

MINUTES

24 January 2024 10:00 a.m.
Bureau du Connétable, Parish Hall

Committee Members:	Present:	Number of meetings held during 2024:	Number of meetings attended during 2024:
Kevin Lewis (KL) Connétable	Present	1	1
Rev. Martin Evans (ME)	Absent	1	0
Stuart Pirouet (SP)	Present	1	1
Paul Houzé (PH)	Present	1	1
Michael Officer (MO)	Present	1	1

In attendance:

Marco Vieira (MV) Executive Officer

Paula Jespersen (PJ) Admin Support Officer (Minute taker)

1. Introduction & Declarations of Interest	<p>The Chair opened the meeting, with a special welcome to the two new members. Apologies were received from Rev Martin Evans.</p> <p>PH declared a conflict of interest regarding item 8, relating to the development of fields S415 and S470.</p>
2. To Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting	<p>The approval of the minutes from the previous meeting held on 18 December 2023 were read and approved. Proposed by PB seconded by SP.</p>
3. Acts of the Previous Meeting(s) / (Matters Arising)	<p>The Committee proceeded to review the appendix notes from the previous meeting. MV provided a summary of the key actions and decisions taken during the previous meeting, highlighting any outstanding matters.</p>
3.1 Sunshine Avenue; Resurfacing of highway	<p>MV discussed plans and tenders received which ranged between £80,000-£120,000 to resurface the highway. After much discussion by members and consideration of the characterises of the highways, specifications, warranty periods, quality of work (evidence of previous work) and value for money members agreed to the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurfacing quality - Class 3 Road Permanent Reinstatement - Page 37 • 2 road humps in accordance with Highways (Road Humps) (Jersey) Regulations 2002 • Implement an embargo of up to 5 years, as per the Road Works and Events (Jersey) Law 2016, prohibiting utilities and Government Agencies from road excavation except in emergencies. • Consult with all relevant utility companies and the Department for Infrastructure (Dfi) to confirm that there are no scheduled works planned within Sunshine Avenue. • Replace remaining streetlights with modern columns with LED fitting • Resurfacing to proceed in August 2024 before the commencement of the new school term.. <p>Works have been rescheduled for August 2024 to allow the new RC members ample time to thoroughly discuss the road safety scheme in the</p>

area. This matter was previously deliberated at the RC meeting held on November 10, 2023, where the then RC members were unable to reach a decision.

DECISION: Ensure that all conditions set by the members are met and schedule works prior to the resurfacing project. Proposed by MO seconded by SP.

3.2 Grands Vaux: parking issues

Following the PCO's report highlighting ongoing parking issues at Grands Vaux, which pose significant dangers to all road users, members expressed unanimous agreement with the PCO's concerns regarding road safety. To address the persistent dangerous parking along the road, it was suggested to extend prohibition lines on both sides between the junctions of Rue a la Dame and Deloraine Road. This measure aims to eliminate vehicles parked in hazardous areas, although it may potentially lead to speeding issues. While road humps were considered, members deemed them unnecessary due to the absence of factual evidence confirming speeding issues in the parish.

MV clarified that a temporary order would be established for a period of 12 months, allowing members to evaluate the success or failure of the proposed changes.

MO raised the question of whether prohibition lines in general could be removed at a later date. MV advised that repealing legislation was a complex process but clarified that the RC possessed the authority to initiate such actions.

DECISION: Extend the prohibition lines for a provisional period of 12 months under a temporary order. MV to draft a letter to the Minister regarding this decision. The proposal was put forward by SP and seconded by PH.

3.3 Croix de Bois: Drainage Works

After conducting a CCTV survey on our drainage system, it was observed that significant repairs were necessary due to its poor condition, following several complaints of flash flooding in the area.

MV and KL met with the DFI officer responsible for drainage matters to coordinate the Parish's drainage program, identify government-approved contractors, and clarify specifications.

