



Paroisse de Ste. Marie

**PARISH ASSEMBLY at
St Marys Parish Hall
on Monday 27th July 2026 at 7.00pm**

Minutes of an Assembly of the Principals and Electors of the Parish of St Mary held at St Mary's Parish Hall on Monday 27th July 2026 at 7.00pm.

WELCOME

The Connétable, David Johnson, opened the meeting by welcoming all present. The notice convening the meeting was taken as read. The meeting was attended by 18 persons eligible to vote.

1. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Parish Assemblies held on 10th March and 17th July, 2026 had been made available at the Parish Hall, on the Parish website and also to parishioners attending the Meeting. They were duly approved on the proposition put by Mr J Alcock and seconded by Mrs A Le Voguer.

2. Adoption of Accounts

The Connétable invited Mr Andrew Myers of Alex Picot to present the Parish Accounts for the financial year ended 30th April 2026, the Accounts having previously been examined by the Committee's Accounts Committee and audited by Alex Picot.

Mr Myers reviewed the General Account which detailed the receipts and expenditure for the year and also showed the movements in reserves that had been agreed at the corresponding Parish Assembly last year. Receipts for the year predominantly comprised rates income which, net of the Island-Wide Rate, amounted to £487.5k. This was slightly in excess of budget, predominantly due to surcharges levied on late payments. Other income received amounted to £31k and exceeded budget principally due to an increased level of speeding fines, higher bank interest and hall rental income. Total income from the year amounted to £518.5k.

Expenses for the year overall were £427.5k, approximately £21k under budget overall. The principal points noted were:

Most costs were broadly in line with budget, but there were a few significant underspends, as follows: Comité des Connétables was underspent against budget predominantly due to a provision for an Honorary Police recruitment campaign being largely unspent. The underspend on Parish gardening & maintenance arose from a lower requirement than in the previous years for the use of external contractors. The Honorary Police budget was underspent by approx. £3k.

Overall, the Parish had generated a surplus of £91k against a budget of £58.5k, prior to taking account of the amounts proposed to be transferred to reserves at last year's Assembly.

The Roads Account was reviewed. The Account had started the year with a balance of £5k and an amount of £40k had been voted for the Committee's use at last years' Assembly. This had been supplemented by £16k from licences fees and fines. The total expended, including repairs, road-signage and cleaning amounted to £38k and the balance carried forward was therefore approximately £23k.

Mr Myers reviewed the movements on reserves during the year, which reflected transfers approved in last year's Assembly and costs charged against them or income received. It was noted that the £20k reserve for Carpark & Footpaths Maintenance had all been used, predominantly by works on a soakaway in the car park and some resurfacing. Some other works, for which instructions had been issued with the contractor were outstanding and due to take place in August, related to regrading and drainage issues on the footpath. There had been an overspend of approximately £1k which had been reflected in Expenses.

The balance on the Parish's balance sheet was £397k and reflected amounts in the General and other Reserves, including £37k attributable to the Don accounts. Overall the increase in the balance sheet since the previous year end was £51k.

Mr Myers drew attention to his firm's Audit Report and advised that he did not have any matters he wished to bring to Parishioners' attention. He concluded by saying that the Audit had run efficiently and thanked the Parish Hall staff for their assistance. The Connétable thanked Mr Myers for his efforts.

There were no questions arising on the Accounts:

The Accounts for the year ended 30th April 2026 were then adopted on a proposition put by Mr T Renouf and seconded by Mr A Moullin.

3. Roads Account

Article 10 of the Loi (1914) sur la Voirie required that an amount be placed at the disposal of the Roads Committee for the repairs and other works on Parish by-roads during the year. An amount of £30k had been requested by the Roads Committee, for expending as detailed in the Estimates document due to be considered later in the meeting. The sum was approved by the Meeting on a proposition put by Mr T Renouf seconded by Mr A Moullin.

The Connétable thanked The members of the Roads Committee and the Roads Inspectors for their efforts in maintaining the Parish's roads.

