

Proposed Hospital Access Road

For consideration by the Parish Assembly
on 9 June 2021 at 7pm

PARISH OF ST HELIER

P.02/2021



PROPOSITION

Following a presentation made to the Assembly on behalf of the Minister responsible for the 'Our Hospital' project, PARISHIONERS are asked to take into consideration and if deemed advisable decide that:

- 1.The Assembly has received the details it requires in respect of vehicular, amenity, cultural and community impact outlined in recital D of the Requête considered at a Parish Assembly on 10 February 2021.
- 2.The Assembly is satisfied with the merits of creating an access route to the proposed hospital as described in the presentation.

REPORT

Background:

On 10 February 2021, a Parish Assembly was held following the lodging of a Requête, the subject matter being an access route via Westmount Road in connection with the proposed new hospital at Overdale. The Requête is attached at Appendix A.

At the Assembly, parishioners were asked to:

- 1.Agree that the Parish should not allow any further interference with the Land or any part of it by the Ministers responsible for the hospital project or by their agents, contractors or advisers unless and until the Parish has confirmed at a further Parish Assembly that it has received

the details it requires concerning the matters referred to in Recital D of the Requête and is satisfied with the merits of creating an access per the details provided; and

2. Agree that in the meantime the Parish is required to take, or join others in taking, whether by legal proceedings or otherwise, such action as may be necessary or desirable to resist any attempt by the Public to acquire the Land pending the evaluation by the Parish of the details referred to in item 1 of the Requête.

Recital D states that:

At no time has the Parish Assembly been given either the opportunity to consider sufficient detail of what the acquisition will involve in the way of vehicular, amenity, cultural or community impact or the opportunity to give its approval either to said acquisition itself or the possible financial or other terms (if any) on which it might take place.

Discussions ensued with statements both for and against the propositions being received from those present at the Assembly and those attending online.

Votes were taken on the Propositions, with the following results:

Proposition 1: Approved, 175 votes in favour and 30 against

Proposition 2: Approved, 167 votes in favour and 38 against

Decisions for this Assembly

The Minister responsible for the 'Our Hospital' project has arranged for a presentation to the Assembly to address the points set out in Recital D of the Requête.

Following the presentation, the Assembly is asked to consider if it considers that:

- it has received the details it requires in respect of vehicular, amenity, cultural and community impact outlined in Recital D of the Requête; and
- it is satisfied with the merits of creating an access route to the proposed hospital as described in the presentation.

Appendix A

Appendix A

IN THE PARISH OF ST HELIER

IN THE MATTER OF THE LOI (1804) AU SUJET DES ASSEMBLEES PAROISSIALES (AS AMENDED)

And in the Matter of an Access Route in connection with the new Overdale Hospital Project

TO THE CONNÉTABLE, PRESIDENT OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY OF ST HELIER

REQUÊTE

WHEREAS:

- A. On 17 November 2020 and after a short debate the States Assembly voted by 34 votes to 7 (the Connétable of St Helier abstaining) to approve the acquisition by compulsory purchase if necessary of Parish land and property (among other private properties) identified in the drawing in red colouring on the plan annexed hereto (“the Land”).
- B. The Land comprises roadway parking facilities, numerous trees, sizeable but as yet imprecisely defined parts of the People’s Park, the century-old Westmount bowling green with its clubhouse, carpark, gardens and workshops, the historic rocky outcrop on Gallows Hill, and associated verges, amenities and appurtenances.
- C. The Ministers responsible for the new Overdale Hospital Project claim that the Land is part of what is required by them to create a suitable

access from the Esplanade and elsewhere to the proposed new hospital.

- D. At no time has the Parish Assembly been given either the opportunity to consider sufficient detail of what the acquisition will involve in the way of vehicular, amenity, cultural or community impact or the opportunity to give its approval either to said acquisition itself or the possible financial or other terms (if any) on which it might take place.
- E. Despite persistent requests by Parishioners for precise and sufficient detail the Ministers responsible for the Overdale Project have consistently and without justification failed or refused to provide the detail upon which the Parish might evaluate the proposed acquisition and make an informed decision.
- F. Having learned what information can be deduced from such material as has come into the public domain, very many Parishioners are of the view that the proposed access route to the new hospital, and the works associated therewith, will cause disproportionate and irreparable damage to what is one of the few distinctive and important parts of the island's capital, and should be rigorously opposed.
- G. In the process of selecting Overdale as the only site for approval by the States Assembly the Ministers concerned have purposely but unjustifiably, and contrary to due process, discounted one or more alternative sites equally or more suitable for the new hospital than

Overdale, with minimal adverse impact on the community and surroundings.

WHEREFORE:

The undersigned Parishioners require the Connétable as President of the Parish Assembly, within the space of 'une quinzaine de jours' as prescribed by Article 9 of the above Law (as amended), to convene a Parish Assembly in order that his Parishioners may debate and vote upon the following:

1. That the Parish should not allow any further interference with the Land or any part of it by the Ministers responsible for the new hospital project or by their agents, contractors or advisers unless and until such time as the Parish has confirmed at a further Parish Assembly that it has received the details it requires concerning the matters referred to in Recital D above and is satisfied with the merits of creating an access in accordance with the details provided.
2. That in the meantime the Parish is required to take, or join others in taking, whether by legal proceedings or otherwise, such action as may be necessary or desirable to resist any attempt by the Public to acquire the Land pending the evaluation by the Parish of the details referred to in item 1 above.

Dated this 29th day of January 2021.