



PARISH OF ST HELIER



Minutes of the Shadow Conseil Municipal	
Monday 27 July 2020 at 6.00 p.m.	
Meeting held in the Assembly Room, Town Hall	
	Item 1: Welcome, Apologies, Scene Setting and Overview –
	<p>Present: Constable Simon Crowcroft (SC) Procureur Geraint Jennings (GJ) Mr Julian Rogers (JR) Mr John Baker (JB) Mr Barry Le Feuvre (BLF) Mr Bernie Manning (BM) Mrs Lyndsay Feltham (LF) Mrs Barbara Corbett (BC) Mr Mario Pirozzolo (MP) Mr Robert Le Brocq (RLB)</p> <p>In Attendance: Mr Jason Turner, CEO (JT) Mrs Alison Sweeney, Parish Secretary (AS)</p> <p>Apologies: Procureur Peter Pearce (PP) The Very Revd Mike Keirle (MK)</p>
	Item 2: Approve the minutes of the last meeting
	The minutes of the meeting 20 th May 2020 were approved unanimously (SC,GJ,JR,JB,BLF,BM,LF, BC, MP, RLB)
	Item 3: Declaration of Interests.
	Mario Pirozzolo and Bernie Manning who are event organisers, declared an interest in relation to discussing noise levels at Events.
	Item 4: Matters Arising
	<p>SC advised the Shadow Conseil Municipal that Malcolm L’Amy had resigned.</p> <p>JB stated that the Environment Portfolio Committee had not been able to engage with anyone from Government Departments.</p> <p>JT gave an update as where Parish Officers were in relation to moving matters forward with Government Departments. He explained that hopefully Ministers were looking to move Covid19 restrictions to level 1 in the coming weeks. Whilst the Parish had tried to move matters forward, unfortunately a number of the Governments Civil Servants, including those from Planning and Environment have been redeployed due to the pandemic, the Parish have been asked to wait until the Officers return to their positions to progress matters further; which has prevented the Parish from pushing forward. He commented that Ministers could be asked to consider signing a letter of understanding, which would give the Parish delegated powers on a temporary basis. If members are in favour, JT will write to those departments concerned. SC explained that there had been delays in obtaining permission from GHE for an alfresco area around the Obelisk in Broad Street. If Government Ministers agreed, the Roads Committee could be the authority to approve applications such as this. It was agreed unanimously by the Shadow Conseil that letters were to be sent and that JT will feedback any progress at the next meeting.</p> <p>JG stated Local Councils in France and the UK have been given additional delegated powers during the Covid19 Pandemic, whereas in St Helier it has been the opposite situation.</p>

