

Summary of the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 8th July 2025 at 5pm in the Assembly Room

Present:

John Guille (JG) – Chairman – via Teams
Natalie Tighe (NT) – Deputy Chair
Edric Baker (EB)
Jolie Rose (JR),
Carol Cragoe (CC)
Sarah Hudson (SH) – Treasurer
Lynda Higgins (LH) – Deputy Treasurer
William Spooner (WS) – SOO
Ali Bateson (AB) – CSO

PF089.25 Apologies:

Andrew Miller (AM)

CC was welcomed to the Committee. JG asked NT to chair the meeting.

PF090.25 Minutes and matters arising from meetings

a) 24th June 2025

Matters ongoing:

- I. Reserves Policy**
- II. Tech Start-up Proposal**
- III. Coins and stamps**
- IV. IT/Telecoms**
- V. New Tax Models**
- VI. Drone Legislation**
- VII. Revenue generation**
- VIII. Approved Ports**
- ix) Engagement with Alderney**

All other actions were done or on the agenda for discussion.

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

b) 30th June 2025

All actions were done.

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

PF091.25 Tax

a) Discussion following meeting with Tony Mancini

Matters discussed included:

- Houses that were empty for long periods of time.
- A tax residency scheme.
- Whether it was clear on the tax form that a person's Sark house did not count towards their world-wide assets if they lived in it.
- Guernsey Revenue Service doing reviews on several randomly selected tax forms each year.
- Taxing assets vs. income tax.
- A banded income tax system.
- Whether people should have to declare their assets to be able to pay minimum tax.
- A review was needed of Personal Tax, not Property Tax.

b) Banded Property Transfer Tax

The Committee wanted to take a paper to Michaelmas Chief Pleas to reduce the amount of property transfer tax (PTT) for local market properties. It also wanted to look at ensuring the PTT was based on the value of the property rather than the price paid.

PF092.25 Financial matters

SH had nothing to bring to the Committee for this meeting.

PF093.25 Office matters

a) Recruitment update

The advert for the second SOO was now live.

b) Website

The Office was looking at putting a separate page on the Government website for the Medical Centre to make it easier for people to find information.

c) Newsletter

Committees would be asked if they had any submissions for the August Chief Pleas newsletter.

PF094.25 Other

a) Loan

i) Formal acceptance

The Committee would send Guernsey a letter formally accepting the loan.

ii) Loan facility and conditions

The loan document was due by the end of the week.

b) Online attendance at meetings

There were currently no rules regarding online attendance at Committee meetings, other than a person attending remotely did not count towards quoracy and they could not vote. It was felt that online attendance should only be permitted on an occasional basis. This would be covered in the new 'Committees and their roles' policy which was being drafted. The report would then be published in the normal fashion with the papers for the relevant meeting.

c) Commissioner for Standards timeline

At the recent Midsummer Chief Pleas meeting some Conseillers had queried how quickly after receiving a report from Dr McCullough P&F would be expected to pass the report on to other Conseillers and how long it would take for a Chief Pleas meeting to be called to discuss and vote on the report. It was noted that a report would only be used for the most serious cases as there were other 'softer' sanctions Dr McCullough could use as she saw appropriate. It was agreed that if a statutory meeting of Chief Pleas was less than 6 weeks away the report would be taken to that meeting. If the next Chief Pleas meeting was more than 6 weeks away, an Extraordinary meeting would be called. The report would then be published in the normal fashion with the papers for the relevant meeting. More consideration was needed on what would happen if the complaint was against one or more members of P&F, or the whole of the Committee but one suggestion was that the report could be taken to Chief Pleas by the Douzaine in that situation.

d) Shipping Registry

A meeting with the Shipping expert would be scheduled in due course.

e) Scrutiny/Tribunal Panel Amalgamation

Once the Tribunal Panels had been amalgamated it was hoped that it would free up some people who were currently on the panels to stand as Conseillers. It was agreed that more consultation was needed.

f) Policies

A suite of policies was being developed. It was hoped they would be ready to take to Michaelmas Chief Pleas.

g) Island Plan

The Committee was contacting people who might be able to facilitate the Island Plan consultation.

h) CPA Sark Branch Creation

The CPA Sark Branch needed to be created and then constituted by the Speaker.

i) IOSS – re-appointment of a Non-Executive Director

IOSS wished to re-appoint Iain Beresford as a Non-Executive Director for a further 3 years. This would be taken to the Extraordinary Chief Pleas meeting that would be called for the up-coming By-Election.

PF095.25 AOB

a) Sheep racing electricity

The Committee agreed to offer the Sheep Racing Committee the use of the Island's emergency generator for the 2025 Sheep Racing event and agreed that they would not be charged for the fuel.

b) APF

Jersey had suggested that Sark might like to consider joining the French version of the CPA, the APF, which Jersey were also part of.

c) P&F Surgery

Several residents had come to the P&F surgery the previous Saturday. They had discussed the Bailiwick Commission, scrutiny (at least some members should be from off-island) and requested regular updates to residents about electricity.

d) By-Election

People needed to be reminded to check if they were on the electoral roll so that they could stand or vote at the By-Election. A notice had been put on the Government website and on the new Sark Chief Pleas Facebook page,

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