PARISH OF ST SAVIOUR®

PARISH ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLIÉE DÉ LA PAROISSE

MINUTES

Thursday 16 July 2026 06.30 p.m.
Parish Hall

Present:	Dave Curtis – Connétable (Chairperson) Richard Le Quesne – Procureur du Bien Public Martin Roberts – Procureur du Bien Public Marco Vieira – Executive Officer
In Attendance:	Irena Jevtic – Alex Picot Auditors Paula Jespersen – Executive Assistant & minute taker
Apologies Received:	Chef de Police Centenier Martins, Centenier Laffoley-Edwards, Vingtenier Hallam, Michael Officer, Tom Gales and Nicolette Westwood
	Connétable Curtis presided over the Assembly which numbered 37 people.

Agenda matter

Convening Notice:

AN ASSEMBLY of the Principals and Electors of the Parish of St. Saviour will be held at the Parish Hall on Thursday 16 July 2026 at 6:30 pm for the following business:-

1. To receive and, if deemed advisable, approve the minutes from the previous Parish Assembly held on 9 March 2026.
2. To receive and, if approved, adopt the Audited Annual Accounts for the financial year ended 30 April 2026.
3. In accordance with the terms of Article 21(2) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005, receive and, if approved, adopt the Estimates for the financial year ending 30 April 2027.
4. In accordance with the terms of Article 21(3) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005, approve a Parish Rate for the Financial year ending 30 April 2027.
5. To elect an Accounts Committee to examine the Audited Annual Accounts for the financial year ending 30 April 2027 and Estimates for the financial year ending 30 April 2028.
6. To appoint "Alex Picot, Chartered Accountants" as auditors of the Annual Accounts for the financial year ending 30 April 2027.

Copies of the draft audited Annual Accounts for 2025 – 2026 will be available from the Parish Hall Office and online https://stsaviour.je/parish-accounts-and-estimates/ from noon on 3 July 2026, and immediately prior to the Assembly on Thursday 16 July 2026.

Parish Hall St Saviour 3 July 2026	…………………………………………………… David Curtis **Connétable**

I hereby certify that the above notice was affixed in the official Notice Box (boîte grillée), posted online and the Gazette, during the period from 3 July 2026 to the morning of 16 July 2026, inclusive and in conformity with the Law and Custom.

Parish Church
St. Saviour
16 July 2026

……………………………………………………
Doreen Le Roy
Churchwarden

ITEM 1: To receive and, if deemed advisable, approve the minutes from the previous Parish Assembly held on 9 March 2026.

The minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 9 March 2026 were proposed by Deputy Ferey and seconded by Procureur Roberts and approved by the Assembly.

ITEM 2: To receive and, if approved, adopt the Audited Annual Accounts for the financial year ended 30 April 2026:

The Connétable introduced the Audited Annual Accounts for the financial year ended 30 April 2026, presented in accordance with Article 21 of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005, which requires the Connétable to present the audited accounts and estimates to the Parish Assembly for consideration.

The Connétable thanked the Executive Officer and Parish Hall staff for the timely preparation of the Annual Accounts following the General Election. He also expressed his appreciation to the Procureurs du Bien Public, the Accounts Committee and the Parish's external auditors, Alex Picot Chartered Accountants, for their review and oversight throughout the audit process.

In presenting the Accounts, the Connétable reported that the Parish had delivered another strong financial performance during the year. The General Account recorded an operating surplus of approximately £166,000, whilst the Parish's net assets had increased by approximately 16.6%, from £3.126 million to £3.650 million. He advised that this reflected prudent financial management and placed the Parish in a strong position to continue investing in essential services and community infrastructure.

The Connétable concluded by thanking the Parish Team for their professionalism, commitment and sound stewardship of the Parish's finances.

The Connétable then invited Irena Jevtic, representing Alex Picot Chartered Accountants, to address the Assembly.

Ms. Jevtic confirmed that the Annual Accounts had been prepared in accordance with the Parish's accounting policies and had been audited in accordance with applicable professional auditing standards. She advised the Assembly that the audit had been completed and that an unmodified audit opinion had been issued, confirming that the Annual Accounts gave a true and fair view of the Parish's financial position as of 30 April 2026 and of its financial performance for the year then ended.

The Connétable thanked Ms Jevtic and invited questions from the Assembly.

