

PARISH OF ST BRELADE

PARISH ASSEMBLY

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| | Minutes of an Assembly of Principals and Electors of the Parish of St Brelade held at St Brelade's Parish Hall on Tuesday 31 March 2026 commencing at 19:00 hours. |
| President of Assembly: | Connétable M K 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 24 February 2026 were adopted as read and signed following a proposition by Deputy Jonathan Renouf which was seconded by Centenier Michel Bougeard with all in favour. |
| 2. Refurbishment of toilet block at the Elephant Park: | <p>Business: To consider the withdrawal of £250,000 from the property reserve fund for the refurbishment of the children's play park toilets at the Elephant Park.</p> <p>The Constable introduced the item, clarifying that the project entails a full gutting and rebuild of the toilet interior. He provided a history of the project:</p> <p>22nd February 2022: Assembly voted £14,000 for plans. 27th June 2023: Assembly voted £25,000 for a tender pack and professional advice. 30th April 2023: Assembly voted £16,645 for additional costs. Total drawn down to date: £55,645 (with expenditure of £51,990).</p> <p>Following public feedback, the specification was reduced, removing the changing places section and a pathway. The new estimated cost is £248,435.79. The Constable urged the assembly to act for the benefit of the parish's children.</p> <p>The floor was opened for discussion. Key points raised by parishioners included:</p> <p>Mr Edward Le Couteur (Caretaker, Elephant Park): Confirmed the toilets were in an abysmal state, with drains frequently blocked . He had been told for five years that renovations were planned.</p> <p>Mrs Michelle Vibert Highlighted the poor condition of the toilets, noting her daughter refuses to use them. She emphasized the need for dignity and privacy for children. She</p> |

also noted that building costs had risen significantly since COVID.

Mr Dubano (Builder) Argued the project was overpriced by approximately £75,000. He suggested an independent quantity surveyor remeasure the project and re-tender.

Mr Rupert Myers(Project Manager): Responded to concerns, stating that three reputable tenders were received (ranging from £400k to £510k). The lowest tenderer, CA Mauger, provided the revised £248k price after the scope was reduced (removing changing places, solar panels, and external works). The drainage is a separate issue, with a £50,000 sum voted in January 2026.

Mr John Young Spoke in favour, noting his own grandchildren use the park. He argued that delays will only increase costs due to inflation, labour shortages, and material costs.

Deputy Jonathan Renouf provided context, stating he helped stop the previous £500k project. He confirmed a working group was formed but did not progress. He noted that the total cost including drainage is £300k. He cited confidential government figures for comparable toilet refurbishments that were in the same ballpark.

Mr Olly Ashton Raised concerns about the timing, suggesting the work should start in September to avoid disrupting summer use. He argued the project was overpriced and that a wider tender should be sought. He expressed concern that £55,000 had been spent without any work commencing and that the park itself also needs renovation.

Concern regarding Accessibility: A parishioner asked about the removal of changing spaces and the potential conflict with anti-discrimination laws. The Constable and project manager confirmed the covered area remains, but the changing places facility was removed to reduce costs.

Mr Roger Barron Criticized the £50,000 already spent on design, questioning the architect's approach. He suggested a smaller building company could undertake the work for less and argued that £350,000 (including drainage) should be sufficient to renovate both the toilets and the park.

Mrs Natalie Sellers (Pisces Gym): Explained the gym is a community-focused family business run by volunteers. She stated they were only made aware of the exact drainage costs at this meeting and would need time to fundraise to contribute.

Gabriel Raimondo Raised concerns about the timing of the work and requested clarification on the funding for the Pisces Gym drainage contribution.

Paul Michel: A parent with young children stated that temporary toilets would be an acceptable alternative during

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| | <p>construction.</p> <p>Mrs Jean Dyer Emphasized the need for a covered area for families and for a toilet with space for a double buggy. She described the current toilets as unhygienic and unfit for use. Michael Marett- Crosby Stated that the current facilities would be closed down in the UK on child protection grounds. He offered to help seek external funding for the park once the toilets were completed.</p> <p>Mr Gilmore: Provided historical context, stating the land for Pisces Gym was gifted by the parish on condition it remains a parish facility.</p> <p>Following a lengthy debate, Deputy Renouf proposed a composite resolution to combine the two funding streams.</p> <p>Deputy Renouf proposed that the assembly allocate up to £300,000 from the property reserve fund to complete both the toilet block refurbishment and the associated drainage works.</p> <p>The proposal was seconded by Mr Videgrain.</p> <p>The proposal was put to a vote. 60 in Favour and 5 against.</p> <p>The proposition was carried.</p> <p>The Constable confirmed the assembly would proceed with the project as quickly as possible.</p> |
| | <p>There being no further business the Chairman thanked the 70 people present for their attendance. The meeting was declared closed at 2040 hours.</p> <p>Signed : _____ Dated : _____</p> <p>M K Jackson Connétable</p> |

