



PARISH OF ST HELIER



Minutes of the Assembly of the Vingtaine De La Ville	
Wednesday 29 October 2025 at 6.00p.m.	
Assembly Room, Town Hall	
01/25	Welcome and Apologies –
	<p>Apologies: The Constable</p> <p>Procureurs in attendance: Peter Hargreaves & John Baker</p> <p>Procureur Hargreaves provided a brief introduction to the Assembly, explaining that the Vingtaine had been inactive for several years until the Assembly held on 26 November 2024 .</p>
02/25	Item 1: To approve the Minutes of the Assembly held on 26 November 2024
	<p>Proposer: Andrew Sugden Seconder: Jason Lagadu</p> <p>The minutes were adopted</p>
03/25	Item 2: To receive the Procureurs' Report
	<p>Procureur Hargreaves presented a report on behalf of both Procureurs, explaining that in June 2024, the Vingtaine was summoned to appear before the Royal Court to respond to a Representation from the Attorney General.</p> <p>With the assistance of the Parish, an Assembly of Proprietors was held on 26 November 2024, where John Baker and Peter Hargreaves were elected Procureurs, replacing David Letto. The Procureurs wished to express their thanks to Mr Letto, for his years of service to the Community.</p> <p>Since taking over the Procureurs have taken steps to bring the Vingtaine's affairs up to date, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Its funds are once more held on interest earning account. This did not happen until February 2025 • It has been registered as a not-for-profit entity. • It was unable to register as a charity under the existing Charities Law but has been told that the law will be changed so that it can be. • Attempts made to recover an amount equivalent to the interest not received during the period funds were held on non-interest earning accounts, have so far been unsuccessful. • There was an annual charge for preparing and reporting on the accounts covering the period 2016-23. The Procureurs are now preparing the accounts themselves. They are grateful for Leslie Norman, MBE, acting as unremunerated reporting accountant. • A new plaque, paid for by David Letto has been installed, the first for a number of years. • In 1989 the Vingtaine became owner of the largest part of Allix's Shipyard, at Havre de Pas. In 2001 it was renovated to form a garden and space of tranquillity, structures and plaques referring to its former role as a shipyard. The area is now in need of renewal and maintenance. The costs involved exceed the funds remaining to the Vingtaine. In these circumstances, it is now proposed transferring ownership of the Shipyard to the Parish of St Helier, on the basis that the Parish would maintain the area in its present condition for an extended period and bear the costs of its renewal and maintenance. The Parish has agreed to bear the Community's legal costs for the transfer. This transfer continues the tradition of the Vingtaine contributing to the enhancement of St Helier's urban fabric over the past 220 years. • The Vingtaine's assets include the listed Regency Arch on Regent Road. The property extends to a deteriorating and inaccessible area behind locked gates, including on the back wall a mural which is now in a poor state of repair. In the circumstances the Procureurs were willing to sell the area behind the Arch retaining and repairing the Arch itself. • In June 2025, the Royal Court confirmed that the matters raised in the Representation by the Attorney General had been successfully concluded.
04/25	Item 3: To adopt the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024
	<p>Proposer: James Corbett Seconder: Deputy David Warr</p> <p>Jason Ladagu asked from where the Procureurs envisaged revenue streams to come. Procureur Hargreaves</p>

