jean expressed his disagreement on this issue. It was noted that the States of Guernsey are possibly talking of the re-introduction of Motor Tax in Guernsey, which will be monitored by our Guernsey Representatives Mr Jean and Mr McKinley. The Treasurer clarified that the roads resurfacing program is funded by the Alderney capital account as opposed to Guernsey. It was agreed that this report will be included in the Review of the Financial Relationship and discussed as a whole along with other taxes and benefits. **Noted**.

05/2015 **Business Development, Tourism & Marketing Matters**

5.1 Ferry Proposals Update – SEE CONFIDENTIAL ANNEXURE Report from Chief Executive Office to be circulated by email.

5.2 Fort Albert – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM Report from Chief Executive's Office dated 20th January 2015 tabled and **noted**.

It was advised that a full detailed proposal from Island Adventures is required.

CE OFFICE/FS to redraft the current lease, with amendments to the reduction of term of lease, addition of a development clause, inclusion of maximum 12 months' notice required, and the withdrawal of use of firearms as a permitted use. Progress update at next meeting.

CE OFFICE/FS/GMcK

06/2015 **Legislation, Conventions and Policy**

6.1 Crimea and Yemen Sanctions 2015 Report from Chief Executive's Office dated 20th January 2015 tabled and **noted**.

RESOLVED unanimously to approve "The Crimea and Sevastopol (Restrictive Measures) (Alderney) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2015" and the "Yemen (Restrictive Measures) (Alderney) Ordinance 2015" and for these two items to be placed on the Billet for the March meeting of the full States.

07/2015 **Commercial Quay – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM** Report tabled and **noted**. It was agreed to support the terms of mediation which Mr Thornton had proposed. **Noted**.

08/2015 **Alderney eGambling Limited**

Approval of 2015 Budget – Report of AeGL Budget tabled and **noted**.

It was noted that the main increase in budget related to the staff commission, which historically have been higher than the budget. Budget for 2015 of £257,100 Approved.

09/2015 **Restructuring of the Civil Service – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM** Report from Chief Executive dated 20th January 2015 tabled and **noted**.

The Chief Executive reported that with the implementation of the restructuring of the Civil Service, a clearer line has been made between Civil Servants, Senior Civil Servants, and States Members regarding role and capacity. It was noted that where possible local resources will be used from on Island, or on secondment, for the new appointments. It was advised that a report is to be published in the next Billet for public information.

The Committee noted the actions taken/proposed and that all such are accommodated within existing financial resources. A periodic update to be given to the P&F Committee.

10/2015

Economic Development Action Plan Report from Chief Executive dated 27th January 2015 tabled and **noted**. It was reported that a draft plan will be published after the ALG meeting in February, with a view to holding workshops and quarterly meetings with the public – to discuss the views and plans; and one-to-one workshops with Chamber of Commerce. Mr Jean expressed his concerns that this does not give the States Members enough time to add comments. It was advised that the conclusion would be to separate the Alderney issues from Guernsey issues, with a view to delegate the sections to either selected Committees or States Members for progression.

The Policy & Finance Committee considered the draft plan, with the view to making any amendments as necessary, and, acting through the Chief Executive, will make the draft plan available to States of Guernsey Representatives on ALG.

CE

11/2015

Any Other Business

Marina

It was reported that a feasibility study is being reviewed by Mr Dawson, along with a draft agreement regarding a timeframe/ deadline and projected milestones. It was noted that the conclusion is to be brought back to P&F on the 10th March Special Meeting at 2.15pm. **Noted.**

Special P&F Meeting – 17th February 2015 two agenda items. Routine business afterwards, in place of P&F Meeting on the 24th February 2015. NP apologies noted. **Noted.**

Committee Meeting Dates – update Minute Secretary to update dates, and circulate to all members via email. **Noted.**

Guernsey Deputies to visit Alderney – Mr McKinley wishes to invite the Guernsey deputies to visit our Island, to provide a clearer understanding of the problems/issues Alderney is facing.

GMcK to organise/action.

Teachers Houses – GSC item, Interim States Engineer to circulate progress report by email. **Noted.**

Breakwater – Mr McKinley requested that it is raised as a specific item within the ALG, and that a current survey needs to be considered. The Interim states engineer advised that he had requested copies of previous surveys, and is still awaiting a response.

Noted.

12/2015

Press Releases

- **Committee Appointments**
- **Ferry Proposals**

13/2015

For Information

- **ACRE Commissioner Appointment**
- **Alderney Airport Charges**

Meeting closed: 12.45pm

Signed: Mr Neil Harvey

Date: 17th February 2015