Former Procureur Peter Mourant congratulated the Parish on the quality of both the Annual Accounts and the accompanying Frequently Asked Questions document, commenting that many of the questions he had intended to raise had already been comprehensively addressed. He commended the Parish Team on the standard of the financial reporting and indicated that he was pleased to propose adoption of the Accounts.

In response to a question regarding the proposed public park project, the Connétable advised that the scheme remained under review with the objective of reducing overall construction and future maintenance costs whilst maintaining an attractive, safe and accessible facility. He confirmed that the Minister for Infrastructure had indicated support in principle for relocating the proposed vehicular exit, which would remove the need for significant excavation works and greatly reduce construction costs. He further confirmed that any revised proposals would be brought before a future Parish Assembly before implementation.

A parishioner, whilst acknowledging that many of their questions had already been answered within the Frequently Asked Questions document, sought clarification regarding the increase in cleaning and maintenance expenditure.

The Executive Officer explained that the principle increases in the budget related primarily to maintenance costs rather than routine cleaning. The increase was mainly attributable to the specialist repair and conservation of three historic Parish Hall windows at a cost of more than £25,000, together with increased cleaning contract costs and provision for the repair of a further three windows, which could not be completed within the available budget during the current financial year.

The Executive Officer referred Members to the detailed breakdown within the Connétable's Annual Report and advised that the expenditure related to several significant projects undertaken during the year. These included professional services associated with the Parish Hall refurbishment, architectural and planning advice for the proposed Patier Park development, legal costs arising from firearms licensing proceedings, specialist insurance reinstatement valuations of the Parish Hall and Parish Church undertaken by a UK heritage valuation specialist, registration of the Parish's trademark and crest, together with legal and professional costs associated with reinstating a Parish footpath following the Visite Royale.

He further advised that discussions were ongoing with the Parish's insurance broker with a view to reducing future insurance premiums through revised reinstatement valuations.

In response to a supplementary question, the Connétable confirmed that proceedings concerning the disused footpath from beside Chateau Vermont down into Grands Vaux remained before the Royal Court and were scheduled to be heard the following day.

Concern was also expressed regarding the future capital and maintenance costs associated with the proposed public park, with a suggestion that sponsorship opportunities be explored through local businesses and parishioners.

The Connétable advised that reducing long-term maintenance liabilities remained a key objective of the revised design and confirmed that sponsorship opportunities would be explored once the design had received planning approval and any revised proposals had been approved by a future Parish Assembly.

The Executive Officer added that the Parish had already received some financial support from a major retailer in St Saviour towards community initiatives and that opportunities to seek grant funding from charitable trusts and other external funding bodies would also be considered at the appropriate stage.

The Connétable concluded by advising that the immediate priority remained securing agreement with Infrastructure regarding the revised park access arrangements, following which the project would proceed through the planning process, return to the Parish Assembly for approval and, thereafter, progress to the funding stage.

There being no further questions, Peter Mourant proposed, and Mary O'Keeffe seconded, that the Audited Annual Accounts for the financial year ended 30 April 2026 be adopted.

The proposition was carried unanimously.

ITEM 3: In accordance with the terms of Article 21(2) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005, receive and, if approved adopt the Estimates for the financial year ending 30 April 2027:

The Connétable advised that, as this was his first budget, he had adopted a measured and prudent approach, maintaining existing service levels whilst taking time to review all aspects of the Parish's operations and identify opportunities for future efficiencies and value for money.

He explained that the Estimates had been prepared on a "hold-the-line" basis, recognising inflationary pressures and essential operational commitments whilst maintaining strong financial discipline. Provision had been made for continued investment in core Parish services, including roads and drainage, refuse and recycling, Honorary Police, Parish administration, church property, IT and ongoing capital projects.

The Connétable reported that the Estimates projected a modest operating surplus of £22,567, which would assist in strengthening the Parish's financial position and reserves while maintaining current service levels. He also advised that the Parish would continue to explore opportunities for greater collaboration with other Parishes and the Government of Jersey, together with opportunities to generate additional income through the provision of municipal services where there was a strong business case.

Finally, the Connétable highlighted that the Estimates would increase the Parish's working capital from approximately 12 weeks to 15 weeks of operating expenditure, strengthening the Parish's financial resilience and its ability to meet its obligations before rates income is received. He concluded that the

Estimates provided a balanced approach to maintaining high-quality public services whilst investing responsibly in the Parish's future.

The Connetable opened the floor for questions.

The Executive Officer In response to a question regarding the Parish Hall kitchen, it was confirmed that a modest refurbishment was included within the Estimates and that tenders had already been invited for the works, which would improve the facilities for community use.

