



OFFICIAL REPORT
OF THE
MIDSUMMER MEETING
OF CHIEF PLEAS
OF THE
ISLAND OF SARK

HANSARD

Assembly Room, Sark, Wednesday, 3rd July 2019

*All published Official Reports can be found on the
official Island of Sark Chief Pleas website www.gov.sark.gg*

Volume 5, No. 7

Present:

Seigneur

Maj. C M Beaumont Esq.

Speaker of Chief Pleas

A J Rolfe Esq.

Deputy Prévôt

Mrs J Godwin

Greffier

Mr T J Hamon

Deputy Treasurer

Mrs L Higgins

Constable

Mr M Fawson

Vingtenier

Miss A Diaper

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor

Vice Admiral Sir Ian Corder KBE, CB

Conseillers:

Alan Blythe
Peter La Trobe-Bateman
Christopher Nightingale
Anthony Ventress
Paul Williams
Sandra Williams
Pauline Mallinson
Helen Plummer
Philip Long

John Guille
Christopher Drillot
William Raymond
Amanda de Carteret
Ellen Lalor
Rodney Lalor
Simon Couldridge
Frank Makepeace

Business transacted

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Midsummer Meeting of Chief Pleas

Chief Pleas met at 10 a.m.

[THE SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

PRAYER

The Greffier

ROLL CALL

The Greffier

The Greffier: There are 17 Conseillers, the Seigneur and the Speaker of Chief Pleas present.

The Speaker: Thank you, full House.

Welcome to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor

5 **The Speaker:** May I welcome His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to our meeting.
There are no apologies, because everybody is here.

Policy and Finance Committee – Resignation of Conseiller William Raymond as Deputy Chairman

10 **The Speaker:** There are a couple of announcements. I have received the resignation of
Conseiller William Raymond as Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee. I would
like to thank him for all that he has done for P&F, and I am pleased that Conseiller William
Raymond is prepared to continue as an ordinary member of the Committee.

Item 2 of the Agenda is to elect a Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee.

Future Energy Special Committee – Resignation of Conseiller Mallinson as Chairman; election of Conseiller Guille as replacement

The Speaker: Conseiller Pauline Mallinson has resigned as Chairman of the Future Energy
Special Committee, and Conseiller John Guille has been elected as Chairman of that Special
Committee.

**Role of the Chief Secretary and the Treasurer –
Statement by Conseiller La Trobe Bateman**

15 **The Speaker:** Statement by Conseiller Sam La Trobe-Bateman regarding the role of the Chief Secretary.

Conseiller La Trobe-Bateman: Thank you. It includes the Treasurer as well, sorry.

20 This speech is to address a comment which was made at Easter Chief Pleas about the lack of professional qualifications of both the Chief Secretary and the current Treasurer by a Member of Chief Pleas. The current Treasurer has over 30 years' experience in the financial service sector, some of which includes working closely with the UK Government Actuary's Department, the Department of Work and Pensions and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs.

25 The current Treasurer holds a Master of Science degree in Finance and Corporate Governance with the Business School at Bournemouth University. This includes modules in accounting and financial analysis, corporate financial management, budgeting and controls, tax, strategic and operations management, administration and control, as well as governance and law subjects. She is also a governance professional and Associate of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

30 The current Treasurer was appointed Deputy Treasurer in July 2015 and received thorough familiarisation training from the former Treasurer, Wendy Kiernan until her retirement on 31st December 2017. Following the Chief Pleas Resolution at the Extraordinary Meeting held on 7th December 2018, she assumed the role and responsibilities of Treasurer from 1st January 2018, pending decision from Chief Pleas on the appointment of Treasurer and the Treasury function going forward.

