

AT AN ASSEMBLY of Principles and Electors of the Parish of St. Ouen, duly convened and held in St. Ouen's Parish Hall on Wednesday, 28 January, 2026 at 7.20pm to:-

1. Receive, and if deemed advisable, approve the Act of the Parish Assembly held on 10 December 2025.
2. Consider a recommendation to vote a further sum of money for the financial year ended 30 April 2026 not exceeding £16,000 to install new signage on Parish administered roads following the Government of Jersey's Speed Limit Review. This is to include 69 signs and 21 poles.

Connétable Richard Honeycombe opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and asked the Parish Secretary Designate to read the convening notice.

Apologies were received from Centenier Robert Hall, Advocate Richard John Michel (member of the Roads Committee), Basil George Carre, Nigel Hall (Chairman of the Rates Assessment Committee), David Sharp (member of the Rates Assessment Committee), Mark Grigg (member of the Rates Assessment Committee), Paul James (member of the Rates Assessment Committee), Richard Renouf and Julie Journeaux.

The Connétable moved on to item 1 of the agenda and advised that the minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 10 December 2025 have been made available on the Parish website and a copy is also on the chairs. Approval of the minutes were proposed by Roy Le Bas and seconded by Martin Le Maistre and subsequently approved unanimously.

The Connétable then introduced Item 2 of the agenda, which was to consider a recommendation to vote a further sum of money for the financial year ending 30 April 2026, not exceeding £16,000, to install new signage on Parish administered roads, following the Government of Jersey's Speed Limit Review. This is to include 69 signs and 21 poles.

The Connétable advised that, following consultation and due process, the speed limits have now been approved. This item is to request funding to pay for the necessary signage and discuss whether this should be funded by a special vote or from the roads account previously agreed by the Assembly held in July 2025.

The quote from Government is £15,895, which includes providing signage, new poles, resitting any foundations of wobbly poles, installing new poles, removing old signage and erecting the new signage. The Department for Infrastructure and Environment (I&E) pay for signage on government roads, and several other locations that they have agreed to cover the cost of.

Clos des Papillons, Clos de la Croute, Ivy Close, Le Clos Horrell, Clos Morel (both roads) and Le Clos de Mahaut are all private roads and, although they appeared in the publicity produced by I&E, this was in error.

The Department for Infrastructure and Environment hosted three public consultations here at the Parish Hall. The second being in September 2024 with a drop-in session at the same time as the Close to Home even. Unfortunately, this was not very well attended, and it was decided to hold another drop-in session and consultation. This was held in April 2025 and was very well attended. Many consultation forms were completed at the event, of which I&E advised that 98% of respondents were in favour of implementing the findings of the review.

Signage is currently being made, and the signage team will commence the work next week.

Before taking questions from the floor, the Connétable reminded those present that the matter for the vote was for funding of the signage and not to approve the review itself.

Mr Kevin Cronin said he had been involved in the Green Lane Scheme at its inception. At that time, the Government paid for all green lane signage, and Mr Cronin questioned why they weren't doing so here. The Connétable replied that things have moved on since the early days of getting the scheme up and running. Simply put, the roads that belong to the Parish remain the Parish's responsibility. The Government only maintain and pay for the Government roads. He added that the Parish replace around 30 road signs per year due to damage caused predominantly by farming vehicles.

Mr Sean Le Breuilly challenged the Connétable's assertion that the consultation had been well attended and that 98% of questionnaires that were submitted to the Government Infrastructure and Environment Department were in favour of the Review. He argued that there were a lot of attendees that were against it, and that the St Ouen Roads Committee have approved it off their own back. He added that this is a case of the cart before the horse and that the matter should have been brought back to a Parish Assembly as the parishioners do not have sufficient information. The Connétable replied that there had been three drop-in sessions. On the occasion of the third session, some 75 questionnaires were submitted to I&E and all were in favour or the Review would not have proceeded. Mr Le Breuilly interrupted the Connétable and said the figure of 98% was ridiculous and that no one had seen the data. The Connétable responded by advising that the forms he had seen were in favour and there were several conversations and meetings with I&E. Thereafter, the Roads Committee approved its implementation. He added that there were 2 problematic roads during the discussions with I&E, those concerning the Parish roads Chemin du Moulin and La Rue de la Croix. The Roads Committee requested a reduction to 20 mph on both roads, whilst I&E wished to make them 30mph. However, the latter will be subject to a housing development for over 55's in the coming months. The planning approval received was subject to a proviso of traffic calming measures, so it made sense to reduce the speed limit now, rather than have to repeat the exercise in 2 years' time when the development was complete.

At the location of the zebra crossing on La Route de Vinchelez, the Connétable had approached I&E back in 2022 with a request to reduce the speed limit there from 30mph to 20mph. He was advised to wait for the speed limit review to be completed, and he has been guided by the qualified experts in the I&E department. He added that there are areas around the school which jump from 15mph limits to 30mph. There are obviously a lot of children in the area, so it was right to reduce the speed limit to 15mph. He added that the sole purpose of the Speed Limit Review was public safety. He agreed that the figure being asked for is a lot of money, but that it was exactly the reason for bringing it before the Assembly that evening, for transparency's sake. He did not want to show it in the accounts later in the year as an overspend, without bringing to the attention of the Assembly. The Connétable continued that he had spent a lot of time on the Review, along with the I&E Department, and didn't agree with the criticism that it had been a waste of time, or that it was rubbish. The Review was led by I&E, with the objective being road safety.

On the subject of the zebra crossing on La Route de Vinchelez, he had been trying for 5 years to make the area safer. Whilst he understood the sentiments of the speakers that evening in that it was a lot of money, he advised that you can't put a sum on safety. He reiterated that over 100 people attended the last drop-in session. If the Assembly agree this evening, then St Ouen is a safer place. If not, then he is prepared to pull the Review. The decision is the Assembly's to take.

