

# MINUTES of the EXTRAORDINARY (SPECIAL) MEETING of CHIEF PLEAS

Held in The Assembly Room, Sark on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 10.30 am.

**Present:** Sieur J.M. Beaumont OBE, Seigneur; Lt.Col. R.J. Guille MBE, Seneschal; A.W.J. Adams, Prévôt; T.J. Hamon, Greffier; Mrs. W. Kiernan, Treasurer; and the Constables.

**27 Conseillers** were present at the roll call (see attached list).

**Apologies:** Conseiller Maitland

## Opening Remarks

- (a) The Seigneur welcomed the successful Conseillers to the meeting and congratulated them on being voted into office. He thanked all those who had put themselves forward for election and to all those who turned out to vote. He also thanked all those who had organised, assisted and been involved with the smooth running of the election day.
- He expressed special appreciation of the Seneschal who, as Returning Officer, had provided a transparent and extremely well-organised election in the full gaze of the world's media, candidates and public; the House applauded this comment with cries of hear, hear.
- The Seigneur said that it was good to see so many familiar faces returning to the new Assembly, as well as those who were returning after an absence and all the new faces who were to serve for the first time. He welcomed them all and wished them every success.
- (b) The Seneschal had received four letters or statements from the other Islands following the election and the news of the reaction on Sark to the outcome.
- He read these out to the meeting and promised to attach copies to the minutes.
- These good wishes came from –
- o Sir Philip Bailhache, The Bailiff of Jersey;
  - o Mr. Geoffrey Rowland, The Bailiff of Guernsey;
  - o Chief Minister Deputy Lyndon Trott, the States of Guernsey Policy Council;
  - o Sir Norman Browse, President of The States of Alderney.

## 1 General Purposes & Advisory Committee Report

To Elect Conseillers to Committees of Chief Pleas

- 1.1 Seneschal The Seneschal thanked all Conseillers for returning the self-nomination lists which he had consolidated and circulated and which gave the basis for today's voting.
- [General Purposes & Advisory Committee](#)
- Indicated that the first election of members would be to the General Purposes and Advisory Committee (GP&A) and, that having been completed, there would follow a short recess whilst the Committee retired to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
- The Chairman of this Committee has a heavy workload, will be very committed and may wish to withdraw from nomination to other Committees.
- The GP&A Committee can have six or seven Members.
- 1.2 Baker E. Proposed that only six Members be elected.
- 1.3 Dewe R. Seconded the proposition and this was **CARRIED** by a vote.
- 1.4 Seneschal Read out the nominations already received and asked if anyone wished to withdraw or whether there were additional nominations from the floor of the Assembly.
- There were none and the following stood for election to GP&A –
- Conseillers Henry, Ventress, Maitland, Cole, Baker E., Dewe R., Armorgie and Gomoll.
- The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –
- Conseillers Henry(27), Baker E.(26), Dewe R.(26), Maitland (25), Cole (20) and Gomoll (15).
- 1.5 Following a short recess the Committee returned and announced its choice of Chairman as Conseiller Richard Dewe. No Vice-Chairman had been selected as it was felt this should wait on the return of Conseiller Maitland who was away.
- The choice would be reported to Chief Pleas on 21<sup>st</sup> January.
- 1.6 The Seneschal followed the same election procedure for each Committee, giving the opportunity for Conseillers to withdraw from their nomination or to stand as an additional nomination. Every name on each Committee list was voted for by a show of hands, the votes counted and the result declared. In two cases there was a tie for the final place; a further vote for the two was taken to decide.
- Details are shown for each Committee below.

- 1.7 [Agriculture Committee \(3 Members\)](#)  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Ventress, Williams P., Pollard, Nightingale, Atkinson and Magell.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Nightingale(26), Pollard(26), and Williams P.(24).
- 1.8 [Development Control Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
Conseiller Cook withdrew his nomination.  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Williams S., Dunks. Dewe E., Cole, Bateson, Baker E., Audrain, Hunt, Perrée  
and Prevel.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Dunks(22), Bateson(20), Baker E.(17), Williams S.(17) and Prevel(16).
- 1.9 [Douzaine \(12 Members\)](#)  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Guy, Dewe E., Melling, Williams P., Bateson, de Carteret, Baker E., Baker  
D., Plummer, Audrain, Cocksedge, Hunt, Dewe R., Armorgie, Prevel and Magell.  
Additionally Conseillers Nightingale and Perrée stood on the day.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Melling(26), Plummer(25), Bateson(24), Baker E.(23), Williams P.(23),  
Cocksedge(22), Prevel(22), Baker D.(19), de Carteret(18), Dewe E.(18), Dewe R.(17), and  
Magell(17).
- 1.10 [Education \(5 Members\)](#)  
Conseiller Bateson withdrew his nomination.  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Guy, Dunks, Dewe E., Audrain and Magell.  
As the number standing equalled the number required all were duly elected.
- 1.11 [Emergency Services Committee \(3 Members\)](#)  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Henry, Ventress, Dunks, Plummer and Hunt.  
On the first vote Dunks and Henry tied for third place. Conseiller Henry withdrew.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Plummer(27), Hunt (24), and Dunks (13).
- 1.12 [Finance & Commerce Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Williams S., Dunks, Maitland, Williams P., Cook, Dewe R., Atkinson and  
Gomoll.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Atkinson(26), Maitland(23), Williams S.(22), Cook(18) and Dunks(17).
- 1.13 [Firearms Committee \(3 Members\)](#)  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Ventress, de Carteret, Dewe R., and Nightingale.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Dewe R.(26), Nightingale(19) and Ventress(18).
- 1.14 [Harbours & Pilotage Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Guy, Cook, de Carteret, Cocksedge, Perrée, Prevel, and Atkinson.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Cook(27), Cocksedge(26), Guy(24), de Carteret(19) and Prevel(18).
- 1.15 [Medical Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
The following stood for election –  
Conseillers Henry, Cole, Baker D., Plummer, and Pollard.  
Additionally Conseiller Hunt stood on the day.  
The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
Conseillers Henry(27), Baker D.(25), Plummer(25), Cole(22) and Pollard(19).