35 The comment regarding the Chief Secretary, I would like to say that until very recently Mrs Bougourd was employed as a civil servant by the States of Guernsey. She has over 30 years' management and administration experience across various sectors and is currently a Tribunal Member of the States of Guernsey. Since her appointment she has worked tirelessly to encourage and improve the Sark Civil Service with positive results. We now have a Civil Service Office that supports the Conseillers and the public, which we did not have before. She has built upon her contacts in Guernsey, which has greatly reinforced the effectiveness and the support that we have received from outside the Island.

40 Thank you.

45 **The Speaker:** Thank you.

**Electricity –
Statement by Conseiller Raymond**

The Speaker: Statement by Conseiller William Raymond regarding electricity.

Conseiller Raymond: Thank you, sir.

50 At the end of November, the settlement agreement between the Price Control Commissioner and Sark Electricity included a clause that Sark Electricity will give access to Chief Pleas representatives to enable Chief Pleas to decide if they wish to acquire the company or the assets of the company. This process we thought would entail the appointment of an industry expert to advise Chief Pleas on a valuation of the company assets, which might then form the basis of a negotiation for a purchase.

55 Since the beginning of January, a draft agreement has been going backwards and forwards between advisors for Chief Pleas on the one hand and Sark Electricity on the other. The

agreement seeks to specify the basis of valuation to be adopted. Chief Pleas wishes to see an industry standard valuation which it feels will be fair to both sides, but the company aspirations lie in the region of a replacement cost of the system.

60 Without expert advice, I say, once again, Chief Pleas cannot commence any negotiation to buy. We are enabled to pre-agree the basis of valuation, as our advisors must be free to use their expertise without their hands being tied by any agreement. So far, no access to the assets to enable that valuation to take place has been allowed.

65 I appreciate that this statement will not give the House the desired information, but we must have a duty to them to ensure that fair value for money is the result of any expenditure, and that is what we are ensuring by insisting on an external, expert valuation.

Thank you.

70 **The Speaker:** Thank you.

75th anniversary of VE Day and Liberation Day – Statement from the Vingtenier

The Speaker: Now a statement from the Vingtenier on behalf of the Constable's Committee for the 75th anniversary of VE Day and Liberation Day.

Vingtenier, April Rose Diaper.

75 **The Vingtenier:** Good morning.

Just a brief statement to inform you of what is currently going on. A Committee has obviously been created and there are plans in place for the 75th anniversary. We have been liaising with the Seigneur, with Guernsey and the Pageant Master in the UK and we will continue to update you as we progress, and that is all for now.

80 Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, and good luck with it.

Procedural – Electronic devices

85 **The Speaker:** Right. In accordance with Rules of Procedure, I would remind all present that mobile phones, cameras, recording devices and other electronic equipment is switched off now less for those allowed by Chief Pleas Members in accordance with Rule 18.

Business of the Day

11. Late Filed Item – Matters Arising from Easter Meeting of Chief Pleas held on Wednesday, 1st May 2019

Late Filed Item for the Midsummer Meeting of Chief Pleas, 3rd July 2019

Under the Provisions of Rule 12(11) of the Rules of Procedure of the Chief Pleas of Sark the Speaker of Chief Pleas has waived the notice required and allowed an additional Item to be added to the Agenda as follows:

Item 11. Matters Arising from the Easter Meeting of Chief Pleas held on Wednesday, 1st May 2019.

The Speaker: I now propose that we take Item 11, dealing with matters arising from the Easter Meeting of 1st May 2019 before Item 1. It was circulated as a Late Filed Item. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, I put this change in Agenda to the vote. Those in favour; are any against? That is **carried**.

90 Agenda Item 11, matters arising from the Easter Meeting of Chief Pleas held on Wednesday, 1st May. I have two comments. On page 2, under those present, ‘Deputy Prévôt: Mr J Godwin’ should of course be Mrs J Godwin; and on page 9 – very minor changes – line 129, to delete the extraneous ‘their’, from ‘who their rent their’. It should read, ‘who rent their’.

Are there any other matters arising?