Mr Le Breuilly responded by saying that, if a resident wants a speed limit placed on their road, then that's one thing, but to carry out speed limits en bloc and across the Parish, is quite another. He repeated that there was no data available from I&E. He added that motorists drive to the conditions of the road and asked who would be policing the new limits. The Connétable replied that there would be no policing for 4 weeks as the first 4 weeks following installation would be for publicity. That had already been agreed. He added that the reduced speed limit is essential if new homes are to be built on La Rue de la Croix.

Mr Le Breuilly reiterated that there was no data being presented to the Assembly. RH replied that I&E had arranged numerous drop-in meetings and the Parish has a Roads Committee that has been voted in by the Parish's electorate to make these decisions. RH asked how far a Parish needs to go and felt that both the Parish and I&E had been appropriately transparent on this project, as demonstrated by this evening's meeting.

Mr Christopher Donoghue then said that he felt there was no transparency and that the consultation was a done deal. He added road safety is lacking and that the bus stop on La Route de Vinchelez is more dangerous than it was prior to the zebra crossing being created there. He then put it to the Connétable that he asks of parishioners to put their faith in him as Connétable. RH replied that he had spoken with Mr Donoghue at the third drop in session, when he had informed the Connétable that he would support the proposed speed limit review if it was what the Parish wanted. He also rejected the notion that the consultation was a done deal. Mr Le Breuilly then repeated from the floor that it was a done deal and that there is no data to show.

Vingtenier Rosie Le Maistre commented that people do not abide by the existing speed limits, which is why the speed limit review is necessary. She added that even cyclists ride in excess of the speed limits. Mrs Sims-Hilditch supported the comment by saying she has recently come close to being struck by a cyclist. RH responded to those comments by advising only motorised vehicles fall under the provisions of the Road Traffic Law and, whilst I&E and the Parish are aware of those issues, there is little that can be done about it without a change in the law. Deputy Lucy Stephenson added that electric scooters are another hazard on our roads and are often seen driving unsafely. RH said that they were required to be restricted to 15.4 mph, and should they exceed that, then they are subject to the provisions of the law. He added that eventually, the scooters may need to be registered, with riders obliged to wear head protection. These scooters remain a concern and the Attorney General is aware of the matter with a law review impending.

Mr David Bull confirmed the point regarding limits on scooters and said it is illegal to buy them if they exceed 15.4 mph. However, he went on to say that they very often get chipped to go faster, with many capable of reaching 40 mph. RH replied that these comments have been noted and that the law is being reviewed.

Mr Hugh Sims-Hilditch asked the Chairman why everyone was in attendance this evening, as the agenda item was requesting the approval of the Assembly to spend an additional sum not exceeding £16,000, to pay for signage. RH answered that he was quite correct. Mr Sims-Hilditch went on to say there had been much heated discussion but not on the subject that brought everyone here. Despite 3 public consultations being held, Mr Donoghue felt that the parishioners had not been given the opportunity to talk about the review.

Mrs Gitte Donoghue asked how many signs were to be replaced and how many would be new installations. She added that St Ouen was a lovely parish and would be spoilt by an influx of road signs. RH replied that some signs would be moved, for example on Rue du Nord and Rue du Sud, so that signage appears at the entry and exit points of those roads. New signage has been agreed for the green lanes and poles would be moved as necessary. On the matter of the green lanes, all signs will need to be replaced as they have been subject to new designs. Mrs Donoghue repeated the question and asked what percentage of the 69 signs were going to be new, to which RH replied that there wouldn't be a significant increase in terms of numbers but entry and exits to green lanes would have signs. Mrs Donoghue replied that the speed limits were painted on the roads and questioned why it was necessary to have signs as well. RH replied that it was I&E's recommendation. Mrs Donoghue then said she thought painting the road with the limits would probably be cheaper and looks less intrusive. RH replied that we were here to decide on approving the money to pay for the signage, or otherwise. Mrs Donoghue responded by saying that it would be nice to know how many additional signs would be erected as the Assembly were being asked to spend up to £16,000.

Mr Sean Guegan advised the meeting that he had some 30 years' experience in the signage business. He said the new signs are of a diamond design and the ones currently

in operation are from 1995 and no longer legal. However, he went on to add that £16k was a lot of money and asked how the Parish was tied in with I&E, as he can source the signs cheaper. RH replied that the Parish source road equipment regularly from I&E and they are expensive. Mr Guegan asked if the Parish was obligated to source from I&E, to which the Connétable replied that we could utilise the Parish's manual team for installations, but not with the current winter schedule.

Mr Le Breuilly said that this proves his point, that a meeting should have been called to discuss this. He added that, if the Assembly vote against the proposition, I&E will have to pay. He went on to say that the reason why everyone is in attendance is not about money.

Connétable then took the matter to the vote, with the result being 14 votes in favour of spending up to £16k on the signage, with 11 votes against.

Connétable Honeycombe then asked the Assembly to remember 2 former Parish officers, who had sadly passed away recently. Constable's Officer Neil Le Ber, who was a serving officer for the Cueillette de Millais, having only been elected at the last Parish Assembly in December 2025.

Mr David de la Haye also passed away recently aged 89 years. Mr de la Haye served as Parish Deputy from 1975 to 1987. The Assembly held a moment's silence in respect of the late Mr Le Ber and Mr de la Haye.

With the business for the meeting being concluded, the Connétable thanked everyone for attending and asked for someone to propose that the minutes be approved at the next Parish Assembly. Procureur Roy Le Bas, proposed and Mr Martin Le Maistre seconded it.

The Connétable called time at 20:24, with 33 people in attendance.