

## **MINUTES of an EXTRAORDINARY (SPECIAL) MEETING of CHIEF PLEAS Held in The Assembly Room, Sark on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 11.30 am.**

**Present:** Sieur J.M. Beaumont OBE, Seigneur; C.J. La Trobe-Bateman, Seneschal; K.N. Adams, Prévôt; T.J. Hamon, Greffier; G. Hamon, Deputy Greffier, W. Kiernan FCA, Treasurer and the Constables.

**26 Conseillers** were present at the roll call (see attached list).  
Apologies were received from Conseiller Diane Baker.

### **0 Before the Meeting**

- 0.1 This meeting was held in the newly refurbished Assembly Room which had been re-orientated, with the bench on a podium at the south end, the public gallery on a raised area at the north end with access through a new doorway and the Conseillers sitting on new purpose built benches at lectern style reading tables in the well of the room.
- 0.2 The Seigneur congratulated all those who had been involved in the works and thought that as a result of the refurbishment, Sark now had a Court Room of which it could be proud. Because the weather was so cold, the idea of cutting a ribbon and ceremoniously entering the new building was abandoned, everyone having already taken their places.  
The Seigneur declared the new building to be officially open.
- 0.3 The Seneschal, who was chairing the meeting today, also congratulated and thanked those who had undertaken the work, mentioning by name the Island Building Company and in particular Rodney (Lalor) and Swampy (Sam Higham) with their team of Dan (Higham), Sam (La Trobe-Bateman), Barnesy (Richard Barnes) and Charles (Carre).  
The Seneschal included in his thanks, Mathew Rang and Ben Perrée who had designed and built the new furniture which showed the quality of workmanship available on the Island; the wood will mellow in time and match the darker colour of the floor. P.J. Carre, carried out the electrics, Alan Blythe, the plumbing and Ray Lowe, the sound system. The carpets on the two rostrums and in the new offices and connecting corridor were supplied by *Carpet Selection* in Guernsey with a large discount in favour of Sark – a gesture that was much appreciated.  
The Seneschal gave credit to those who had been responsible for designing and building the new facilities and acknowledged this was all done by Islanders without outside assistance.
- 0.4 The gathering then reconvened as a Seneschal's Court for the swearing-in of the new Deputy Seneschal. Ewan de Carteret had applied in answer to the public advertisement. He was suitably qualified as he had held the position of Vingtenier and Constable, Assistant Constable and was President of the Development Control Tribunal. He had lived on Sark all his life.  
He was sworn-in by the Seneschal.
- 0.5 The Court stood down and, after a brief delay, the Conseillers in the Assembly Room became the body of Government for the meeting of the Extraordinary (Special) Meeting of Chief Pleas.

### **1 To elect a President of Chief Pleas**

- 1.1 Seneschal Said that an historic day had arrived. It was therefore something of an irony that he, as Seneschal, was required to chair the meeting to allow a President to be elected.  
In the event only one person had submitted an application duly endorsed by two Conseillers and he invited Conseiller Hazel Fry, as proposer to confirm her nomination.
- 1.2 Fry Was proud to be the Conseiller to nominate Lt. Col. R.J. Guille, MBE, as the new President. He was Sark-born, with ancestors stretching back many generations. He had left the Island to undertake a distinguished military career before returning to Sark on his retirement from the Army. He knows, loves and understands Sark with all its quirks, traditions and law. He is respected and trusted.
- 1.3 Seneschal Quoted The Reform (Election of President) (General Provisions) (Sark) Ordinance, 2012 which, at Section 2.(3) states – *In the event that there is only one candidate for the office of President, that candidate shall be declared elected without secret ballot provided that such election is approved by resolution of Chief Pleas.*  
The candidate is the only person nominated and he would require a show of hands in support.

- 1.4 Prevel Called for a named vote.
- 1.5 Seneschal Considered this request was in contrast with the spirit of the law which required, in the event of more than one candidate, that a secret ballot should be held. He proposed that Chief Pleas be asked to support the motion of a named vote.
- 1.6 Prevel Accepted that suggestion.
- 1.7 Seneschal Called for a show of hands and only Conseiller Prevel supported the proposal. The Seneschal then went on to ask for a show of hands to support the nomination. This was duly done and he declared Lt. Col R.J. Guille, MBE, elected as President.

## **0 After the Meeting**

- 0.6 A Seneschal's Court was reconvened to administer the swearing-in of the President. When this was done, the President was congratulated before the proceedings were brought to a close.

**This meeting ended the dual role as instituted by the Letters Patent of 1675, an unbroken period of 338 years.**

- 0.7 Members of the Public were invited to view the new offices and the rest of the Assembly Room before departing for a vin d'honneur held at the Island Hall in honour of Lt. Col. R.J. Guille MBE, the retiring Seneschal and President of Chief Pleas.

## **Forthcoming meetings of Chief Pleas Members**

**EASTER MEETING - Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at 10.00am**

Agenda closes - **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 3.00pm**

Papers distributed to Members before Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013

**This meeting closed at 11.57am**

**Brian Garrard MCILT, Committee Secretary, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

## MEMBERS OF CHIEF PLEAS

Special Chief Pleas Meeting –27<sup>th</sup> February 2013

	Attending								
The Seigneur – J. M. Beaumont OBE	/								
The Seneschal – C.J. La Trobe-Bateman	/								

### CONSEILLERS

2	Mr. D.T. Cocksedge	/							
2	Mrs. H.M. Plummer	/							
2	Mr. D.W. Melling	/							
2	Mr. C.R. Nightingale	/							
2	Mr. A.P.F. Bache CMG	/							
2	Mr. E. Baker	/							
2	Mr. S.B. Gomoll	/							
2	Mrs. D. Baker	A							
2	Mr. A.G. Ventress	/							
2	Mr. A.J. Cook	/							
2	Ms. M.A. Perrée	/							
2	Ms. J. Guy	/							
2	Mr J. Hunt	/							
4	Mrs. S. Williams	/							
4	Mrs. H. D. Fry	/							
4	Mrs. K. Adams	/							
4	Mr. R.J. Dewe	/							
4	Ms. E.M. Dewe	/							
4	Mr. M.J Mann	/							
4	Mr. A. Dunks	/							
4	Mr. A.C. Prevel	/							
4	Mr. P.J. Williams	/							
4	Mrs. R.E. Byrne	/							
4	Mrs. M. Mallinson	/							
4	Ms. C.D. Audrain	/							
4	Mr. C.N.D. Maitland	/							
4	Mr. R.W. Cottle	/							
2	Vacancy	-							

<b>2 – Term of office ends in January 2015</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Apologies Present</b>	
<b>4 – Term of office ends in January 2017</b>	/		

Brian Garrard, Committee Secretary, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Seneschal

Greffier

Signed on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013