1. Questions not related to the Business of the Day – None

95 **The Speaker:** In that case we go to Agenda Item 1, Questions not related to the Business of the Day. There are none.

2. Election of the Deputy Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee – Conseiller John Guille elected

To Elect a Deputy Chairman of the Policy & Finance Committee.

100 **The Speaker:** Agenda Item 2, to elect a Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee. Rule 5 of the Constitution and Operation of Chief Pleas Committees provides for a secret ballot to elect a Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee with the Greffier acting as the Returning Officer. Nominations were proposed, seconded and given to the Greffier a minimum of five working days before this meeting.

At the close of nominations there were two candidates nominated and I now call upon the Greffier as Returning Officer firstly to explain the voting procedure, then to conduct the election, and finally to declare the result.

105 Greffier.

The Greffier: Thank you, sir.

110 It is all very straightforward really. We do not have a polling booth so what will happen: in a few moments I will place the ballot box on the end of the desk, and then if you come up and collect a voting paper from me, go through the door there, there are some pencils on the end of the first table, cast your vote in there, bring your paper out folded and pop it in the ballot box.

115 Once everybody has voted, the votes will be counted, the Deputy Treasurer is going to scrutinise the count and once the count is established, I will announce the winner of the election.

120 So in a few minutes I will get there, and then if you would like to come forward and collect your papers, we will get on with the voting.

Thank you.

The Speaker: And please only vote for one candidate. (*Laughter*) You lot need reminding you really do.

A secret ballot took place and voting resulted as follows:

Vote Results	
Conseiller Christopher Drillot	6
Conseiller John Guille	11

The Greffier: Right, the results of the election are as follows: Conseiller Christopher Drillot 6; Conseiller John Guille 11.

125 I therefore declare Conseiller John Guille elected as Deputy Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee.

The Speaker: Thank you, Greffier, and also thanks to Mrs Lynda Higgins for scrutinising the ballot. Thanks to Conseiller Christopher Drillot for standing.

130 I now have to put it to the vote – I have it somewhere here. Yes, I will just put it for your affirmation. Those in favour of Conseiller John Guille to be Deputy Chairman of Policy and Finance, show please. Okay, and is there anybody against? No. (*Laughter*)

3. Land Reform – Report from the Policy & Finance Committee on behalf of the Special Land Reform Committee considered – Propositions carried as amended

To consider a Report with two Propositions from the Policy & Finance Committee on behalf of the Special Land Reform Committee entitled ‘Land Reform’ and approve a Projet de Loi entitled ‘The Leasehold Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Sark) Law, 2019’ and to approve a Projet de Loi entitled ‘The Evictions (Stay of Execution) (Sark) Law, 2019’.

Proposition 1:

That Chief Pleas approves the Projet de Loi entitled ‘The Leasehold Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Sark) Law, 2019’.

Proposition 2: That Chief Pleas approves the Projet de Loi entitled ‘The Evictions (Stay of Execution) (Sark) Law, 2019’.

The Speaker: We now go to Agenda Item 3, to consider a Report with two Propositions from the Policy and Finance Committee on behalf of the Special Land Reform Committee entitled ‘Land Reform’; and approve a Projet de Loi entitled ‘The Leasehold Reform (Miscellaneous

Provisions) (Sark) Law, 2019’; and to approve a Projet de Loi entitled ‘The Evictions (Stay of
135 Execution) (Sark) Law, 2019’.

Conseiller William Raymond to introduce the Report.

Conseiller Raymond: Thank you sir.

140 I must start today by stating that I am a joint holder of a *tenement*, I previously held a lease of a Sark property and I am the sole *tenant* sitting on the Land Reform Special Committee.

This is the next stage in the drafting of the legislation following the vote in the Easter Chief Pleas 2018. This drafting was contemplated and promised in the Report to the Easter Meeting of 2019. In the first place, I must emphasise we have taken experienced and expert advice after we were advised so to do during 2017. It was difficult to find a person with the background
145 knowledge of Sark land law. We were fortunate, and the papers that accompanied the Propositions at Easter 2018 were written entirely by that expert and filed with the Speaker without alteration by the Committee.

