

Summary of Douzaine Meeting on Tuesday 26th May 2015

Present: Mr D H Le Moignan (Constable), Mrs J M Tasker (Constable), Mrs C E Goodlass, Messrs R R Matthews, P J B Wilson, Mrs K E Jones, Messrs B J Cash, K R Pike, J H Sarre, R A Grant, R L Lord, N E Forman, R H Harding, Ms D M Sebire, Mr Mr D Falla, Ms M B McDermott, Messrs M G G Garrett and J Mooney. Apologies were received from Mr L C Queripel, Mrs J C Robin & Mr P J Burtenshaw.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of meeting on the 27th April 2015 were accepted.

Matters arising

- Youth Commission membership – Mrs Tasker was still looking into this matter.
- Douzaine Declaration of Interests – Ms Sebire and Ms McDermott had contacted Adrian Nicolle of SACC to obtain a copy of the Declaration used by Deputies and were working on a revision of this. Several Douzeniers thought that this type of document was unnecessarily intrusive and also opined that a simple verbal declaration if any conflicts arose on a case by case basis would suffice
- Reduction in the Number of Douzeniers – discussion ensued on this, and it was decided that due to the length of time that any legal process would take and the added flexibility, exchange of ideas and that some events and activities are assisted by having a larger Douzaine, it was unanimously decided not to pursue this subject.
- Bus shelter at Rohais plantation – These are provided by Environment Traffic and cost £5,000 each. Environment would not provide one due to a shortage of funds. It may be possible to get commercial sponsorship for this and Mr Mooney would follow this up. A request for a shelter at Envoy House would also be followed up with Environment.
- Lord's Prayer and Grace at Douzaine meetings – Ms Sebire read a short statement on her proposal to remove the Lord's Prayer and Grace from the beginning and end of Douzaine meetings. This proposal was defeated by 2 votes for, 13 against and 2 abstentions.

School Reports

Amherst School – Mrs Jones reported that several parts of the school were looking neglected. The School Committee should report this to Education.

St Sampsons High School – Mrs Tasker reported that the Committee had been invited to meet the Validation Committee recently and it had been an informative and useful exercise.

La Mare de Carteret – Mr Le Moignan advised that the School Committee had been invited to meet Education Scotland.

Constables' Report to the Douzaine

Mr Le Moignan read the report.

Mrs Tasker advised that a talk by Environment's Andy McCutcheon on Guernsey's Biodiversity Strategy was offered. This was welcomed, but should be held on a separate evening to the Douzaine meetings. Mr Lord pointed out that he had now joined the Ramsar Committee investigating new Ramsar designations.

Committee Reports

Christmas Lights – the committee had two fund raising events planned, a gala dinner for 250 people at the St Pierre Park Hotel on 17th October and a Quiz Night on 25th September at the Grammar School. A raffle will be held on both evenings.

Street lighting Committee – Ms Sebire confirmed that she had had a full list of St Peter Port street lights. Mr Lord confirmed that he had been asked to join the GE Community Liaison Committee.

Profile Committee – A meeting was due to be held on the 27th May. A new Douzaine photograph would be organized.

Refuse Committee – advised that many bags had been put out on the recent Bank Holiday despite the publicity that there was no collection. The committee were looking in to putting a second public bin at Les Petites Fontaines as it was overflowing from the double collections.

Floral Committee – A report had been circulated. Dr Philip De Jersey, States Archeologist, will meet the floral judges at Les Rue des Freres Cemetery as part of the Floral Guernsey entry. The portfolio is now printed and ready to go to the judges. Forms for the Parish competition will also be sent out within the next week.

Support of The Vision document – Mr Burtenshaw had asked that the Douzaine hold a ballot on support for the Vision document. There was considerable debate on this subject and several Douzeniers expressed a view that it was not something that the Douzaine should vote on. The Vision is now incorporated into the Draft Island Development Plan. Any specific plans in the future would need to go through the normal planning process and therefore the Douzaine would have the opportunity to comment at that stage.

Any Other Business

Mr Le Moignan – advised that he had just heard that the road behind the North Plantation was to be made into an alfresco area as the Environment department had full approval from all residents and traders. The Douzaine were asked if they agreed in principle to this area becoming alfresco. 11 were in favour, 3 against and there were 5 abstentions. Several Douzeniers would like to see further information before making a decision.

Mrs Jones – expressed congratulations and thanks to the Liberation Day float committee, as did all present. They were commended on an excellent effort.

Mr Lord – said that there were problems still being experienced outside the Caves de Bordeaux with the public being intimidated by patrons.

Mr Garrett – asked that the subject of vandalism to be placed on next month's agenda.

Mrs Tasker – advised that Parish representatives at the last DLG meeting had requested a meeting with Public Services to discuss the new draft refuse laws.

The meeting closed at 10.15pm