

Summary of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 28th April 2026 at 5pm in the Assembly Room

Present:

Natalie Tighe (NT) - Deputy Chair
Edric Baker (EB)
Jolie Rose (JR)
Carol Cragoe (CC) – Via Teams
Joe Perrée (JP) – Via Teams
Sarah Hudson (SH) – Treasurer
Lynda Higgins (LH) – Deputy Treasurer
Rhys Rowlands (RR) – SOO
Ali Bateson (AB) – CSO

By invitation:

Jane Norwich (from 5pm to 5.50pm)

- **Apologies:**

John Guille (JG) – Chair

- **Water Analytics**

The water survey done by Dr Derek Clarke in June 2024 had focused on the quantity of water on Sark. The Committee was now working with JN on testing the quality of the Island's water. Businesses requiring catering licences currently only needed to have their water tested at the beginning of the season but it was suggested that water should be tested more frequently as weather conditions or high demand could affect what was in the water during the season. Water should be safe when there was a UV filter but the filter needed to be replaced every year.

It would be useful to have more accurate data recorded on Digimap on the locations and depths of wells and boreholes. The next Chief Pleas Newsletter could include an article on water testing and inviting homeowners to participate.

The Committee agreed to ask PDG to discuss whether there should be a standalone Public Health Committee, as there had been before it was amalgamated into the Tourism Committee.

The Committee also agreed to ask DCC whether they would look at bringing in planning permission for boreholes and onions. Drainage was already considered for applications for new builds, but there was currently no need to request permission for a new borehole or onion.

- **Minutes and matters arising from meeting 14th April 2026**

- **Proxy Voting**

This would be discussed at the next meeting. The Speaker would also be invited to attend to discuss the timetable for the 2026 General Election.

Other actions were done or on the agenda for further discussion.

NT signed off the minutes as correct. The summary of the minutes for the website was approved.

- **Financial Matters**

The accounts to the end of March were tabled and noted.

The Committee approved payment of invoices for the SLA with the Law Officers and for a clean-up survey of the Power Station site.

- **CPA Hosting**

The Committee agreed to look into the possibility of Sark hosting the CPA Crown Dependencies network meeting in October.

- **Remote Attendance**

The Office would ask the Law Office for advice on whether people attending remotely could count towards quoracy and be able to vote. This would be discussed at the next PDG meeting.

- **Bailiwick Commission**

3 of the Commissioners were coming on a familiarisation visit to Sark later in the week. There would be a public meeting on Thursday and the chance to meet Conseillers on Friday.

- **Future Sark**

The house to house had gone out and the first of the weekly questions had been sent out. There were dropboxes in various locations for people to post their answers. A website and WhatsApp group had been set up.

- **Application from Sark Distillery for licence to produce alcoholic products**

The Committee approved the application from Sark Distillery for a licence to produce wine, cider and spirits.

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