

**PARISH OF ST BRELADE**

**PARISH ASSEMBLY**

	Minutes of an Assembly of Principals and Electors of the Parish of St Brelade held at St Brelade's Parish Hall on Tuesday 16 July 2024 commencing at 19:00 hours.
<b>President of Assembly:</b>	Connétable M K Jackson, presided.
<b>Convening Notice:</b>	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 25 June 2024, were adopted and signed following a proposal by Mr Arthur Morley Procureur du Bien Public, which was seconded by Deputy Montford Tadier with all in favour.
2. Adopt the financial statements of the Connétable for the financial year ended 30 April 2024:	<p>The Connétable invited Mr Adam Hodgkins the Financial Adviser to present a presentation of the accounts in the absence of Mr Stephen Phillips of Messrs Alex Picot.</p> <p>Mr Hodgkins advised the Accounts Committee had spent 5 hours thoroughly examining the accounts.</p> <p>Mr Roger Bignell spotted a typo in the accounts which has been amended and corrected accounts have been posted on the Website and reprinted for collection.</p> <p>Mrs Melanie Luce questioned current liabilities and requested a copy of all accounts not paid. Adam Hodgkins advised that this information was not readily available to the general public.</p> <p>Extensive discussion was had regarding interest rates and Reserve Funds with Mr Adam Walsh, the Connétable, Deputy Montfort Tadier, Mr Peter Norman, Mr Simon Langlois, Mr Michael Videgrain and Mr Peter Durham-Waite contributing.</p> <p>Mr Michael Videgrain expressed his pride for the Connétable and Accounts Committee for the time spent to ensure the accounts were correct. He proposed the accounts be adopted and this was seconded by Deputy Moz Scott. The vote was unanimous in favour.</p>

<p>3. Vote a sum of money for use by the Parish Roads Committee for the upkeep and maintenance of the Parish by-roads for the year ending 30 April 2025:</p>	<p>The Connétable explained the estimates for the roads accounts for the year ending 30 April 2025, a copy of which is attached and forms part of these Minutes.</p> <p>Deputy Jonathan Renouf questioned the reason for the increase of 25% in Roads Committee costs and the Connétable outlined the numerous reasons why this was the case.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade of utilities and subsequent resurfacing.</li> <li>• Resurfacing of Mont du Boulevard, kerbs re-set.</li> <li>• Additional gardener, the cost of which will be off set by a contribution from Maison St Brelade.</li> <li>• Enlargement of the Cemetery requiring additional labour.</li> <li>• Repairs on Mont du Coin.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Videgrain requested in future Assemblies there should be a separate detailed Roads Account Estimates to show the breakdown.</p> <p>The Connétable was in agreement.</p> <p>Approval of the estimated sum of £311,700 was proposed by Deputy Moz Scott and seconded by Centenier Michel Bougeard and adopted unanimously.</p>
<p>4. Approve estimates for the requirements of the Parish for the financial year ending 30 April 2025, including transfer to the reserve funds for specified purposes:</p>	<p>The Connétable explained the estimates for the year ending 30 April 2025, a copy of which is attached and forms part of these minutes.</p> <p>Deputy Montfort Tadier questioned the underspend of £7,500 remained this year for advertising.</p> <p>The Connétable responded that the Parish ceased advertising in the Jersey Evening Post for a time but had received complaints so reverted to using the JEP to promote the Parish Assembly, which is usually held on the last Tuesday of the month.</p> <p>Deputy Jonathan Renouf questioned the 10% increase in administration.</p> <p>The Connétable explained it was due to increases in staff and Social Security costs. Increased funding to Communicare to cover the cost of living was discussed at length.</p>

	<p>Deputy Miles questioned the transparency of the accounts for Communicare and why they weren't included in the accounts and how much was in the Reserve account.</p> <p>There was extensive discussion from Mrs Enid Quenault, The Connétable, Deputy Helen Miles, Deputy Moz Scott, Mr Stephen Phillips, Mr Peter Durham-Waite, Deputy Montfort Tadier, Mr Arthur Morley, Mr Kenneth Corbin, Mrs Jill Corbin, Mr Eric Le Rossignol, Mrs Grace Le Rossignol and Mr Michael Videgrain.</p> <p>Mr Kenneth Corbin and Mrs Jill Corbin gave a brief history of the Communicare Trust, a private trust, and advised the Communicare had been founded by the Methodist and Anglican Church.</p> <p>Deputy Montfort Tadier questioned why accounts were being asked for and wouldn't expect to see accounts of any private hotel, he continued that £50,000 was good value to the Parish.</p> <p>Proposition to approve the estimates for the requirements of the Parish for the financial year ending 30 April 2025 including transfers to the Reserve Funds was proposed by Deputy Moz Scott and seconded by Deputy Helen Miles.</p> <p>The proposition was unanimously approved.</p>
<p>5. Approve a rate for the year 2024 of an amount which will produce for the Parish income that is at least sufficient to satisfy the requirements set out on the approved estimates:</p>	<p>The Connétable outlined the options relating to the taxing of this year's rate and recommended that the Parish Rate for the year 2024 be fixed at 1.4p per quarter.</p> <p>Deputy Moz Scott proposed 1.38p per quarter this was seconded by Mr Alan Webb.</p> <p>Mr Michael Balston questioned the indicated deficit and proposed to keep the rate at 1.30p per quarter, this was not seconded.</p> <p>Mr Roger Bignell proposed 1.5p to balance the books, this was also not seconded.</p> <p>The Connétable asked for a seconder for his proposal of 1.4p and this was seconded by Mr Arthur Morley.</p> <p>A vote was taken for 1.38p with 6 in favour and a vote was taken for 1.4p with 33 in favour.</p> <p>The rate was therefore approved by the Assembly at 1.4p per quarter.</p>

<p>6. Elect a committee to examine the Connétables accounts for the year ending 30 April 2025:</p>	<p>The Connétable explained that all members of the committee were willing to stand again.</p> <p>On a proposition by Mr Geoffrey Winchester, Messrs Michael Videgrain, Mr Paul Beaugie, Mr Kenneth Corbin and Mr Ian Wright were nominated to examine the Connétable's Accounts for the year ending 30 April 2025. The proposition was seconded by Mr Peter Durham-Waite.</p> <p>The proposition was unanimously approved.</p> <p>The Connétable thanked the Accounts Committee for their help and guidance with this year's accounts and estimates.</p>
<p>7. Approve a firm of Chartered Accountants to audit the Connétable's accounts for the year ending 30 April 2025:</p>	<p>On a proposition by Centenier Bougeard and seconded by Mr Paul Beaugie, Messrs Alex Picot were appointed to audit the Connétables Accounts for the year ending 30 April 2025.</p> <p>The proposition was unanimously approved.</p>
	<p>All votes taken during the Assembly were by voting slips issued by the Parish prior to the start of the Assembly.</p> <p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked the Assembly for their attendance.</p> <p>Deputy Moz Scott was presented with flowers to congratulate her on the occasion of her wedding.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21.45 hours.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p> <p><b>M K Jackson</b> <b>Connétable</b></p>