	<p>confirmed that income is to come from bank interest Contributions would be sought for the installation of further plaques.</p> <p>Procureur Hargreaves explained, the bank should have recognised the community status of the Vingtaine and paid interest covering the period no income was earned . Instead, the Vingtaine only received the sum of £500, However there was no basis for a formal complaint. One bank account had been blocked because of difficulties in confirming the source of funds, given they dated back to 1804 To enable the monies to be unfrozen, they were transferred to another bank, which was happy to accept the funds . The Vingtaine now has a current day to day account, and an interest paying account.</p> <p>Georgia Le Maistre stated that previously, the Vingtaine has only used the income generated from bank interest and not the capital, and was it envisaged to continue in this manner. Procureur Hargreaves said under its Constitution it was possible to spend capital.</p> <p>Paul Routier asked if Alex Picot; had been paid. Procureur Hargreaves confirmed their invoice had been settled, however the Vingtaine had challenged the payment of GST. He confirmed that David Letto has been paid the majority of what he was owed.</p> <p>Deputy David Warr asked why the Parish is only paying £1 for the shipyard, and not its true value. The Procureurs explained, the shipyard is in disrepair and requires initial expenditure of £7K to make it safe. If the Vingtaine were to refurbish the area as it wished, it would take most of its savings. The Vingtaine does not currently pay rates on the land, as the land is considered to have little commercial value, but the Parish has agreed that it will be retained and restored in accordance with existing plans.</p> <p>Stuart Fell stated that he believes, if the Vingtaine only spend its bank interest, then it does not have sufficient money to fulfil its aims.</p> <p>Jason Lagadu asked if Allix's Shipyard could be leased to the Parish for a nominal sum. It was explained the Parish wouldn't be in favour of this, due to the amount of expenditure required. He asked why the Parish wouldn't lease it, when they are prepared to lease La Collette Gardens from the Government. Andrew Suguden, Parish CEO informed the Assembly that there are certain liabilities regarding La Collette Gardens, including the retaining wall. By leasing the land, the Parish can ensure the Government maintain them.</p> <p>There were no further questions from the Assembly, on being put to a vote the Accounts were approved unanimously.</p>
05/25	Item 4: To appoint Leslie Norman MBE as Reporting Accountant
	<p>Proposer: Jason Lagadu Seconder: Stuart Fell</p> <p>There were no questions from the Assembly, on being put to a vote this was approved unanimously.</p>
06/25	Item 5: To authorise the Procureurs to contract to transfer the Community's interest in Allix's Shipyard to the Parish of St Helier
	<p>Proposer: James Corbett Seconder: Stuart Fell</p> <p>Silvio Alves, Parish of St Helier Infrastructure Manager, provided an explanation of the proposed costs of the work which the Parish has committed to undertake, should the transfer be agreed. The initial sum of £7K is to cover the works the Parish would undertake immediately, to make the area safe. Additional expenditure of approx. £100K, including refurbishment of the boat, benches, gardens, railings etc., and would be undertaken over several years. Procureur Baker advised this level of investment would be impossible for the Vingtaine to undertake, without using all its savings.</p> <p>Anne Cabot asked if it was possible to include a community project, rather than all works being undertaken by the Parish. It was explained that initially this is not possible, as the remedial work involves electrical installation etc., however, there could be some form of community involvement later. The priority is to make safe the area; the current plants are of a specialised nature and representative of the shipyard and coastal location.</p> <p>Peter Pearce explained this is a fantastic opportunity, with plans having been drawn up for a coastal protection flood prevention project, covering the area from Havre des Pas to Greve D'Azette, Allix's Shipyard could feed into these improvements. Procureur Baker explained with the proposed plans, the Promenade could double in size and be a great enhancement to the area.</p>

	<p>Paul Router expressed his support for the project, whilst the Vingtaine could provide the initial money of £7K to make the Shipyard safe, it had insufficient funds to refurbish or to maintain the site. Previously gardening had cost up to £3K per annum, and that was without maintenance of the various structures.</p> <p>The owner confirmed that her parents had owned a small part of the shipyard. She confirmed that whilst her land was not for sale, she was happy for the larger part of the shipyard to be transferred to the Parish.</p> <p>There were no further questions from the Assembly, on being put to a vote the transfer was approved unanimously.</p>
	<p>Georgia Le Maistre asked if she could mention a matter under Any Other Business. It was explained that no additional items can be added to the agenda, other than those already published. The matter for discussion had been mentioned in the Procureurs report and therefore she was able to proceed with her question.</p> <p>What the Vingtaine is proposing to do with the Regent Road Arch? Procureur Hargreaves stated this was one of the things the Vingtaine would consider next year.</p> <p>He was asked what responsibility the Vingtaine has for parking at Ordnance Yard. He confirmed it was the responsibility of the Ordnance Yard Association in which the Procureurs are involved in management.</p> <p>Sebastian Le Maistre asked if the Vingtaine were to propose selling the land behind the Arch, for confirmation that a further Assembly would be held to approve this transaction, this was confirmed..</p>
	<p>Procureur Hargreaves declared the Assembly closed and thanked those in attendance for their continued support. Minutes of this Meeting in due course will be available on the Parish of St Helier website.</p>