

PARISH OF ST BRELADE

PARISH ASSEMBLY

Minutes of an Assembly of Principals and Electors of the Parish of St Brelade held in the Main Hall at the Parish Hall, St Aubin, St Brelade on Tuesday 13 July 2021 commencing at 19:00 hours.

**President of
Assembly:**

Connétable, Mr Michael Jackson, presided.

Convening Notice:

The Convening Notice was read by the Parish Secretary.

**1. Minutes of
Previous
Assembly:**

The minutes of the previous Assembly of Principals and Electors of the Parish of St Brelade held on Tuesday 29 June 2021 were adopted and signed following a proposition by Centenier Michel Bougeard, which was seconded by Mr Arthur Morley. The Connétable asked for a show of hands with all those in favour, the Minutes were approved unanimously.

**2. Receive and
adopt
Financial
Statements for
year ended 30
April 2021:**

Mr Stephen Philips, of Alex Picot, Parish Accountants, explained the accounts of the Connétable for the year ended 30 April 2021 in great detail, (a copy of which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes).

The Meeting was opened up for any comments on the accounts and the following questions or comments were made:

A question was raised in relation to the Maison St Brelade loan that appeared amongst the overview of Parish Properties (note 4). The meeting was advised that the loan was taken out in the Parish's name but that Maison St Brélade were wholly responsible for repayment. The Meeting was also advised that the terms of the loan were being reviewed to try and reduce the cost of the payments.

Ms Moz Scott questioned as to why the St Brelade Battle of Flowers Association had again been allocated their grant for the second year running as no Battle parades had taken place since the start of the pandemic. The Connétable advised that the part of the monies would be going toward running repairs in the shed that they rented. He has been told that there would be two floats entering the 2022 parades and monies would be used in the early preparation.

Ms Scott asked for more clarity on the Exceptional Item (see note 14) in relation to legal fees asking whether this not put out to tender in the past and had lessons been learnt over the lack of transparent process.

The Connétable advised that the Parish had been summoned by the Royal Court. The Parish has no choice but to take professional advice as a result of the appellants chosen course. The outcome of the Judicial Review would take place 22 July 2021 or sooner.

There were no other questions or comments.

The accounts were unanimously adopted following a proposition by Mr Michael Videgrain which was seconded by Centenier Michel Bougeard. The accounts were approved unanimously.

3. Vote a sum of money for the upkeep of by-roads for the year ending 30 April 2022:

The Connétable Jackson explained the estimates for the Roads Account for the year ending 30 April 2022, a copy of which is attached and forms part of these minutes. There were various major roads that needed attention, including Mont Gras D'Eau (drainage works as well as resurfacing) and Mont du Ouaisné.

Mr Arthur Morley proposed the vote of £260,650 and this was seconded by Deputy Graham Truscott. The Connétable asked for a show of hands and the vote was approved unanimously by 15 votes for and none against.

4. Approve Estimates for the year ending 30 April 2022:

The Connétable explained the estimates for the year ending 30 April 2022, a copy of which is attached to, and forms part of, these minutes.

Questions were raised over the transfer to reserves and these were answered by the Connétable.

There being no further questions or comments the total estimated expenditure for the year ending 30 April 2022 for the amount of £2,033,350 which included the transfers to various Reserve Funds, as discussed, above was approved following a proposition by Mr Peter Norman which was seconded by Mr Kenneth Corbin. The Assembly voted by a show of hands, 15 in favour and there were no votes against.

5. Parochial Rate 2021

The Connétable read a statement in regard to issues relating to the setting of this year's rate and recommended that the Parish Rate for the year 2021 at 1.10p per quarter.

In his recommendation, the Connétable advised the Assembly that there had been no rise in the rate since 2018. Last year it was felt that due to the uncertainty of the pandemic there would be no rise. Projects in the pipeline included works to the Parish Hall roof, the Rectory roof and the toilet block at the Elephant Park. These projects may well need to be funded by a commercial loan but that is a discussion for the Procureurs and the Connétable and a further Parish Assembly.

It was noted that the suggested 1.10p was some 14 percent up on the previous year.

The Connétable invited any other proposals for a Parish Rate.

The Assembly was advised that on a three bedroomed house at Les Quennevais the rise would amount to an extra £37 per year.

Mr Arthur Morley proposed a rate of 1.10p per quarter Rate which was seconded by Mrs Jenny Norman. The proposition was voted on with 15 in favour and no votes against.

6. Committee to examine the Connétable's Accounts for the year ending 30 April 2022

The Connétable asked for nominations for members of the Accounts Committee. Current members, Messrs Michael Videgrain, Kenneth Corbin and Ian Wright willing to stand again.

Mr William Nixon had decided to stand down this year. The Connétable thanked Mr Nixon for the work that he had carried out on the Committee over many years.

On a proposition by Mr Peter Norman, Messrs Michael Videgrain, Kenneth Corbin and Ian Wright were nominated to examine the Connétable's Accounts for the year ending 30 April 2022. The proposition was seconded by Centenier Michel Bougeard and carried with 15 votes in favour and none against.

The Connétable thanked the Accounts Committee for their help and guidance with this year's accounts and estimates and declared those named duly re-elected.

7. Appointment of firm of Chartered Accountants:

The Connétable advised that Messrs Alex Picot were willing to be reappointed as the Chartered Accountants for 2022 and on a proposition from Mr David Norman, which was seconded by Mr Richard Haycock, Messrs Alex Picot were duly appointed to audit the Connétable's Accounts for the year ending 30 April 2022. The proposition was carried with 15 votes in favour and none against.

The Connétable then thanked the Assembly for their attendance, and also Stephen Phillips of Alex Picot and all their staff, the Accounts Committee and the Parish Secretary.

The Connétable declared the meeting closed at 21.00 hours.

Signed: _____

M K Jackson
Connétable

Dated: _____

Hi Mike, where are we inserting this para please?

Mr Alan Breckon addressed the Meeting in relation to a “speeding and safety issue” on Mont Les Vaux. The 20mph speed limit was not working and that the speed checks in his opinion needed to be carried out more frequently. Centenier Bougeard said that speed checks were regularly carried out but agreed that something more could be done. There are no pavements from a certain point. Discussion followed with Mr David Norman and Mrs Jenny Norman reiterating Mr Breckon’s fears. The Connétable advised the Assembly that he knew that there was a meeting of IHE Road Safety Group shortly and would make contact with them to set up a meeting. He further said that maybe a small focus group could be set up with Deputy Graham Truscott saying that he be happy to sit on.