The first piece of legislation that we need to consider is the Leasehold Reform Law. First, and with regret, I have to ask you to make amendments to the Projet which has been produced, and
150 to consider the Projet with the amendment.

Section 2 deals with consent to assignment. At the top of page 7 – you will have to count, I am afraid, they are not numbered – the penultimate line of the section should read ‘whether notice was served under that subsection’. In other words, the word ‘under’ appears twice and you only need it once. So the word ‘under’ between ‘notice’ and ‘was’ should be deleted.

155 Similarly, at the top of page 10 at the closure of section 4, we have a similar deletion between ‘notice’ and ‘was’, and I would ask you to consider the Projet as amended. Thank you.

Section 1 of the Law sets out the steps that need to be taken before a lease can be forfeit and the landlord can repossess. It starts by applying the concept that any breach of the lease, if it can be remedied – by which we mean put right – should be, and that time should be allowed for that
160 remedy to happen.

Besides remedy of the breach, the Law also contemplates the possibility of compensation arising to the landlord, and that would arise in, say, a case of dilapidations of the property due to a failure of maintenance. The Law gives the right of the tenant to apply for relief from any proceedings – the application for the relief to be made to the court – and also take steps to
165 protect the interests of any legitimate sub-tenant. In subsection 1(2), the Law mentions *tacit hypothec*, and this is the statutory right of a landlord to distrain, which means to take possession, of the personal possessions of the tenant in the property for the non-payment of rent.

Section 2 of the Law improves the position of leaseholders considerably, insofar as it gives
170 them a right to deal with their interest in the lease and, amongst other things, may allow the sale, assignment, sub-letting or mortgaging of a property, even if under the terms of the lease it is presently not allowed. The leaseholder will still need the consent of the landowner, but it is specifically provided that such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. The aim of this provision is clear, in that it gives leaseholders a greater opportunity to enjoy the value of
175 their property, and does override what might otherwise be termed onerous restrictions.

Section 3 deals with the need to ensure that applications are passed to the correct person if there has been a change in entitlement and any recipient is required under the Law to pass them on.

Section 4 deals with the position of sub-tenants who may require landlord’s consent.

180 Section 5 ensures that all affected by the legislation comply with their duties, or they will face the sanction of the court.

And our second Projet today grants a stay of execution at the discretion of the court in certain cases, thus suspending any eviction proceedings. In section 2, the Law specifies the matters which the court is required to take into consideration before granting any suspension.

185 Section 3 confers a power to vary the suspension which is introduced if circumstances
change; and section 4 is the definition section.

Both of these Projets are enabling and will not become operational until introduced by
ordinance. What I have said today is intended to be complementary to and not take the place of
the explanatory note which we actually produced to go with the paper, which we hoped would
190 be helpful.

Thank you, sir.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Now, I am going to call for any questions or contributions from the floor. Does anybody wish
195 to speak? Conseiller Sandra Williams.

Conseiller Sandra Williams: Thank you, and thank you very much Conseiller for the ...

I am very confused about all of this, I am afraid. I have to ask again, I am trying to find
somewhere and I cannot find it – maybe it just is not there – something to do with, a long time
200 ago we had conversations about leaseholders being offered the opportunity to approach their
landlords to purchase the remainder of their lease or go into negotiations. I wonder whether it is
something that I have missed or something that is coming up in the near future, because from a
lessor’s point of view, that is one of the most important things for the leaseholders is the
opportunity – not mandatory, but the opportunity – to ask your landlord if he would be happy to
205 sell on the remainder of your lease for the rest of your life and somebody else, your forebears’
lives.

