



# PARISH OF GROUVILLE



<b>Minutes</b>	
<b><u>Minutes of the Parish Assembly</u></b> <b><u>Held at Grouville Parish Hall on</u></b> <b><u>Tuesday, 30 July 2024 at 18:00</u></b>	
<b>PRESENT</b>	Connétable Mark Labey – Chairman  Patricia da Silva – Parish Secretary and Minutes
<b>Open Meeting</b>	The Connétable opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and pointed out the fire exits at the Parish Hall. The Connétable informed that the meeting will be recorded for the purpose of accurate minute taking.  The Connétable invited the Parish Secretary to read out the Convening Notice.  The Connétable drew the Assembly’s attention to item four of the agenda and advised that this item will be withdrawn from the meeting, as he may be in conflict if an area of land is purchased without prior approval from the Assembly because a lot of the land around the Parish are owned by his relatives.
<b>Apologies</b>	Apologies were received from the following:  Adrian le Gal, Senior Procureur du Bien Public John Lamy, Robert Hurley, David Cummins, Sarah Howard, Elizabeth Pinel and Joanna Dawson.
<b>1. To receive and if deemed advisable approve the minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 22 May 2024</b>	The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 22 May 2024 were proposed by Deputy Carolyn Labey and seconded by Tracy Laurent. The Assembly voted and the minutes were approved by the majority.
<b>2. To approve the sale of Field G506</b>	The Connétable explained that Field G506 was donated to the Parish by Philip Gaudain, who he has approached out of courtesy to advise of the Parish’s intention of selling the field and purchasing a new one for a cemetery. The Connétable added that when a new field is acquired for a cemetery, it will be named after Philip Gaudain.  The Connétable invited any comments or questions from the floor.  Leslie Norman made the following comments:  - The Connétable had previously informed that Field G506 would be used for allotments, however it was then confirmed by the Connétable that it would be too expensive to place a water supply following quotes that had been received. Leslie Norman expressed interest in the total figure of these quotes

as the rental income that would be received from Field G506 would potentially cover the expense for a water supply.

- Leslie Norman acknowledged that the field was donated to the Parish for the benefit of parishioners, however it would be far more beneficial to parishioners who are still alive. Leslie Norman then asked how much research has been undertaken to establish how soon the Parish would require a new cemetery and commented that it was time for all Connétables to look into reusing old graves.
- Leslie Norman asked for the estimated value of Field G506 and the estimated cost to acquire a new field.

Christopher McCarthy advised that allotments are critical components in bringing communities together, but Field G506 is also a feeding ground for birds and therefore, the Parish should explore all options before casting the field away.

Linda Houze asked for confirmation of the total spent on transaction fees for Field G506 and how much it would cost to place a water supply.

Peter Hargreaves expressed his concerns on the limited information provided to parishioners and the short notice given of this Parish Assembly.

Alan Hamel asked if Field G506 has been advertised and what it has been advertised as.

No further comments or questions were given from the floor.

The Connétable noted the queries made and answered with the following points:

- It was never promised to parishioners that Field G506 would be used for allotments. The Connétable read out a list from Jersey Allotments & Leisure Gardening Association's website of what is required for allotments.
- Research has been undertaken for allotments around the island and it appears that there is currently not enough demand. The Connétable said he has allotments of his own, however only two are occupied and offered his allotments to anyone who is interested. The Connétable confirmed that the Parish owns a field named Don Laurens which could potentially be used for allotments, if there was enough demand.
- Parishioners have a right to be buried in their Parish in accordance with Burial Laws Amendment Act, 1880.
- Field G506 has not been advertised as the Parish Assembly needs to first approve the sale of the field. The Connétable said he would like to allocate the funds received from the sale to a cemetery reserve, so when the Parish does purchase a new field it will not burden the ratepayer.

Linda Houze referred to her previous questions and requested an answer. The Connétable confirmed he did not know the figures but will find out.

	<p>Christopher McCarthy stated that there is not enough information to allow the Assembly to make an informed decision.</p> <p>Neil Wade asked if the Parish would reserve the right not to accept any bids. The Connétable said yes.</p> <p>Mark Houze asked if the Connétable can assure that the cost of selling Field G506 will cover the cost of purchasing a new field and all other necessary expenditure. The Connétable replied that he cannot guarantee that.</p> <p>The Connétable asked if there was a proposer to approve the sale of Field G506, to which Steven le Blancq duly did so, with Chris Parlett seconding. The Assembly voted by a show of hands with 22 votes in favour and 22 votes against.</p> <p>The Connétable invited any final comments from the floor before a recount was taken.</p> <p>Leslie Norman said that he received an email from the Connétable regarding a quote to place a water supply, however the quote was not provided. Leslie Norman also mentioned his family member has a long waiting list on their allotment. The Connétable said he has visited that allotment and passed on his congratulations on the success of it.</p> <p>Mark Houze referred to Leslie Norman's comment regarding the quote and asked for clarification. The Connétable said it was only an estimate he had received of £12,000 just to sink a borehole.</p> <p>Andrew Koester mentioned that he runs an allotment which does not have a form of water irrigation other than what is collected from rain and confirmed that nearly all the allotments are allocated.</p> <p>Chris Parlett queried if Don Laurens will be looked at as a possible site for allotments. The Connétable advised that the Senior Management Team are open to suggestions.</p> <p>The Assembly voted again by a show of hands with 19 votes in favour and 25 votes against. The proposition was therefore rejected.</p>
<p><b>3. To approve the allocation of funds received from the sale of Field G506 to a Cemetery Reserve which will be set up by the Parish</b></p>	<p>This item could not be carried out due to the unsuccessful vote in item 2.</p>
<p><b>4. To allow the Parish to purchase a suitable area of land for a Cemetery without needing to refer to a Parish Assembly</b></p>	<p>This item was withdrawn from the meeting.</p>

**5. Meeting Closed**

The Connétable closed the meeting at 18:34.