- 1.16 [Millennium Committee \(4 Members\)](#)  
 The following stood for election –  
 Conseillers de Carteret and Cocksedge.  
 Additionally Conseillers Hunt, Ventress, Melling, Williams P. and Armorgie stood on the day.  
 The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
 Conseillers Cocksedge(22), Melling(21), de Carteret(20) and Hunt(15).
- 1.17 [Public Health Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
 The following stood for election –  
 Conseillers Melling, Baker E., Pollard, Nightingale and Armorgie.  
 Additionally Conseillers Dewe E. and Williams P. stood on the day.  
 On the first vote Dewe E. and Armorgie tied for third place. On a second vote between the two Conseillers, the tie remained and it went to a third vote decider.  
 The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
 Conseillers Melling(27), Baker E.(25), Pollard(21), Williams P.(18) and Dewe E.(14).
- 1.18 [Road Traffic Committee \(6 Members\)](#)  
 Conseiller Cook withdrew his nomination.  
 The following stood for election –  
 Conseillers Dewe E., Williams P., Bateson, Cocksedge, Pollard, Hunt, Nightingale and Perrée.  
 The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
 Conseillers Bateson(25), Pollard(23), Dewe E.(19), Cocksedge(18), Hunt(18), and Williams P.(16).
- 1.19 [Sea Fisheries Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
 The following stood for election –  
 Conseillers Cook, de Carteret, Plummer, Cocksedge, Perrée and Prevel.  
 The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
 Conseillers Cook(27), Cocksedge(26), de Carteret(25), Perrée (19) and Plummer(18).
- 1.20 [Shipping Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
 The Seneschal explained that two of the Members of the Committee are nominated representatives, one from GP&A the other from Tourism. So today, voting will only be necessary for three Members.  
 The following stood for election –  
 Conseillers Williams S., Maitland, Melling, Cook, Cole, Perrée and Atkinson.  
 Additionally Conseiller Hunt stood on the day.  
 On the first vote Atkinson and Cole tied for third place. Voting for the two Conseillers was held again for a decider.  
 The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
 Conseillers Cook(16), Maitland(15) and Cole(13).
- 1.21 [Tourism Committee \(5 Members\)](#)  
 The following stood for election –  
 Conseillers Ventress, Williams S., Maitland, Melling, Baker D., Audrain, Armorgie, Perrée and Magell.  
 The following were elected, the votes cast are shown in brackets after each name –  
 Conseillers Williams S.(25), Magell(24), Armorgie(18), Audrain(17) and Baker D.(14).
- 1.22 Seneschal Asked that all Committees should meet between now and the Chief Pleas' meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January to elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to consider nominations for non-Chief Pleas Members and to adopt agenda items prepared by the outgoing Committees.
- 1.23 Cocksedge Asked whether the organisation of these initial meetings for the new Committees could be arranged by the Committee Secretary; this was agreed.
- 1.24 Seneschal Reminded Conseillers that there would be a court following this meeting to swear in the Members of the Douzaine under the Law.

## Forthcoming meetings for Chief Pleas Members

### **CHRISTMAS MEETING – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009 at 10.00am**

Before Chief Pleas commences there is to be an official photograph of the first statutory meeting.

All Chief Pleas Members and Officers are requested to be outside the Assembly Room at **9.25am**

**This meeting closed at 11.52 am.**

Brian Garrard (Sark Committee Secretary)  
9<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009