The Speaker: Thank you. Anybody else? In that case, I will call Conseiller William Raymond to
answer that, if he will, please.
210

Conseiller Raymond: The Land Reform Law which we passed at Easter Chief Pleas permits
divisibility of *tenements*, which will give leaseholders the ability to buy by agreement with their
landowner. So if they approach the landowner and an agreement is reached, then they will be
able to buy the reversion – the balance of the title to their property – which at present rests
215 with the landowner. Does that answer your question?

Conseiller Sandra Williams: Yes, thank you.

Conseiller Raymond: Thank you.
220

The Speaker: Okay. Does anybody else wish to contribute to this?

Right, before I go to the Propositions, I will ask you to vote on the two amendments to the
Leaseholder Report (Miscellaneous Revisions) (Sark) Law, 2019: at the top of page 7, in the first
line, the word ‘under’ between ‘notice’ and ‘was’ be deleted; at the top of page 10, in the first
225 line, the word ‘under’ between ‘notice’ and ‘was’ be deleted. All those in favour of those two
amendments? Are there any against? **Carried.**

In that case we go to Proposition 1:

That Chief Pleas approves the Projet de Loi entitled The Leasehold Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Sark) Law,
2019, as amended.

Those in favour? Are there any against? That is **carried.**

Proposition 2:

That Chief Pleas approves the Projet de Loi entitled The Evictions (Stay of Execution) (Sark) Law, 2019.

230 All those in favour? Are there any against? There is one against. Okay, that is **carried.**

**4. Deregulation of Electric Bicycles on Sark Roads –
Report from The Douzaine considered –
Proposition carried**

To consider a Report with a Proposition from The Douzaine entitled ‘Deregulation of Electric Bicycles on Sark Roads’ and to approve the Ordinance entitled ‘The Electric Bicycles (Sark) Ordinance, 2019’.

Proposition:

That Chief Pleas approves the Ordinance entitled ‘The Electric Bicycles (Sark) Ordinance, 2019’.

The Speaker: We now go to Agenda Item 4, to consider a Report with Proposition from the Douzaine, entitled ‘Deregulation of Electric Bicycles on Sark Roads’ and to approve the Ordinance entitled, ‘The Electric Bicycles (Sark) Ordinance, 2019’.

Conseiller Alan Blythe to introduce the Report.

235

Conseiller Blythe: Thank you, sir.

As you can see, the draft Ordinance is attached for your approval. As stated at Easter Chief Pleas, we would look into the necessity for insurance for the said bicycles, which after much research by myself and the Law Officers was deemed not to be necessary.

240

So the Report is there, hopefully it will go through and tomorrow I can buy an electric bike. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Is that, Conseiller Blythe, a declaration of interest? (*Laughter*) Just checking. Right, can I have anybody who wishes to speak to this? Conseiller Amanda de Carteret.

245

Conseiller de Carteret: Thank you, sir.

Firstly, I would like to say I am in favour of deregulating the electric bicycles. I think it would be beneficial for residents, and especially for visitors, to have an easy access to an electric bike. However, there are concerns among some residents that there is no insurance for a motor vehicle that could potentially reach a speed of 15 miles per hour, and the injury this could cause if there were an accident.

250

I understand the position with the European Union, the United Kingdom and Guernsey that they do not require insurance. The difference here on Sark is that many people do not follow the rules of the Highway Code, and visitors arrive on Sark and lose the sense of road safety immediately, because Sark is advertised as a traffic-free Island, which puts them at a risk of an accident.

255

If a tractor, which has a speed limit of 10 miles per hour, needs an insurance, an invalid carriage, which has a speed limit of eight miles per hour, needs an insurance, surely, I would think, an electric bicycle with a speed limit of 15 miles an hour requires an insurance. For the safety of the residents and visitors, could we consider replacing the insurance requirement?

260

My further comment is why has the invalid carriage not been put into these Propositions? I have had several residents and visitors who feel they are being discriminated against – the fact that they are still being required to have a doctor’s certificate, plus insurance, plus a driving test. Please could the Committee consider simplifying the process for acquiring an invalid carriage for visitors?

