

ASSEMBLY OF PRINCIPALS AND ELECTORS

An Assembly of Principals, Officers and Electors of the Parish of St Martin was duly convened and held in the Public Hall on Tuesday 25th May, 2021 at 7.00 pm.

Connétable Shenton Stone welcomed all present, and reminded the Assembly that they could sign the Attendance Book at the end of the meeting if they so wished. It was noted that 21 were in attendance.

The Convening Notice was read by the Parish Secretary and it was noted that apologies had been received from Reverend Jonny Scott, Jackie Edwards, Stuart McAllister and Alan Phillips.

Item 1

Receive and if deemed advisable, approve the Minutes of the Parish Assembly held on the 8th February 2021

The Connétable pointed out that the Minutes had been available in the Public Hall office and that copies were also on the seats in the Hall. The Minutes were proposed by William Sutton, seconded by Lester Richardson and approved by those present. The Connétable duly signed the Minutes.

Item 2

Elect one Vingtenier for the Vingtaine de Rozel for a 3-year term of office

The Connétable asked for nominations for the role of Vingtenier for the Vingtaine de Rozel.

Paul Gaudin proposed Mark Paul Cobden stating that Mark had joined the Honorary Police service 13 years ago in 2008 as a Constable's Officer and later serving as a Vingtenier. Paul also stated that Mark's great knowledge within the Parish and Honorary Police service will lead, he was sure, to one day taking the office of Centenier. The nomination was seconded by Peter Searle.

The Connétable asked if there were any other nominations and, there being none, she declared Mark Cobden was duly elected as a Vingtenier for the Vingtaine de Rozel.

The Connétable congratulated Mark on his election, thanking him for standing again for a further term of office. The Connétable also stated that when Mark was elected in 2008 he was the youngest Constable's Officer to be elected in the Honorary Police service on the Island.

The Connétable duly warned Mark to present himself at the Public Hall on Friday 28th May at 10am to appear before the Royal Court remotely to take his Oath of Office.

Centenier Gordon Jones congratulated Mark Cobden stating that it is essential for the Honorary Police to recruit and hold onto good officers. Mark is a good officer and he is glad that he will be able to continue assisting with the duties, especially livestock issues.

Item 3

Elect one Constable's Officer for the Vingtaine de Rozel for a 3-year term of office

This item was deferred to a later date.

Item 4

Presentation of Honorary Police Officers Awards

The Chef de Police, Gordon Jones, and the Connétable presented framed certificates of long service awards to three retired officers. Gordon stated that losing all three officers within nine months during 2020, in one of the most demanding periods imposed on the Honorary Police due to the Covid-19 pandemic was disappointing, frustrating, unfortunate and untimely but the remaining officers had to cope with this loss. The retired officers included:

PAUL GAUDIN

Constable's Officer

April 1998 to August 2001 August 2001 to March 2011

Vingtenier Centenier

March 2011 to March 2020

Paul's roles included Court Centenier and Chef de Police. Total years' service: 21 years 11 months.

PETER SEARLE

Parish of Grouville

Constable's Officer Centenier December 1988 to December 1990 December 1990 to December 1993

Constable's Officer

February 1998 to February 2001

Parish of St Martin

Constable's Officer

February 2002 to April 2004

Centenier

December 2004 to December 2020

Peter's roles at St Martin included Court Centenier, Chef de Police and Parking Enforcement Officer. Total years' service in both Parishes: 26 years and 10 months.

STUART MCALLISTER

Constable's Officer

December 1993 to July 2020

Total years' service: 26 years and 7 months

MICHAEL STEVENS

Constable's Officer

March 1985 to July 1990

Vingtenier

July 1990 to August 2020

Michael's roles included Parking administrator, Bonfire coordinator and Battle of Flowers. Total years' service: 35 years and 5 months.

The cumulative years of service of these Officers is 110 years and 9 months.

On behalf of the St Martin Honorary Police, Gordon thanked all retired officers for their service and dedication.

Presentation of the Mick Eden Trophy

Gordon Jones stated that this trophy is awarded to the Officer who, in the opinion of their peers, the other Officers, has contributed the most towards policing in St Martin during the year. Gordon also stated that during 2020 a number of Officers, as a result of the pandemic, had to isolate due to age, thus reducing the number of Officers available for the additional duties required. It was noted that not one Officer stood out above another during this period. It was therefore announced that the Mick Eden Trophy for 2020 was to be awarded to the St Martin Honorary Police for all their efforts to enforce the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions.

The trophy was then presented by the Connétable to all Honorary Police Officers present at the Assembly.

There being no further business, the Connétable thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.20pm

Karen Shenton Stone Connétable

Date: 25th May 2021