DECISION: it was resolved to proceed with the drainage works and accept a £7,500 quote from a government-approved contractor. Proposed by MO and seconded by SP.

3.4 Grands Vaux (Alphington House) drainage update

The Parish is undertaking a drainage pipework replacement project, including road asphaltting, gully doubling, infrastructure repairs, and flood mitigation measures, costing approximately £43,000, with completion scheduled for next autumn.

PH enquired about the RC's budget. MV explained the current budget is £257,000, with £76,000 expended by April 2024. No previous budget allocation for drainage prompted consideration for a new drainage program after compiling a list of parish-owned assets.

SP queried potential government attenuation measures at the top of the valley, which KL confirmed were under consideration.

The RC emphasized prioritizing quality and suitability in contractor selection over cost, unanimously agreeing to prioritize the most appropriate choice for each project rather than solely opting for the lowest tender.

	<p>DECISION: The committee agreed to proceed with the £43,000 quote for drainage works, proposed by SP and seconded by MO.</p>
<p>3.5 Grands Vaux Reservoir</p>	<p>Jersey Water: KL reminded members that Jersey Water had extended an invitation for the RC to visit the facilities at Grands Vaux reservoir. It was agreed that PJ would contact Jersey Water to arrange this visit.</p> <p>KL also mentioned that he would coordinate for the RC to have an on-site visit to the cavern underneath Fort Regent.</p>
<p>3.6 General discussions</p>	
<p>3.6.1 La Rue de la Chouquetterie and La Freminerie</p>	<p>It was noted that both La Rue de la Chouquetterie and La Freminerie require to be resurfaced and it was agreed to add this to the Agenda for the next committee meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: To include this item on the next agenda.</p>
<p>3.6.2 Tree roots</p>	<p>An enquiry was made regarding the feasibility of cutting tree roots beneath roads. PH confirmed that it is indeed possible to cut the roots without causing harm to the trees.</p>
<p>3.6.3 Ground Penetrating Vehicle</p>	<p>MO enquired about the cost associated with bringing a Ground Penetrating Vehicle from the UK.</p> <p>ACTION: MV to enquire of the Department of Infrastructure (DFI) regarding the feasibility and cost of hiring a Ground Penetrating Vehicle.</p>
<p>3.7 Speed Indicator Device (SID)</p>	<p>There was general discussion wherein MV provided new members with insights into the process of retrieving data from the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). It was highlighted that the purpose of retrieving this data enables the Committee to hold data which could be used for decision-making purposes, related to road safety and traffic management within the Parish. Additionally, it was noted that the Parish currently owns 4 or 5 devices and has recently acquired a solar-powered SID.</p>
<p>3.8 Branchage – road defects</p>	<p>The Road Defect sheet, completed after the Visite du Branchage in September 2023, was shared with the members. This summary showed the completed works carried out by the Parish Highways Team.</p> <p>SP mentioned that one of the Road Inspectors (RI) had enquired about the possibility of digitalizing the road defect forms that Inspectors are required to complete. MV briefly informed the members about the new license for mapping that the Parish recently acquired. That he would be looking into setting up an online form and requested the RC members to provide input on what questions or information should be included in the digitalized form.</p> <p>ACTION: RC provide details of what they would like included on the digitalized road defect forms.</p>
<p>3.9 Planning Applications</p>	<p>P/2023/0843 Field S409 La Rue des Friquettes: update. This application is due to be considered at the next public Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>P/2023/1017 Field S789 Wellington Road (retrospective application) pedestrian access onto Bagatelle Lane.</p> <p>Following a site meeting attended by KL, SP, ME, the Deputy Headteacher, architect and one of the school Governors, SP had provided notes of this meeting, which were circulated to the committee members.</p>

It was noted that Planning had added a condition to their decision notice, requiring the installation of two bollards, identical to those along the existing virtual footway. These bollards would be subject to the approval and inspection by the Parish.