	<p>JB advised the Conseil that the Government were moving forward with Public Realm improvements for St Helier, which would change the Centre of Town, This was aligned to what his Environment Portfolio Committee were seeking to achieve.</p> <p>BLF questioned why when Nelson Street Car Park belongs to the Parish; the Minister of GHE has control of it. SC stated that was a matter for another day.</p>
20/21	<p>Item 5: Discuss the Parish adding a sentence to its existing noise management guidance for events, so it adopts standards of noise measurement set out in the (UK) Noise Council Code on Environmental Noise at Concerts</p>
	<p>JR recommends that the Parish adds a sentence to its existing noise management guidance for events and so adopts standards of noise measurement set out in the (UK) Noise Council Code of Practice on Environmental Noise at Concerts</p> <p>JR gave an outline of “Noise management – what noise you would you expect from your event – will it be ambient background noise, or will there be amplified music – if so you will need to detail steps that will be taken to minimise the risk of nuisance and how complaints received before, during and after the event will be addressed. For guidance noise levels should not normally exceed 75 decibels measured 5 metres in front of the sound source.”</p> <p>He explained this is an over-simplification of the Noise Council material herewith. For example, the Noise Council refers throughout to dB(A), the A for noise measurement adjusted to human perception. If we wish to keep Parish guidance as self-regulation for the present, we should probably to stick to decibels, which you can measure with some phone apps, or a simple noise-meter from Amazon (£17). A noise-meter, which also measures dB (A), costs £47 from Amazon.</p> <p><i>As there are a number of differing events is should say “not normally” above because we welcome marching bands etc., and the Noise Council material seems to allow for special circumstances anyway. For example, Funky Friday might make a reasonable case for 80 decibels rather than 75 because it is in the middle of the day, for a relatively short duration and surrounded by traffic noise.</i></p> <p>It seems that our law in this area is 19 pages of Statutory Nuisances (Jersey) Law 1999, which contains no reference to any objective measurement of noise whatsoever.</p> <p>As people become more aware of environmental issues, and as the Jersey in general and St. Helier in particular become more crowded, both the States (Government) and Parish might want to do more about noise pollution. While guidance based on the Noise Council, code of practice does not refer to domestic noise nuisance that is at least a starting point of reference. It would be good if the Parish website now had a link to this Noise Council material to accompany 75 in its A-Z section.</p> <p>LF said the wording all seemed quite technical and that she wasn’t sure the wording for guidance noise levels should not normally exceed 75 decibels measured 5 metres in front of the sound source.” was truly correct, as JR said it was his simplification of the information. LF sated she would like to make an amendment that people Read the standards themselves where it clearly states describes noise and where it emanates from, she feels we should be pointing people to the noise standards rather than giving specifics. JR said he was not adverse to amendments as long as the decision was made</p> <p>MP who runs events stated that it was a requirement and good practice to take noise levels throughout the event, which can be shown to prove noise, was not excessive, you can do this by downloading an app on your phone and was a good method of self-regulation.</p> <p>It was agreed by the Conseil to adopt the following wording in its contracts and guidance for events: standards of noise measurement should not exceed those set out in the (UK) Noise Council Code of Practice on Environmental Noise at Concerts, this was proposed by JR and seconded by LF and approved unanimously (SC,GJ,JR,JB,BLF,BM,LF, BC, MP, RLB). It was also agreed it should document the details signposting event organisers to the standards.</p>
20/22	<p>Item 6: Public Engagement Portfolio Committee: Receive a half-yearly update report from the chairperson</p>

	<p>LF as the Chairperson gave an update to members, explaining the objectives of the Committee and the progress it had made.</p> <p>Objective: Publicising what is delivered with rates funding - utilising website and social media Progress: Parish accounts have been published ahead of the Parish Rates Assembly Front page feature article in July edition of Town Crier Social media posts have been published ahead of the Rates Assembly</p> <p>Objective: Utilising new Town Crier format and frequency to improve awareness and understanding of Parish matters Progress: New format Town Crier published monthly as an insert within the Jersey Evening Post Town Crier available electronically on Parish website and also in printed format from the Parish Hall</p> <p>Objective: Promotion of St Helier to visitors and residents, specifically producing a leaflet (initially with a Liberation focus) to be made available from the Town hall Progress: Delayed due to public health restrictions</p> <p>Objective: Investigate electronic voting for Parish Assemblies Work has been undertaken by the Parish to ensure that Parish Assemblies can be viewed live online Progress: Further work to investigate electronic voting has been delayed due to impact of Covid-19 pandemic</p> <p>Objective: Develop a plan to increase number of Mandataires registered and participating in Parish Assemblies Progress: Information sent out to businesses with Rates, advising how to update details of Mandataires. Number of Mandataires has increased Companies have been updating their details.</p> <p>LF stated that Parish employees had undertaken a large amount of the work, during these unprecedented times. There was a lot of discussion around the new format of the Parish Town Crier, including the positives, negatives, distribution and the cost of advertising. JT explained AS was working on an online sign up for the Town Crier, newsletters, events etc. There was congratulations to the Town Centre Manager who did a great job on social media over the Liberation Day Celebrations</p> <p>The Committee have not been able to discuss digital voting with anyone during pandemic, broadcasting meetings online was a move in the right direction and AS was congratulated for this. BLF expressed concerns that digital voting would stop the public from attending Parish Assemblies.</p> <p>SC said he had asked the Solicitor General about referendums and had been advised the Parish cant't hold them. He is on PPC where they are looking at electronic voting</p> <p>JB said applause needed to be given to the Committee for their efforts. He informed the meeting that he had set up a Parishioners Facebook page.</p> <p>The Engagement Portfolio half-yearly plan was approved unanimously (SC,GJ,JR,JB,BLF,BM,LF, BC, MP, RLB)</p>
	<p>Item 7: Community Services Portfolio Committee: Receive a half-yearly update report from the chairperson</p>
	<p>JR as Chairperson gave the following report:</p> <p>My fellow members of the Community Services Portfolio are Barbara Corbett Barry Le Feuvre + Malcolm L'Amy, resigned but still contributing</p> <p>Our Community Services Portfolio Plan remains as it was immediately before lockdown. The three investigation and documentation elements are still relevant post-lockdown. The information sharing meetings remain appropriate, they are concentrating first on "Navigating the Care System"</p> <p>Head of Governance, Policy and Standards at the Jersey Care Commission has recommended four key contacts across the relevant departments who might be prepared to speak at public meetings. We now have to</p>