There being no further questions.

On a proposition by Procureur Richard Le Quesne, seconded by Barry de la Mare, the Estimates for the financial year ending 30 April 2027 were unanimously approved by the Assembly.

ITEM 4: In accordance with the terms of Article 21(3) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005, approve a Parish Rate for the Financial year ending 30 April 2027:

The Connétable, following the recommendation of the Accounts Committee, proposed that the Parish Rate for the financial year ending 30 April 2027 be maintained at 1.59p per quarter. He invited questions from the Assembly and, there being no further questions, called for a proposer and seconder.

On a proposition by Procureur Martin Roberts, seconded by Deputy Malcolm Ferey, the Parish Rate for the financial year ending 30 April 2027 was unanimously approved at 1.59p per quarter.

ITEM 5: To elect an Accounts Committee to examine the Audited Annual Accounts for the financial year ending 30 April 2027 and Estimates for the financial year ending 2028

The Connétable introduced the proposition to appoint an Accounts Committee for the forthcoming financial year.

In presenting the proposition, the Connétable advised that, following comments received from parishioners in previous years regarding the composition of the Committee, consideration had been given to increasing public representation. The proposed revision sought to enhance transparency, broaden community participation and further strengthen the Parish's financial governance.

It was therefore proposed that the Committee comprise ten members, namely:

- the Connétable;
- the two Procureurs du Bien Public;
- one Deputy;
- one Churchwarden; and
- five parishioner representatives, increasing public representation from three to five members.

The Connétable then invited comments from the Assembly, of which two principal matters were raised by parishioners.

The first related to the notice given of the proposed change to the Committee's composition. Some parishioners considered that insufficient advance notice had been given of the proposed increase in public representation. In response, the Connétable and the Executive Officer confirmed that the Parish Assembly had been convened in accordance with the statutory notice requirements and that the agenda, including the appointment of an Accounts Committee, had been published by at least 2 weeks before the Assembly. Whilst it was acknowledged that the published notice did not specifically refer to the proposed change in membership composition, it was emphasised that the Assembly remained the appropriate forum for considering amendments to any proposition.

A further point was raised regarding the composition of the Accounts Committee, with a parishioner observing that, given the importance of the Committee's responsibilities, it was desirable that its membership should include individuals with appropriate financial or accounting experience.

It was further observed that a number of parishioners had attended the Assembly with the intention of offering themselves for appointment to the Committee under the existing arrangements. Deferring the matter or restricting nominations at the meeting would therefore have been unfair to those present and inconsistent with the democratic purpose of the Assembly. The Connétable acknowledged that the proposed change could have been communicated more fully in advance and indicated that consideration would be given to providing greater explanatory information in future Assembly notices and accompanying guidance.

The second matter concerned the purpose and status of the Accounts Committee.

The Connétable and the Executive Officer explained that the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 does not require a Parish to establish an Accounts Committee. Rather, Article 21 requires the Connétable to present the audited Annual Accounts and the Estimates directly to the Parish Assembly, which alone has the authority to adopt the Accounts, approve the Estimates and set the Parish Rate.

It was explained that the Parish of St Saviour has nevertheless chosen to appoint an Accounts Committee each year as a matter of good governance and financial stewardship. The Committee provides an opportunity for elected representatives and parishioners to examine the audited accounts and proposed estimates in detail before they are presented to the Assembly.

The Assembly was advised that the Committee's role is advisory only. It has no delegated decision-making powers and cannot approve the Annual Accounts, the Estimates or the Parish Rate. Its purpose is to provide independent scrutiny, seek clarification where appropriate and make recommendations to the Parish Assembly, which remains the Parish's ultimate decision-making body in accordance with the Law.

It was further noted that, given the size and scale of the Parish's operations, the Accounts Committee ordinarily meets once each year, shortly before the Annual Rates Assembly. This frequency was considered proportionate to the Parish's financial affairs whilst providing an appropriate level of independent scrutiny before the financial matters are considered by the Assembly.

(See further notes relating to the Accounts Committee at the end of these minutes.)

Following discussion, the Connétable maintained the proposition.

On a proposition by Patricia Blandin, seconded by Deputy Chris Leck, the Assembly resolved to adopt the revised composition of the Accounts Committee. The proposition was carried by 28 votes in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

The Assembly then proceeded to appoint the Deputy representative to the Committee.