4. Approval of Estimates

The proposed Estimates for the financial year ending 30th April 2027 had been prepared in conjunction with the Connétable's Accounts Committee. The Connétable reviewed the Estimates for the year, drawing attention to the following points:

The projected income from Rates for the year had been based on an assumed parish rate of 1.95p, which retained the rate at the same level as the previous year. This would produce an estimated rates income of £486k compared to last year's figure of £483k. Other miscellaneous income for the year (the bulk of which comprised bank interest, hall rental, dog permits and cemetery income) was forecast to be £25.5k. The total forecast income for the year, based on a rate of 1.95p, was approximately £512k.

Forecast expenses had been increased to make provision for the impact of RPI. Other costs, in particular, refuse collection and insurance, were based on the known actual cost for the

year. Office expenses were anticipated to increase significantly in the forthcoming year due to the requirements imposed by the introduction of the Cyber Security (Jersey) Law which deemed parishes to be part of the Island's critical national infrastructure, and imposed additional security measures. Comité expenses, over which the Parish had no control, were forecast to remain at the level forecast in the previous year, despite there being a significant underspend against budget last year, due to additional IT development costs associated with the introduction of a Direct Debit facility for the Rates system.

£25k had been budgeted for the Church, Rectory and Cemetery. It was anticipated that some repainting would be carried out in the Church, though this may have to be spread over more than one year.

The Honorary Police budget was reduced to the level of the previous year's expenditure.

The Parish's contribution to the Youth Project funding was forecast to remain at the same level, although there were plans in hand to restructure the agreement with the Youth Service. This would result in a reduction in the amount the Parish paid to CYPES (the Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills), but the Parish would instead take responsibility for settling the rent payable to the Youth & Community Centre directly (this was currently paid by the Youth Club out of funds provided by CYPES).

A parishioner asked if there were proposals to seek alternative quotations for the refuse collection service. The Connétable advised that the current year was the final year of the five-year term of the contract with the existing provider. There were alternative providers and initial approaches had been made apropos provision of the service commencing next May.

A proposition to approve the Estimates as presented was put as follows:

Prop: Mr T Renouf Sec: Mr J Alcock and approved by the Meeting.

5. Approval of Transfers

The following transfers from the General Reserve were proposed:

Transfer to the Police Car Replacement Reserve	£5k
Transfer to the Parish Hall Refurbishment Reserve	£10k

This proposition was put as follows:

Prop: Mr J Alcock Sec: Mrs A Proffitt and approved by the Meeting.

6. Approval of Grants

The Connétable proposed that the annual allocation of grants should in future be a matter handled by the Connétable and Procureurs, having regard to the requests received from parishioners during the year. It was suggested that requests for charitable support could be solicited through the Parish's website, Facebook page etc, thereby broadening the reach for suggestions to come from the wider parish.

In the current year, it was proposed that usual grants be paid as follows: £500 each for 6th Jersey Scouts, 20th St Mary Brownies and Kids Club (total £1,500). The balance remaining to be allocated to charitable organisations, including the Youth Club, by the Connétable and Procureurs therefore would amount to £3,500

A proposition was put to the Meeting to approve the future modus operandi and grants proposed above, as follows:

Prop: Mr B Curtis Sec: Mr J Alcock and approved by the Meeting.

7. Approval of a Parish Rate

The Constable's Accounts Committee had proposed that a Parish Rate of 1.95p should be put to the Meeting.

The proposition was put as follows:

Prop: Mr A Moullin Sec: Mr M Stoddart and duly approved by the Meeting.

8. Connétable's Accounts Committee

It was proposed that the Committee would be comprised of all of those who currently comprised the Committee, viz: Connétable, Procureurs du Bien Publique, Centeniers, Vingteniers, Roads Committee members, Roads Inspectors, Rector and Church Wardens and Mrs S Rowles. There was a vacancy for another parishioner to joint Committee and if any suitable candidates were identified, they could be nominated and approved at a future Parish Assembly.

Prop: Ms S Heppolette Sec: Mr B Curtis and duly approved by the Meeting

9. Appointment of Auditors

The Connétable advised the Meeting that Alex Picot had indicated their willingness to continue in office. A proposition to reappoint Messrs Alex Picot as Auditors for the financial year ended 30th April 2027 was proposed by Mr T Renouf and seconded by Mr M Stodart and duly approved by the Meeting.

CONCLUSION

The Meeting closed at 8.05pm

David Johnson
Connétable

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