**Seneschal**

**Greffier**

## **MEMBERS OF CHIEF PLEAS**

as at 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009

	<b>Attending</b>
The Seigneur – J. M. Beaumont OBE	/
The Seneschal – Lt. Col. R.J. Guille MBE	/
<b>CONSEILLERS</b>	
Mr. D.T. Cocksedge	/
Mr. R.J. de Carteret	/
Mrs. H.M. Plummer	/
Mr. D.W. Melling	/
Mrs. H.C. Magell	/
Mr. C.H. Bateson	/
Mr. A. Dunks	/
Dr. S.L. Henry	/
Mr. D. Pollard	/
Mr. A.C. Prevel	/
Mrs. S. Williams	/
Ms. E.M. Dewe	/
Mr. E. Baker	/
Mr. P.J. Williams	/
Mrs. D. Baker	/
Mr. R.J. Dewe	/
Mr. P.M. Armorgie	/
Mr. A.J. Cook	/
Mr. C.N.D. Maitland	<b>Apologies</b>
Ms. M.A. Perrée	/
Mr. C.R. Nightingale	/
Ms. J.M. Guy	/
Mr. J.E. Hunt	/
Mrs. A. Atkinson	/
Mr. A.G. Ventress	/
Mr. S.B. Gomoll	/
Ms. C.D. Audrain	/
Mr. P.J. Cole	/

## APPENDIX 1

THE BAILIFF OF JERSEY  
SIR PHILIP BAILHACHE



THE BAILIFF'S CHAMBERS  
ROYAL COURT HOUSE  
ST HELIER, JERSEY  
CHANNEL ISLANDS  
JE1 1BA

Your ref:  
Our ref:

Tel: [01534] 441100  
Fax: [01534] 441137

12th December 2008

Dear Mr Seneschal

Members of the States have followed with interest the constitutional changes in Sark. At a meeting of the States Assembly this morning, members expressed their great concern at the news of redundancies which followed the outcome of the recent election, particularly at this Christmas period. Members have asked me to assure you on their behalf of their full support for you, the members of the Chief Pleas, and all the people of Sark.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Philip Bailhache'.

**Bailiff**

Lieutenant Colonel Reginald Guille  
Seneschal of Sark  
La Ladrie  
Sark  
GY9 0SF

## APPENDIX 2

THE BAILIFF OF GUERNSEY  
MR. G. R. ROWLAND

TEL: (01481) 726161  
FAX: (01481) 713861



THE BAILIFF'S CHAMBERS  
ROYAL COURT HOUSE  
GUERNSEY GY1 2PB

The Seneschal  
Office of the Seneschal  
Chief Pleas Offices  
La Chasse Marette  
SARK  
GY9 0SB

08 January 2009

Dear Seneschal

I write as Presiding Officer of the States of Deliberation and hence representing parliamentarians in Guernsey to convey best wishes to the newly constituted Chief Pleas and to each and every one of its members as you embark together on a new era in the evolution of your long established parliamentary system.

If there are any ways in which we as parliamentarians can at any time assist you, perhaps by sharing our experience and parliamentary skills (particularly with new parliamentarians), then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Congratulations to everyone and good luck

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey Rowland', written over a horizontal line.

Geoffrey Rowland  
Bailiff and Presiding Officer of the States of Deliberation



# **POLICY COUNCIL**

**THE STATES OF GUERNSEY**

**MEDIA RESPONSE – FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 2008**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SARK ELECTIONS**

**Chief Minister Deputy Lyndon Trott said today:**

‘I am very pleased that the people of Sark have taken the opportunity to make their voices heard in such great numbers.

‘I would like to assure them that the States of Guernsey look forward to working closely and constructively with the new Chief Pleas during this new phase in their history.’

**NOTE TO EDITORS:** Deputy Trott will not be conducting interviews on this issue at this time.

**Issued by: James Falla, for Policy Council**

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**STATES OF ALDERNEY**  
Channel Islands

From the President's Office

5<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Seigneur, Seneschal and President of Chief of Pleas  
Office of the Seneschal  
Chief Pleas Office  
La Chasse Murette  
Sark GY9 0SB

To the Seigneur, Seneschal and Members of Chief Pleas of Sark.

Just before Christmas and following your recent general election, I and the Members of the States of Alderney agreed that I should write to you to express our support and friendship.

Everyone in Alderney has watched the trials and tribulations you have had to withstand throughout 2008 with concern and sympathy. Had it not been for our total evacuation during WWII and the imposition by Westminster in 1948 - after the Islanders had returned home - of a radically new form of government we would undoubtedly have had similar problems. However, although we have had a independent judiciary (a Court of Jurats selected by the Jurats and the President and approved by the Secretary of State) and an elected government since 1948, we did not completely divide our Court from our Government until 2005 when we removed the duties of the Deputy Clerk of the Court from those of the Clerk/Administrator of the States by appointing two independent individuals - a lawyer to be Clerk to the Court and of the States when sitting as a legislature - the Greffier - and an administrator to be the States' Chief Executive Officer.

Whilst we accept our international obligations as part of Her Majesty the Queen's Bailiwick of Guernsey and the jurisdiction of her Royal Court in Guernsey and so ultimately that of the Privy Council we - like you - are a fiercely independent jurisdiction and give you our wholehearted support as you struggle to maintain a similar position. We believe that the future of each Island must be determined by people elected by the Islanders, not by individuals in Westminster that we do not elect and who have no knowledge of our history, traditions and the way we live,

We hope that 2009 will be a peaceful and prosperous year for you all and that once the upheavals of 2008 are settled you will be able to restore the tranquillity for which Sark is renowned. We will support you in anyway that we can.

Yours sincerely

Sir Norman Browse  
President