MV then sought the input of the RC members on how they wished to proceed with this matter. The Committee expressed their disappointment with the school for breaching planning regulations and with the Planning Department for approving the retrospective application

DECISION: It was agreed not to enforce the condition of installing the bollards at this time. Instead, the RC will closely monitor the situation with a view to potentially installing bollards in the future, should the need arise. No further immediate action is required.

3.10 Zebra crossing – St Michael’s school

The RC reviewed the drawings provided by the school and discussed the placement of the crossing, expressing concerns about its proposed location. The RC supports the initiative for a zebra crossing on the condition that its location is moved further North towards the school's playing fields. This adjustment would facilitate safer crossing for pupils to access a new suggested pedestrian walkway situated beneath the trees along the side of the playing fields. It was emphasized that the crossing must adhere to relevant legislation.

DECISION: MV was instructed to inform the school of the RC's requirements, stipulating that all associated works are to be covered financially by the school. Additionally, MV will communicate the RC's decision to DFI. Proposed by SP and seconded by MO.

3.11 Unauthorised Zebra crossing – St Michael’s school

Following a breach of the Road Traffic Law by the school, members requested the removal of the crossing based on its non-compliance with legislation. MV highlighted that as the road was maintained by the parish, any accidents resulting from the unauthorized crossing would hold the parish responsible.

3.12 Grande Route de St Martin - update

Following a meeting onsite with MV, PH and representatives from DFI, the Parish Highways team have made improvements to the visibility for vehicles by cutting back the roadside hedge. It was requested that the roadside mirror be reinstated and relocate the road sign to further improve visibility.

DECISION: MV to instruct the Highways team to reinstate the mirror and relocation of the road sign.

3.13 Traders House – Public Planning Committee Meeting

KL reported that he “crossed the floor” at the recent public planning meeting in order to represent the Parish so that he could formally object to the application and to put on record that the RC had initially submitted their objection in June 2023. KL informed the committee that despite his efforts, the application was ultimately approved, as he was outvoted during the meeting.

4. Planning Applications:

There were no Planning Applications for the members to review.

5. New Business

Branchage dates & Committee meeting dates:

The following dates for future RC meetings were proposed and approved noting that these dates were subject to change:

March 6, April 24, June 5, July 10, August 14, September 18, November 6 and December 18

The Branchage dates were set as follows:

- First Visite du Branchage on July 3
- Second Visite du Branchage on September 11

Speaking from a farmer's perspective, PH suggested that it is beneficial to have the Branchage dates for neighbouring parishes spread out. MV agreed to consider this when setting future dates and noted that PJ should inform the Chair of the Comité des Connétables accordingly.

SP informed the committee that he had drafted a letter to be sent to all Road Inspectors (RI) prior to the July Branchage. This letter would outline the expectations for the upcoming Branchage activities. He mentioned his intention to discuss the content of the letter with fellow members PH and MO before sharing it with the rest of the members.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 La Ruelle de Sacrement

MV reported that the signage was now complete the disabled bays now had a 3-hour time limit, while the general parking spaces had a 12-hour time limit. This meant that vehicles would not be allowed to return within 12 hours after exceeding their allotted parking duration.

8.2 Development of fields S415 and S470

KL had been approached by the developer of these fields. The developer explained that if their plans were approved, the land would be sold to Andium for site development. The purpose of the meeting was to seek permission from the RC for access to and from the development via two entrances on La Rue des Friquettes.

Concerns were raised regarding the visibility splay and the proximity of one of the entrances to the junction of La Rue de la Houquette along La Rue des Friquettes. The need for two access points was questioned. Additionally, it was noted that the proposed plans lacked adequate bin bays.

DECISION: the RC does not support this request and MV/PJ was instructed to relay this information to the developer.

9. Next meeting: 6 March 2024 at 10 am.

10. Close of meeting: The Connétable thanked all attendees and closed the meeting at 2.30 p.m.



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Kevin Lewis (KL) Connétable
Signed by the Connétable as
President of the Roads Committee