	<p>prepare an overall brief for them which seeks guidance on the serious problems involved, but which does not have the effect of putting such high-level contacts into defence mode.</p> <p>The Community Services Steering Group (led by Deputy Inna Gardiner) now has Barry as a member. Barry is acting as champion for special town parking access, mainly directed at elderly shoppers, particularly to support traditional town-centre shopping areas like the market. He is grateful for the support of the Town Centre Manager in this area.</p> <p>The laminated weekday list of activities requires republication when activities resume on any scale. The Parish website now has no obsolete what's on panels, and will be covering new activities as they arise. It is good that the Town Crier is now published as an insert to the JEP, which will work well for community services. The Committee pass on their thanks to the Connetable from the U3A, which will use the Assembly Room for its Art and History group, and from Inna Gardiner's Community Support Groups who use the Assembly Room in August.</p> <p>There was discussion in relation to play equipment and how to move this forward. Ideas were floated and these were left for the Committee to follow up on. There was also discussion about the lack of toilets and the positioning of play equipment at Westmount Park.</p> <p>The Community Services Portfolio half-yearly plan was approved unanimously (SC,GJ,JR,JB,BLF,BM,LF, BC, MP, RLB).</p>
	<p>Item 8: Environment Portfolio Committee: Receive a half-yearly update report from the chairperson</p>
	<p>JB gave an update as Chairperson of the Environment Committee explaining they had great hopes of achieving many things, but were stopped in their plans at every turn during Covid. They had hoped to engage with States Officers but this has not been allowed. In relation to St Helier as a garden city, work had been done behind the scenes; it is a concept, which is in every major city. JB said he had discussed it with the Constable and JT on how to introduce the principles. SC explained it would need an amendment to the Island plan, and requires the backing of the Parish Assembly. There was much discussion from members around the Garden City concept, the Environment Committee needs to work up a plan to gain approval, they need to sit down and work through the process.</p> <p>The cycle for Jersey work had been delayed due to the pandemic and the group now had to play catch up</p> <p>JB thanked JT & AS on behalf of the Committee for their support</p>
	<p>The two empty seats on the Conseil were discussed, if was felt that due to delays as a result of the pandemic the Portfolio Committees maybe unable to achieve their objectives, and so the Shadow Conceal may go back to the Parish Assembly and request a further six months in which to achieve their plans. It could be that an election for the vacant places could take place at that time.</p>
	<p>The meeting scheduled for the 12th August has been cancelled. The next scheduled Meeting of the Shadow Conseil will take place on Monday 14th September 2020.</p>