



OFFICIAL REPORT

OF THE

EXTRAORDINARY (SPECIAL)

MEETING

OF CHIEF PLEAS

OF THE

ISLAND OF SARK

HANSARD

Assembly Room, Sark, Wednesday, 22nd January 2020

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Volume 6, No. 1

*Published by The Greffier of Sark, La Chasse Marette,
Sark, GY10 1SF. © Chief Pleas of Sark, 2020*

Present:

Seigneur

Maj. C M Beaumont Esq.

Seneschal

Mr C J La Trobe-Bateman

Deputy Prévôt

Mrs J Godwin

Greffier

Mr T J Hamon

Constable

Miss A Diaper

Conseillers:

Alan Blythe
Peter La Trobe-Bateman
Christopher Nightingale
Anthony Ventress
Paul Williams
Sandra Williams
Helen Plummer

John Guille
William Raymond
Ellen Lalor
Rodney Lalor
Simon Couldridge
Frank Makepeace

Business transacted

Business of the Day	3
1. Election of Speaker of Chief Pleas – Lt. Col. Reginald John Guille MBE elected.....	3
<i>Chief Pleas closed at 9.58 a.m.</i>	4

Extraordinary (Special) Meeting of Chief Pleas

Chief Pleas met at 9.45 a.m.

[THE SENESCHAL *in the Chair*]

PRAYER

The Greffier

ROLL CALL

The Greffier

The Greffier: There are 13 Conseillers, the Seigneur and the Seneschal present.

The Seneschal: Thank you, Greffier.

Business of the Day

1. Election of Speaker of Chief Pleas – Lt. Col. Reginald John Guille MBE elected

To ELECT a Speaker of Chief Pleas.

Candidates

GUILE, Reginald John

ROLFE, Arthur James

Proposed by

William George Raymond

Philip David Long

Seconded by

Sandra Williams

Helen Mildred Plummer

5 **The Seneschal:** The purpose of this short Meeting of Chief Pleas is to elect a Speaker of Chief Pleas. The present Speaker's term of office expires on 27th February of this year.

I am here sitting in this Chair because of the provisions of The Reform (Elections of Speaker and Deputy Speaker) (General Provisions) (Sark) Ordinance, 2016, which says:

The Seneschal shall preside over the Meeting of Chief Pleas for the purpose only of the election of the Speaker.

10 There are two candidates who put their names forward to be Speaker of Chief Pleas. They are: Mr Arthur Rolfe, who has been proposed by Conseiller Philip Long and seconded by Conseiller Helen Plummer; and Lt. Col. Reginald Guille MBE, who has been proposed by Conseiller William Raymond and seconded by Conseiller Sandra Williams.

15 Before we commence the voting, the Ordinance makes provision for the proposers and seconders to speak in support of their candidate. Conseiller Long is not present, so I ask at this time whether Conseiller Helen Plummer wishes to speak.

Conseiller Plummer: Yes, I do.

The Seneschal: Carry on, please.

20 **Conseiller Plummer:** Thank you.

I have nominated Arthur Rolfe as Speaker of Chief Pleas. I believe he has proved he has been reliable and is a steady pair of hands now and into the future.

Thank you.

25 **The Seneschal:** Thank you.

I now ask Conseiller William Raymond if he wishes to speak in support of the candidate.

Conseiller William Raymond: Briefly, sir, yes please.

Today I am proposing Lt. Col. Reginald Guille for the post of Speaker.

30 Reg, as we all know him, returned to Sark after a distinguished military career. His working connection with Chief Pleas is well known and culminated in his appointment to Seneschal and President of Chief Pleas, where he did so much for the dignity of that office.

He then took the role of President, now Speaker, when the judiciary was split from the legislature. I am delighted to think that he has not lost his appetite for Island work and that he is prepared to offer himself today.

35 Thank you.

The Seneschal: Thank you.

Conseiller Sandra Williams, do you wish to add anything?

40

Conseiller Sandra Williams: I would just like to concur with everything that Conseiller Raymond has said.

Thank you.

45 **The Seneschal:** Thank you.

That concluded, I will hand over to the Greffier who, as the Returning Officer, will conduct the secret ballot.

Greffier.

50 **The Greffier:** So what will happen is: in a few minutes I will stand there at the end of the desk; if you all come forward, I will hand you a voting form. Go through the door there, there are some pencils on the table. Cast your vote through there, fold your paper and return it and put it in the ballot box.

Once you have all voted, I will conduct the count, with the assistance of the Deputy Prévôt. Once the count is concluded, the Seneschal will announce the results.

55 Thank you.

A secret ballot took place.

The Seneschal: Ladies and gentlemen, Conseillers, can I have your attention.

The Greffier, the Returning Officer, has concluded the vote. There are 6 votes for Arthur James Rolfe and 7 votes for Reginald John Guille. I therefore have to declare that 60 Lt. Col. Reginald John Guille is elected as Speaker, as from the end of February.

That concludes the business of this Chief Pleas, and I ask the Greffier to close the Meeting.

PRAYER

The Greffier

Chief Pleas closed at 9.58 a.m.