Deputy Louise Doublet was proposed by Deputy Malcolm Ferey, seconded by Simone Duhamel, and was duly appointed by 14 votes in favour and 4 against.

During the appointment process, a parishioner enquired whether all nominees satisfied the eligibility requirements to serve on the Committee. Confirmation was given that those appointed were qualified to serve.

The Assembly then proceeded to appoint the parishioner representatives.

The following nominations were received:

Geoff Morris, proposed by Peter Mourant, seconded by Deputy Chris Leck;
Ian Blandin, proposed by Simone Duhamel, seconded by Peter Mourant;
Aynslie Le Brun, proposed by Simone Duhamel, seconded by Deputy Malcolm Ferey; and
Graeme Witts, proposed by Peter Mourant, seconded by Deputy Malcolm Ferey.

As there were insufficient nominations to fill the fifth parishioner position, one vacancy remained. The Assembly agreed that expressions of interest would be invited from parishioners and that a further Parish Assembly would be convened to appoint the remaining member.

The appointment of the nominated parishioner representatives was approved by 22 votes in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention.

Accordingly, the Accounts Committee for the financial year ending 30 April 2027 comprises:

1. Connétable – Dave Curtis
2. Procureur du Bien Public – Richard Le Quesne
3. Procureur du Bien Public – Martin Roberts
4. Deputy Representative – Deputy Louise Doublet
5. Churchwarden – Doreen Le Roy
6. Parishioner Representative – Aynslie Le Brun
7. Parishioner Representative – Ian Blandin
8. Parishioner Representative – Graeme Witts
9. Parishioner Representative – Geoff Morris
10. Parishioner Representative – Vacancy

It was noted that a further Parish Assembly will be convened in due course to appoint the remaining parishioner representative to the Committee.

ITEM 6: To appoint Alex Picot, Chartered Accountants as auditors of the Annual Accounts for the financial year ending 30 April 2027

Before seeking a proposer and seconder for the appointment of Alex Picot Chartered Accountants as the Parish's auditors, the Connétable invited questions from the Assembly.

In response to a question regarding why the accounts did not explicitly state that they were "true", Ms Jevtic explained that the Parish accounts are prepared and audited in accordance with established accounting policies and auditing standards. She confirmed that these practices are rigorously followed to ensure full compliance with the Rates Law and that the accounts present a true and fair view of the Parish's financial position and operations.

On a proposition by Patricia Blandin seconded by Procureur Martin Roberts, it was agreed to retain the services of Alex Picot and Co for a further year.

Closing:

In closing the Assembly, the Connétable thanked the Parish staff, Municipal Services Team, Honorary Police, Procureurs, Roads Committee, Assessors, Accounts Committee, Church officials, inspectors, volunteers and parishioners for their continued commitment, professionalism and support, acknowledging their important contribution to the continued success of the Parish.

Deputy Louise Doublet also thanked everyone who had assisted during the recent election and paid tribute to former Connétable Lewis, for his dedicated service to the Parish.

There being no further comments or questions, the Connétable thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed 7.41 p.m.

…………………………………………………….
Dave Curtis
Connétable & President of the Assembly of Electors

Why does St Saviour have an Accounts Committee?

The Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 does not require a Parish to establish an Accounts Committee. Under the Law, the Connétable is required to present the audited Annual Accounts and the Estimates directly to the Parish Assembly, which is responsible for adopting the Accounts, approving the Estimates and setting the Parish Rate.

The Parish of St Saviour has nevertheless chosen to appoint an Accounts Committee as a matter of good governance and financial stewardship. The Committee provides an opportunity for a representative group of parishioners, ideally possessing specific background knowledge of Parochial affairs and elected officials to examine the Annual Accounts and proposed Estimates in detail before they are presented to the Parish Assembly.

The Accounts Committee's role is advisory only. It does not have any decision-making powers and cannot approve the Accounts, the Estimates or the Parish Rate. Its purpose is to provide independent scrutiny, ask questions of officers, and make recommendations to the Parish Assembly, which remains the Parish's supreme decision-making body under the Law.

Given the size and scale of the Parish's operations, the Accounts Committee normally meets once each year, shortly before the Annual Rates Assembly. This is considered proportionate to the Parish's financial activities and enables detailed consideration of the financial statements and budget before they are debated by the wider Assembly.

The Accounts Committee also helps improve transparency, strengthens financial governance and allows technical financial matters to be considered in advance, often resulting in a more focused and efficient Parish Assembly.