

**POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
ANNE FRENCH ROOM  
22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015  
0915hours**

**PRESENT:**

Mr N Harvey, Chairman  
Mr R McDowall  
Mr I Tugby  
Mr S Roberts  
Mr F Simonet  
Mr C Rowley  
Mrs N Paris  
Mr L Jean  
Mr M Birmingham  
Mr G McKinley

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr W V Brownlees, Chief Executive (CE)  
Mrs S Pengilley-Price, EA to the Chief Executive (SP)  
Mrs K A Hatcher-Gaudion, Treasurer (KG)  
Mrs L Baines, Minute Secretary (LB)  
Mr P Veron, Economic Development Officer (PV)

**Apologies: Mr C Beeching, Head of Operations**

**ACTION**

- 90/2015**      **Minutes of the previous meeting** of 28<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> August and 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015 tabled and **approved**.  
**Notes from the Finance Committee meeting** of 3<sup>rd</sup> September – **Noted**.  
**Notes from the Business Development, Tourism & Marketing Committee meeting** of 31<sup>st</sup> August - **Noted**.
- 91/2015**      **Matters Arising**  
**91.1 Committee feedback from Chairmen (B&DCC and GSC) and Guernsey Representatives and Alderney Liaison Group**  
**BDCC** – Mr Birmingham updated States Members on the work of BDCC, noting an on-going appeal over a committee decision, in which the Committee was being advised by the Law Officers. He further noted progress with amendments to the Planning Laws, in conjunction with the Law Officers, and on preparation for the Land Use Plan review in 2016. On the latter, he noted that that the BDCC was being supported by the planning consultants ARUP. Mr Jean voiced his concern that the previous work on a review of planning by ARUP had yet to be the subject of a debate in the States. Mr Birmingham gave his assurance that any changes to planning laws and policies and/or any amendments to the Land Use Plan would be subject to full debate and consideration in public. Mr Jean thanked him for that assurance.  
**GSC** – Mr Tugby gave feedback on the work of the Committee. In particular he noted the high cost of sand to Alderney Electricity Company on its current and proposed works. He proposed that sand could be sourced by the States from area around the existing scramble track and sold to AEL at a lower cost. He advised that he had investigated and could confirm that this would be technically feasible. Mr Birmingham advised that such excavation would constitute development in the ‘green belt’ and would therefore be outside current planning rules.  
**Agreed for this item to go back to GSC as an agenda item, and to be discussed further with Head of Operations and Planning Officer.**  
**Guernsey Reps** – Mr Jean and Mr McKinley said that they had nothing specific to report at this time but reminded the Committee of the forthcoming sitting of the States of Deliberation.  
**Alderney Liaison Group** – Mr Harvey reminded the Committee that the ALG was meeting the following day to discuss Aurigny, Alderney Airport and the on-going

Review of the Financial Relationship between Guernsey and Alderney. In response to a question about the Alderney Breakwater PV stated that he will get an update from Scott Ogier and Colin Le Ray to report to ALG.

On behalf of all States Members, Mr Harvey congratulated Mr McKinley and Mr Jean for organising the successful visits to Alderney by Guernsey Deputies.

92/2015

**Budgetary and Financial Matters**

**92.1 Capital Project – Mouriaux to Platte Saline Sewer** – Report from Head of Operations dated September 2015 tabled and noted.

**RESOLVED; unanimously to approve the allocation of £40K from the 2015 capital budget for enabling works for the Mouriaux to Platte Saline Sewer.**

TREASURY/HoOPS

**92.2 Cheap Food Study** – Paper from Louis Jean dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 tabled and noted. Paper proposes no action until after next election.

**RESOLVED; unanimously to put the study on hold until after the next election. Noted.** It was noted also that a paper from Mr Birmingham on an 'Alderney Living Wage' will be discussed at the Finance Committee. Mr McDowall invited Mr Jean to attend the Finance Committee for this discussion.

**92.3 Alderney Shipping Co Ltd** – Report from Treasury dated 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015 tabled and noted. The Committee registered the notification from Alderney Shipping of the increase with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, and requested that the September figure be used (when known) as opposed to the June figure.

The Committee went on to discuss the need for a Review on Shipping and Freight Services, in advance of the expiry of the current Inter Island Agreement in 2017. Mr Jean expressed his concern with the variations in charges for freight by volume or weight. It was noted that Alderney Shipping Co are due to attend the October GSC Meeting, where any queries can be answered, all States Members are invited to attend. Mr McDowall said that the Finance Committee would request copies of the Alderney Shipping Co accounts.

**The Committee noted the increase with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016, and proposed that Alderney Shipping Co Ltd use the percentage based on September 2015 RPIX, rather than the June figure.**

TREASURY

93/2015

**Economic Development Plan**

**93.1 Economic Development Plan Update** – Action plan tabled and **noted**. Report from Robert McDowall tabled and **noted**.