265

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you. Anybody else?

Conseiller Sandra Williams.

270

Conseiller Sandra Williams: I just would like to support everything that Conseiller de Carteret said, mainly because I am concerned about the speed limit of the bike.

275 The invalid cars that we are at the moment dealing with at the moment at the Tourism Office have a maximum speed of eight miles an hour – and they cause enough trouble on the roads, I have to tell you.

I am very concerned that the fact that the Sark Tourism website advertises Sark as a traffic-free Island. It is bad enough with the tractors. I am not against them in principle, but I just do think that there needs to be insurance in place.

280 **The Speaker:** Thank you.
Conseiller Pauline Mallinson.

285 **Conseiller Mallinson:** I do support the deregulation of electric bicycles, but with the point that Conseiller de Carteret raised about invalid carriages, I would like to see us take a step backwards and look at the whole concept of what vehicles are and are not allowed on Sark roads, because I think if we deregulate invalid carriages then we perhaps open the backdoor to all sorts of people using invalid carriages for other purposes than because they are disabled. I think that the whole concept of electric vehicles is one that would be very, very positive in making Sark closer to the sort of traffic-free Island that visitors expect it to be, and I would like us to be looking at that whole topic more widely.

290 Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you. Is there anybody else?
In that case, I will call Conseiller Alan Blythe to answer those points.

295

Conseiller Blythe: We have spoken at length about this insurance business, and we still think – myself and the Law Officers still think – that there is no serious evidence to prove that an electric bike is more dangerous than an ordinary bicycle, which does not require insurance. But we can still carry on monitoring.

300 Conseiller Mallinson's statement about electric vehicles for the future I think is a very good one, and it is being looked into. I have a big portfolio of electric vehicles at home, and we will be discussing this in the future.

Thank you.

305 **The Speaker:** Okay, thank you.
We will go to the Proposition:

That Chief Pleas approves the Ordinance entitled 'The Electric Bicycles (Sark) Ordinance, 2019'.

All those in favour? Are there any against? In that case, that is **carried**.
This Ordinance will be numbered V of 2019.

**5. Isle of Sark Shipping Replacement Vessel(s) and Chief Pleas Liaison Officer –
Report from the Policy & Finance Committee considered –
Propositions carried**

To consider a Report with two Propositions from the Policy & Finance Committee entitled “Isle of Sark Shipping Replacement Vessel(s) and Chief Pleas Liaison Officer”.

Proposition 1:

That Chief Pleas authorises the Policy & Finance Committee to establish the ‘Replacement Vessel(s) Steering Group’.

Proposition 2:

That Chief Pleas authorises the Policy & Finance Committee to appoint a ‘Liaison Officer’.

310 **The Speaker:** We go to Agenda Item 5, to consider a Report with two Propositions from the Policy and Finance Committee entitled ‘The Isle of Sark Shipping Replacement Vessel(s) and Chief Pleas Liaison Officer’.

Conseiller John Guille to introduce the Report.

315 **Conseiller Guille:** I will not read out the Report, as I am sure that all of you have read it very closely. Policy and Finance met with Sark Shipping on Monday and they are happy with these Propositions, subject to one amendment to the Report on the Liaison Officer that we would like to bring forward. We would like to remove the penultimate sentence in the description of the Liaison Officer, please.

320 The position of the Liaison Officer is already present in the memorandum of understanding between Isle of Sark Shipping and Chief Pleas, which was drawn up by Isle of Sark Shipping last year. We feel a closer working relationship between Chief Pleas and Isle of Sark Shipping can only be of benefit to the Island.

325 The Replacement Vessel(s) Steering Group was also agreed with Isle of Sark Shipping Board as a source of useful professional advice and relevant information from key stakeholders on Sark.

