



PARISH OF ST HELIER



Minutes of the Parish Assembly	
Wednesday 2 October 2024 at 7.00 p.m.	
Assembly Room, Town Hall	
59/24	Welcome and Apologies –
	<p>Apologies: Procureur Peter Pearce, The Dean, Barbara Corbett, James Corbett, Deputies Carina Alves, Lyndsay Feltham, and Inna Gardiner.</p> <p>Deputies in Attendance: Stephen Ahier, Mary Le Hegarat</p> <p>Procureur in attendance: John Baker</p>
60/24	<p>Following a presentation from the Health Minister and his New Healthcare Facilities Team concerning the plans for the new hospital at the Overdale site and consequential changes to the surrounding areas of St Helier:</p> <p>Item 1. To agree the Assembly has received sufficient details from the New Healthcare Facilities Team to remove the restrictions imposed by a Requête received on 1 February 2021, which was agreed at a Parish Assembly held on 10 February 2021. P.05/2024.*</p>
	<p>Proposer: Procureur John Baker Seconder: Deputy Stephen Ahier</p> <p>The Constable outlined the Projet, explaining the reason behind the Requête, and the decisions of previous Parish Assemblies.</p> <p>The New Healthcare Facilities Team made a presentation including proposals for the new hospital. They thanked the parish and its parishioners for enabling Samares Ward to move into the newly refurbished floor at St Ewold’s Residential Home, which has freed up the previous site at Overdale for demolition. The planning application for the new hospital was submitted in September 2024 and will be publicly available online.</p> <p>The Hospital Team confirmed that the government intends to rescind the compulsory purchase orders placed on Parish land at West Park, early in the new year. The orders were agreed by the States and therefore the matter to rescind them will need to be debated by States members.</p> <p>The Hospital Team has undertaken considerable public consultation and following the revised plans, the message from the public is they are onboard and just want the Government to get on and build the hospital. It is intended that there will be several health facilities, with a hospital at Overdale, an outpatient facility in Gloucester Street, a health facility in St Saviour as well as services operating from Les Quennevais.</p> <p>The team explained how there was no longer a requirement for a multistorey carpark at Overdale, and that car parking would be on the fields opposite at ground level. The Crematorium and gardens will remain unchanged, but parking will be improved. The team has been able to retain a row of terrace houses. It is intended to use the existing pathways on Westmount Road and to create an active travel route from West Park, which would improve the pathways in Val Andre.</p> <p>A hospital consultant outlined how the new hospital facilities would improve patient care.</p> <p>Westmount Road will have a light touch approach, with no impact to the Bowling Club. Adjacent to the hospital there will be a 2m wide pavement and a narrow roadway with virtual footway. There will be gaps to enable vehicles to pull onto the virtual pathway. The hairpin footway will reduce in width and the pergola path be slightly adjusted. There will be traffic devices on Westmount Road to warn of oncoming ambulances.</p> <p>St Aubin’s Road will have signal control crossings but there will be no impact on Peirson Road. It is intended there will be a loss of 8 carparking spaces on People’s Park, a need to remove the unloading bay in Cheapside, south of the junction and Residents Parking Zones retained. It is intended to keep 1469 trees, however, 230 will</p>

need to be removed, whilst 89 were lost in the recent storm and 755 new trees will be planted.

Deputy Ahier stated he was appalled by the turnout at the Assembly, he said that the presentation didn't address all areas of concern, including when the compulsory purchase notices would be withdrawn, how much parish land would be required and how much compensation the parish would receive.

Minister Tom Binet advised the compulsory purchase notices will be removed as soon as possible in the new year. The diagrams presented, show the demarcation line of which areas affected. Not all the land within the lines will need to be purchased, that includes parish land such as the woods, if the parish agree to the land being improved without the government having to acquire it.

Westmount Road will differ slightly from its existing layout, again these will be minor improvements benefiting parish land and highways, again there is no suggestion of compulsory purchase. Normally when a road is designated a major one, it would be owned by government, but this would be a States Assembly matter.

Deputy Ahier asked how much money the government would we pay for the loss of car parking spaces. Deputy Binet advised these discussions had not taken place. The government have car parks in the vicinity, and it may be possible for an exchange. The loss of car parking would create better pedestrian access and a designated entrance to the park.

Procureur Baker stated he had been totally opposed to the previous scheme, including a superhighway, demolition of the playground and bowling club, as well as a loss of trees. He congratulated the Minister on the complete turnaround and asked when works Westmount Road would begin, what the disruption would be to residents, and the size and type of trees to be planted.

The Hospital Team said they would like to see the Parish and Government work together on the active travel plan, including conservation of the environment. Both teams are aware that some of the current trees are considered pests. The team would like to plant mature trees, but there is a limit to the size of trees available on island and the cost, however, the trees would be native to Jersey. The size and scale of the trees planted, will be determined by the size and scale of the hospital complex.

In relation to roadworks the masterplan has 17 areas of progress, the Hospital Team will work with partners to complete the works in different sections, the team will come back to the Parish with more detailed plans.

Eric Falla congratulated the Hospital Team and the Minister on the revised plans and for getting the hospital project this far. He agreed with Deputy Ahier that the turnout was disappointing, with few parishioners taking an interest. The Constable advised that the small numbers, could be a sign of approval of the scheme, at the Assembly were the Requête was tabled, over 200 parishioners took part.

Mark Le Chevalier questioned the location of the traffic lights on St Aubin's Road, when they are only 200 metres away from another set of lights. The Hospital Team advised that it was to assist with crossing points for the active travel route. The type of signal controls would be assessed on a model before being decided.

There were questions about the traffic management plan during the demolition and rebuilding process, and how this could be done safely. The Hospital Team advised they will have people manning the junctions and will ensure that vehicle sizes are suitable for the road and junctions. Timings of trips will be considered to ensure they don't impact or coincide with school travel.

David Croxford asked for clarification if the cost of £710million was only for the Overdale facility.

The Hospital Team explained that under the Public Finance Law, the Government must make money available for the various health locations. However, at this point they can't confirm publicly the exactly figure for Overdale alone, as they want to obtain the best deal for the public.

Parishioners were asked to agree that they have received sufficient details from the New Healthcare Facilities Team to remove the restrictions imposed by the Requête debated at a Parish Assembly held on 10 February 2021. A secret ballot was held with parishioners casting 11 votes in favour and 1 vote against.

The date of the next scheduled Parish Assembly is Wednesday 30 October 2024