The Committee agreed for the CE, Mr Harvey, Mr McDowall and PV to amend, update and revamp the current Economic Development Plan for consideration by the full Committee at a later date. This will include matters such as possible marine protection as well as Airport and Air Services (which are of high priority), and Ferry Services (including Freight). Mr Birmingham reminded the Committee that the plan included a review of Health/Social Services and suggested that consideration be given to forming a Stakeholder Group to liaise with HSSD.

CE/NH/RM/PV

**93.2 Review of Financial Relationship**

Mr McDowall gave the Committee an update on progress.

**The Committee agreed that the recommendations are broadly in the right direction but should be framed in the context of moving to International Financial Reporting Standards. The Committee noted that the intention is for a common/joint report to**

**be submitted to both Sates at the same time, with public statements agreed jointly in advance.**

**BILLET ITEM**

**94/2015**

**Legislation, Conventions and Policy**

**94.1 Commissioner Re-appointment of Jeremy Thompson** – Letter from Andre Wilsenach, AGCC tabled and **noted**.

**The Committee approved the re-appointment of Jeremy Thompson for a further period of 5 years, his term expiring in October 2020. Noted.**

**CE OFFICE**

**94.2 People’s Meeting Arrangements**

It was noted that the People’s Meeting Part 2 would be for clarification on factual matters and provision of information primarily as a response to written questions from the public, with any verbal questions accepted if time allowed. It was also stated that this is not the only form of communication with the States Members. CE Office to provide a paper on the ‘frequency of meetings’ and clarity of format for the October P&F. **Noted.**

**CE OFFICE**

**94.3 Nairobi Wrecks Convention** - Report tabled and noted.

**The Committee ratified the proposals and extension of the Convention to Alderney, subject to any future extension of Alderney territorial waters being unhindered by such ratification. Noted.**

**94.4 Commerce and Employment**– Report from Chief Minister, Policy Council, dated August 2015 tabled and noted.

**The Committee ratified the extension of the Montreal Convention 1999, and the drafting of the legislation as set out in paragraph 6 of this report, subject to concerns raised by Mrs Paris with regard to regulation of Aurigny should the company move onto the 2 REG. Noted.**

**94.5 Island Adventures – Fort Albert – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM – See Confidential Annexure**

**94.6 Quorum at Committee Meetings** – Report from CE Office dated 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 tabled and noted.

**RESOLVED; unanimously to approve that the States, by resolution, amend the Rules of Procedure for States Committees, under the provision of section 45(1) of the Government of Alderney Law, 2004 as amended, to include the use of the videolink and/or telephone as a medium permitted for members to be considered as being present at Committee meetings (other than Policy and Finance Committee), with the consent of the Committee at the time. Noted.**

**CE OFFICE/BILLET ITEM**

**94.7 QIT**

**RESOLVED; by majority, with the Chairman using his casting vote, that QIT be employed to carry out Accommodation Inspections for a further year; that the star grading scheme remain optional; that any additional costs not recouped from the income deriving from current charges for issuance of an Accommodation Permit be met by the States Tourism Budget (for: NP, NH, IT, MB, CR; against: FS, RM, LJ, GM, SR) Noted.**

**95/2015****Any Other Business**

**Quay FM – Grant application** – Letter from Quay FM dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015 tabled and noted.

Application for a grant of £15K to Quay FM considered. Treasurer reported that this application had been received following the finalisation of the budget, however could be charged to P&F Unforeseen Expenditure budget if necessary.

**Deferred to FC for further consideration. Noted.**

**FC/TREASURY**

**AHA**

The Committee asked for clarification from the Law Officers on the inclusion in the draft ordinance of a '28 days backdating clause', despite the draft ordinance being voted down in the full States. It was noted also that the forthcoming development of a Housing Strategy would provide the States with an opportunity to explore wider support to specific groups, such as private sector 'first time buyers', if it so wished.

**Noted.**

**CE OFFICE**

**96/2015****Press Releases**

- QIT

**97/2015****For Information**

**The following reports/letters were noted :-**

- **Summary of Management Accounts –July 2015**
- **Aged Debtors Report – Confidential Item**
- **Submission to the Scrutiny Committee on Children Law**
- **Tenancy of the Nunnery, Longis Common**
- **GFSC Fees Proposal 2016**
- **ALG – 'Asylum Seekers'**
- **The Forfeiture of Money, etc in Civil Proceedings (Bailiwick of Guernsey) (Amendment) Law, 2012 (Commencement) Ordinance, 2015**
- **Project De Loi – The Succession to the Crown (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2015**
- **European Communities**

**Meeting closed: 12.25pm**

**Signed: Robert McDowall**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2015**