

Summary of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 6th January 2026 at 5pm in the Assembly Room**Present:**

John Guille (JG) – Chairman (also member of Taxation Review Special Committee)
Natalie Tighe (NT) - Deputy Chair (also member of Taxation Review Special Committee)
Edric Baker (EB)
Jolie Rose (JR)
Carol Cragoe (CC) – via TEAMS until 6.30pm
Andrew Miller (AM) – via TEAMS (also Deputy Chair of Taxation Review Special Committee)
Sarah Hudson (SH) – Treasurer
Lynda Higgins (LH) – Deputy Treasurer
William Spooner (WS) - SOO
Rhys Rowlands (RR) - SOO
Ali Bateson (AB) – CSO

By invitation:

Trevor Hamon (TH), Greffier
Paul Armorgie (PA), Speaker] from 5pm
to 5.30pm

Mike Locke (ML), member of Taxation Review Special Committee
Jimmy Martin (JM), member of Taxation Review Special Committee] from 5.35pm
to 6.30pm

- **Apologies:**

Everyone was present

- **Amendments to forms (with TH & PA)**

The Committee, TH and PA discussed the amended forms for nomination of candidate and application for inscription on the register of electors which had been drafted after the previous By-Election.

TH & PA left the meeting at 5.35pm

ML & JM joined the meeting at 5.35pm

- **Tax Review**

The item on Tax in the latest newsletter had created a lot of interest and a Conseillers' surgery on Tax was scheduled for the following Saturday. The Committees discussed the draft 'Sark Tax Reform: Information Sheet' that would be available at the Surgery and sent out as a house-to-house. Amendments were suggested to clarify some points.

A Tax section would be added to the Sark Government website where all relevant information could be posted.

ML, JM and CC left the meeting at 6.30pm.

- **Minutes and matters arising from meetings:**

- a) **3rd December**

All actions were done.

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

- b) **9th December**

Matters on-going:

- i) **General Election dates and timetable**
- ii) **Prevôt**
- iii) **Reserves Policy**
- iv) **Shipping Registry**
- v) **Role of Committee Chairs (policies and procedures document)**
- vi) **Digimap – charges for surveys**

All other actions were done.

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

- c) **11th December**

All actions were done.

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

- **Financial matters**

- The accounts to the end of November 2025 were tabled and noted.
- Invoices for Legal Aid, Data Protection and the Digimap Licence were approved for payment.
- The Committee agreed to review the current buildings' insurance cover.

- **Office matters**

- **SOO recruitment** - The on-island interviews for the 2 shortlisted candidates had now taken place. The interview panel had made its recommendation to the Committee. The Committee agreed it was happy to support the panel's recommendation.

- **CSO recruitment** - The Office would review what was needed and readvertise again in due course.
- **Clerk to the Board** – The Committee agreed it was happy for the Board to pay for a Clerk from the school budget but, as the Board should be independent from Government, the role of the Clerk should not be done by a CSO.
- **APPG 4th February**

The Committee agreed that it was happy for JG to attend the APPG in London on 4th February.

- **Expenses Policy**

The Committee considered a request from a Sark resident for all expenses claimed since 2022 to be published on the Sark Government website. It was felt that expenses claimed before the new Expenses Policy had been approved by Chief Pleas should not be applicable. It would also be a time-consuming task for the Treasury and the Committee felt that there was other, more essential work, which should take precedence. All of the Conseillers present agreed that only expenses claimed since the introduction of the Expenses Policy would be published.

File Ref: Committee Minutes Summary 2026/Policy and Finance, (01)