



The Government of Sark
COMMITTEE OFFICE, LA CHASSE MARETTE, SARK GY10 1SF
Telephone: (01481) 832118

Chief Pleas Notice – Meeting Notes

The Extraordinary Meeting of Chief Pleas held on the 19th March excluded the public due to Coronavirus considerations.

The following information is a brief resume of the subjects discussed at the Meeting. This is in addition to the formal Resolutions of Chief Pleas, prepared by the Greffier, and which will be on the Government website today.

Ahead of the Business of the Day several statements were made as follows:

Conseiller Makepeace for the Special Top-Level Domain Committee informed Chief Pleas that the International Standards Authority who issue Top Level Domain Names for the World Wide Web had approved that Sark was entitled to a Country Code and inclusion of the ISO 3166 Standard. This will not be immediate but may take some many months to bring into effect. Comment: This will likely have a bearing in due course on Item 5 of the Agenda – Government Website Changes.

Conseiller de Carteret for the Medical Committee informed Chief Pleas that or current Locum Doctor would be ending her time on the island at the end of March and Dr Victoria Gray was thanked for her service to Sark. The search for a permanent doctor is to restart. However, in the meantime cover will be provide with assistance from the Guernsey Health Department.

Conseiller de Carteret for the Education Committee made two statements:

Safeguarding: She spoke on the vital importance of safeguarding and the number of issues that were dealt with on island. She also said how important the relationship needed to be between the Constables and the Safeguarder who had their own responsibilities but need to work closely together, despite differing confidentially issue.

School Closure: She reported that the Sark School would close after lessons on Friday 20th March under emergency coronavirus regulations and all schools in the bailiwick would be affected. This is a precautionary measure imposed by the Medical Officer of Health due to the lack of test results for coronavirus within the Bailiwick, due to a time lag in the UK testing our samples.

Conseiller Peter La Trobe-Bateman for the P& F Committee informed Chief Pleas that the Constable's Liberation Day Committee had cancelled this year's celebrations but intended to bring back the 75th Anniversary + 1-year celebrations in May 2021.

The Speaker then informed Chief Pleas that Royal Assent had been granted for the Land Reform and Same Sex Marriage Laws. These Laws have not yet arrived in Sark to be registered in the Seneschal's Court.

The Resolutions made under Business of the Day items can be found on the Government Website.

At the conclusion of the Business of the Day the Speaker spoke to the Conseillers about Emergency Regulations for Chief Pleas that will allow Proxy Voting for Conseillers during Chief Pleas Meeting (under specific circumstances) and the ability for Committees to reach decisions remotely, if required. The Emergency Regulations last for 30 days after coming into forces and must be remade if they are to continue in force.

Lt Col RJ Guille MBE

Speaker of Chief Pleas

20 March 2020