



AMENDED MINUTES OF AN ASSEMBLY OF PRINCIPALS, OFFICERS, AND ELECTORS

An Assembly of Principals and Electors of the Parish of St Martin was duly convened and held in the Public Hall on Monday 4th March 2024 at 7.00 pm.

The Connétable 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 24 persons were in attendance.

Apologies were received from Deputy Stephen Luce. The Convening Notice was read by the Parish Secretary.

Item 1

Receive and if deemed advisable, approve the Minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 16th January 2024

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

Item 2

Consider, and if deemed advisable, recommend to the Licensing Bench an application for a provisional grant of a licence for 2024 by virtue of the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974 as amended: -

<i>Name:</i>	<i>Gian Vedovatti</i>
<i>Address:</i>	<i>The Village Café (St Martin), La Rue de la Croix au Maitre, St Martin, JE3 6HW</i>
<i>Category:</i>	<i>3rd Category</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Argus Secretaries Limited</i>
<i>Business Address:</i>	<i>Village Green Pavilion Café, La Rue de la Croix au Maitre, St Martin, JE3 6HW</i>

The Connétable stated that the application has been made to the Bailiff for this permit and this Assembly has been requested by the Bailiff's Chambers to seek comments and approval from Parishioners. Connétable Stone stated that both the Fire Safety Officer and the Environmental Health Officers were aware of this application. The Connétable then asked the Assembly for a Proposer for this application.

Mr Renzo Martin proposed this application stating that he had known Gian Vedovatti for well over 20 years and felt that he would be an asset to the Parish. The venue is in an excellent position near to a new children's playground and Mr Martin stated that other Parishes should note this as an excellent example of community working together. Mr Martin also stated that Mr Vedovatti had previously held a licence at Driftwood Café for 20 years.

Mrs Lorraine de Veulle seconded this proposal agreeing with all Mr Renzo had said and stated that Mr Vedovatti was hard working and a man of integrity.

The Connétable then asked the Assembly for any comments on this application.

Mr Michel Le Troquer (MLT) stated that he wished to pay tribute to the previous tenants for all their hard work in the Village Tea Room over the years and wished them luck for the future. MLT then stated a brief history of the Tea Room when the concept was brought about in 2013 and a fund-raising team was set up by the Parish and many funds were donated by Parishioners. At that time, the venue was never intended for a liquor licence. MLT further stated that this licence application can allow the venue to be open from 9am to 1am daily and that customers can purchase alcohol from 9am to 11pm without purchasing a meal. The fact that the venue is near to a new children's playground is also of concern. MLT also raised concerns that the next item on the Parish Assembly was that the Driftwood Café are also applying to extend their opening hours to 10pm (a Category 3 licence).

The Connétable stated that the restriction of this licence application would be that the premises would only be open to 8pm and Mr Vedovatti stated that only wine and beer would be served with the meals. No spirits would be on the premises.

MLT raised further concerns that a Special Bailiff's Permit can be applied for if this licence is granted (Article 89 (1)(a) of the Licencing Law) which will allow extended opening hours for private functions.

The Connétable stated that no private functions will be permitted on the premises in agreement with Mr Vedovatti.

MLT queried why this was a 'provisional' licence application and referred to Article 8 of the licencing law. The Connétable advised that no changes in the layout of the premises is being sought, it is currently being renovated and redecorated only. MLT stated that the Licencing Assembly need to be aware that the Parish are the landlords of these premises. MLT further stated that he assumed a raise in the rental lease fee had been provided for if a liquor licence was granted. This could be an issue to raise at the Rates Assembly later in the year.

MLT queried the newly named 'Village Green Café' – as it is always referred to as the 'Village Tea Room' and there is no provision under current law for a 'Tea Room Liquor Licence'.

MLT stated that anyone speaking at this Assembly is entitled to appear before the Licensing Assembly and anyone who has not spoken at this Assembly can also make a representation at the Licensing Assembly but must give 7 days' Written Notice to the Judicial Greffier.

The Connétable assured MLT that the Parish Secretary writes comprehensive notes of Parish Assemblies, and this report will be forwarded to the Licensing Assembly ahead of their sitting on 21st March 2024. The Connétable also stated that a comprehensive tendering process commenced in September 2023, in compliance with local law, and interviews were scheduled in December 2023. Mr Martin Willis asked the Connétable if any other applicants requested the option of applying for a licence if granted the lease. The Connétable confirmed that all applicants interviewed had discussed the option of requesting a licence if granted the lease.

Mrs Judith Egré endorsed MLT's views stating that it was not appropriate to have a licenced premise near to a children's play area. This will lead to more trouble with noise disturbing pétanque players and neighbours.

Mrs Lorraine De Veulle stated that a liquor licence has been in operation at the Driftwood Café for a number of years where Mr Gian Vedovatti was the licence holder, and there have been no issues with parents abusing alcohol consumption and not taking care of their children. The tenant would not tolerate this behaviour.

Mr Lester Richardson stated that the Parish would not want it turned into a pub and stated that the licence is to allow clients to have a glass of wine or beer with their meal. This has been discussed and agreed with the applicant.

There being no other comments a show of hands was requested:

In favour of 14

Against: 7

The Connétable warned Mr Vedovatti to appear at the Licensing Assembly on Thursday 21st March at 09.45am

Item 3

Consider, and if deemed advisable, recommend to the Licensing Bench an application for the extension of the opening hours for Driftwood Cafe, Archirondel, La Route de la Cote, St Martin, JE3 6DY from 8pm to 10pm each day.

Name: L.G.D.F. Limited
Address: Driftwood Café, Archirondel, La Route de la Cote, St Martin, JE3 6DY
Category: 3rd Category
Secretary: Gabrielle Sian Mason
Business Address: Driftwood Café, Archirondel, La Route de la Cote, St Martin, JE3 6DY

The Connétable stated that a representation has been made to the Parish for this Category 3 licence to be extended from the current restricted closing time of 8pm to 10pm and that this Assembly has been convened to seek comments and approval from Parishioners. The Connétable asked the Assembly for a Proposer for this application.

Mr Christopher Kelleher (CK) proposed this application stating a number of reasons for this request which included increased revenue with longer hours for customers to dine in, catering for different schedules and shift workers, providing a competitive advantage and thus a more successful business. There are not many premises open after 5pm beyond Gorey Pier; enhanced customer satisfaction providing repeat business; economic stimulus – creating extended job opportunities; meeting the demand during peak seasons and use of resources; adapting to changing lifestyles.

CK further stated that he has known Gabrielle Mason for 10 years. She has shown to be respectful to neighbour's property and environmental stewardship, she grew up in Grouville and spent much family time in Archirondel. Ms Mason also owns a local establishment with her partner (Jade-S Fisheries) and has shown great investment in the local economy. Changes have already been made with the premises surroundings and updated menus.

Mr Robert Wareing-Jones seconded the application stating he has known Ms Mason for a number of years, having returned to the Island after she graduated with a Masters in Geological Science from UCL, she co-owns Jade-S Fisheries proving a successful company and often working a 70-hour week.

There being no other comments a show of hands was requested:

In favour of 15
Against: None

The Connétable warned Miss Mason to appear at the Licensing Assembly on Thursday 21st March at 09.45am

There being no further business, the Connétable thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.35pm

Karen Shenton Stone
Connétable

Date