I would urge you all to vote for these sensible and useful Propositions.

The Speaker: Thank you.

330 Are there any questions or points to be raised from the floor?

In that case I will – (**Conseiller Mallinson:** Sorry.) sorry, Conseiller Pauline Mallinson.

335 **Conseiller Mallinson:** Sorry, I did not quite understand what change it is that Conseiller Guille is suggesting that we make to the Liaison Officer. I am sorry, I was not sure which sentence it was we were removing or ...

The Speaker: Conseiller Guille, I wonder if you would be kind enough to just read out the words that you are deleting, and then that will be apparent to everybody I think.

340 **Conseiller Guille:** We would like to remove the second last sentence in the description of the Liaison Officer, which reads:

The Liaison Officer is authorised by Chief Pleas to attend Board Meetings of IOSS as a representative of the sole shareholder and it is hoped that the Company Board will facilitate this.

We have agreed with Sark Shipping that we are perfectly happy to remove this sentence from the Report.

345 **The Speaker:** Okay, is there anybody else?
In that case, we will go to Proposition 1:

That Chief Pleas directs the Policy & Finance Committee to establish the 'Replacement Vessel(s) Steering Group'.

Those in favour? Are there any against? That is **carried**.
We go to Proposition 2:

That Chief Pleas authorises the Policy & Finance Committee to appoint a 'Liaison Officer'.

All those in favour? Are there any against? That is **carried**.

**6. Amendment to the Composition of the Scrutiny Management Committee –
Report from Policy & Finance Committee considered –
Proposition carried**

*To consider a Report with Proposition from the Policy & Finance Committee entitled
'Amendment to the Composition of the Scrutiny Management Committee'.*

Proposition:

*That Chief Pleas approves the removal of 'deputy chair' from the Scrutiny Management
Committee mandate.*

350 **The Speaker:** Agenda Item 6, to consider a Report with Proposition from the Policy & Finance
Committee entitled, 'Amendment to the Composition of the Scrutiny Management Committee'.
Conseiller Sam La Trobe-Bateman to introduce the Report.

Conseiller La Trobe-Bateman: Thank you.

355 Again, there is a slight correction that needs to be made to this Report. Grammar is not our
forte I think is the ... Just on the last sentence, it reads 'Policy and *Performance* Committee'; it
should say 'Policy and *Finance* Committee', so if we can make those changes please, as well.

This Report explains everything we wish to do. With the reduction of Conseillers in Chief
Pleas it is hard to fill the Scrutiny Committee. With the amalgamation of the two Committees it
360 is very important that there is one in place for all of us. By removing the restrictions of deputy
chair, it makes populating this Committee possible.

By approving these Propositions, we can fill the Committee at our next Policy and
Development Group, and then they can get scrutinising.

Thank you.

365 **The Speaker:** Okay. Does anybody wish to say anything, to contribute?
In that case we will go to the Proposition:

That Chief Pleas approves the removal of 'deputy chair' from the Scrutiny Management Committee mandate.

Those in favour? And those against? That is **carried**.

**7. Harbours, Shipping & Pilotage Committee New Mandate –
Report from the Harbours & Shipping Committee considered –
Proposition carried**

To consider a Report with Proposition from the Harbours & Shipping Committee entitled 'Harbours, Shipping & Pilotage Committee New Mandate'.

Proposition:

That Chief Pleas approves the change of name of the Harbours & Shipping Committee to the Harbours, Shipping & Pilotage Committee, and the amended Mandate which includes the Pilotage functions are transferred from the Agriculture, Environment & Sea Fisheries Committee.

The Speaker: Agenda Item 7, to consider a Report with Proposition from the Harbours & Shipping Committee entitled 'Harbours, Shipping & Pilotage Committee New Mandate'.
370 Conseiller Sandra Williams to introduce the Report.

Conseiller Williams: Thank you, sir.

I have nothing left to add to the Report. It is just a little bit of housekeeping, getting things in
375 order.

Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Okay. We go to the Proposition – does anybody else wish to contribute to this?
Give you all a chance.

380 We will go to the Proposition:

That Chief Pleas approves the change of name of the Harbours & Shipping Committee to the Harbours, Shipping & Pilotage Committee, and the amended Mandate which includes the Pilotage functions are transferred from the Agriculture, Environment & Sea Fisheries Committee.

Those in favour? Those against? That is **carried**.

Can I just ask that the two relevant Committee Chairman, if they could actually let me have a clean copy of the changed mandates so that we can actually get them posted on the Government website? Okay?

**8. Committee Elections –
Safeguarding Special Committee and Top Level Domain Special Committee –
No nominations**

To elect Conseillers to Committees as required.

The Speaker: We go to Agenda Item 8 – Committee Elections to elect Conseillers to
385 Committees, as required.

There is one vacancy on the Safeguarding Special Committee, formerly Child Protection. Are there any nominations for that? There appear to be none.

390 There are three vacancies on the Top Level Domain Special Committee. Are there any nominations?

Conseiller Blythe: Sir, I am sorry, due to my extended absence from the Island, I have not done any other work on that yet, but I will be on that next Chief Pleas.

395 **The Speaker:** Well you are going to have to because you are the only member.

Conseiller Blythe: Yes. *(Laughter)*

400 **The Speaker:** It occurs to me that Conseiller Makepeace is still without a Committee to sit on, and I had suggested to him that he brings that to the Policy Development Group – that perhaps some of you who feel rather overstretched on the Committees that you are already on, if you want to make space for our new Conseiller.

9. Committee and Panel Elections – No nominations

To elect non-Chief Pleas members to Committees and Panels, as required.

The Speaker: We go to Agenda Item 9 – Committee and Panel Elections to elect non-Chief Pleas Members to Committees and Panels, as required.
405 Are there any nominations?

10. Expenditure Requests for 2020 – Policy & Finance Committee Information Report considered – Report noted

To consider an Information Report from the Policy & Finance Committee entitled ‘Expenditure Requests for 2020’.

The Speaker: In that case we go to Agenda Item 10, to consider an Information Report from the Policy and Finance Committee entitled, ‘Expenditure Requests for 2020’.
Conseiller Sam La Trobe-Bateman to introduce the Report.

410 **Conseiller La Trobe-Bateman:** Can I pass this over to Conseiller William Raymond, please?
Thank you.

The Speaker: Conseiller William Raymond.

415 **Conseiller Raymond:** Thank you, sir.

Policy and Finance Committee, responsible for the Treasury function, have brought to Chief Pleas the initial summary of the budgeted expenditure requests for 2020. We are grateful to the spending Committees who have co-operated in the production of this information. The aim is to give Chief Pleas Members the maximum amount of time to consider the effect of these indicative requests.
420

With an indicated budgeted increase of £80,000, it is obvious that taxes will need to increase, but that increase is a little over 5%. So it will be small increases in taxes across the board which will enable that amount to be raised. Chief Pleas will need to decide whether to adopt a general increase or target specific areas.

425 The Treasury then have a request to make. In order to sharpen the control of expenditure, the team have asked that each of the spending Committees allocate the Committee finance role to one member of that Committee, and then that person will be the reporting link to the Treasury. We believe that this will sharpen up the control of expenditure.

430 Between now and Michaelmas, when the Budget falls to be approved, the team will be
working with the spending Committees to see if there are any savings that can be made in the
requests shown here, or rather worse, any amendments to their requests which might increase
the budgeted requirement.

This is a Report for note only.

Thank you.

435

The Speaker: Thank you. Any questions or comments?

Well, that is an information Report, and that is the end of the Agenda. I now close the
meeting at 11.48.

Greffier, the Grace please.

PRAYER

The Greffier

Chief Pleas closed at 11.48 a.m.