

Meeting of St Ouen's Roads Committee

6 March 2026 at 14:15

Agenda

1. Site visit at La Rue de la Campagne, to meet with the landowner to discuss drainage issues and damage to the road and banques bordering fields.

Minutes

In Attendance

Richard Honeycombe – Connétable (RH)

Jack A'Court – Roads Committee (JA)

Martin Le Maistre – Roads Committee (MLM)

[REDACTED] - Landowner

Daryn Cleworth, Parish Secretary Designate & Minutes

Apologies

Advocate Richard Michel

The Committee met with the landowner at his property known as The Lookout. The landowner drew initial attention to a matter not previously mentioned, that being speeding in the road. He advised that this was becoming an increasingly concerning matter, not least due to the condition of the road. He felt that an accident was not far from occurring. RH replied that the matter would be escalated to the Parish's Chef de Police for monitoring.

The landowner moved on to the flooding in the road, particularly following the unprecedented recent downpours that have caused disruption throughout the island. RH remarked on the volume of rainfall recently, in addition to the polythene that covers the majority of the fields in the area. The water runoff from the fields increases with the presence of the polythene covers on the land. These factors have created challenges for the Parish teams, with the winter schedule severely affected. The landowner replied that the main problem occurs from the fields at the top of the road, with three channels have been dug out from the banques, creating a river of water that the drains cannot cope with.

RH commented that, in previous years, the farmers have kept the roads in better condition by cleaning the mud and dirt that is washed down on to the road from the fields. However, recently, it has been noted that clean ups have been neglected, prompting correspondence and telephone calls to those responsible. Following the attendance of the Roads Committee that day, it was apparent that the Parish's attempts at drawing attention to the issue may have fallen on deaf ears. RH advised that the Parish would be contacting the farmers again.

The landowner continued that, by making channels in the banques, the water run off can no longer be considered as natural, which is illegal. The channels have created a situation where there is now an excess of water running on to the road, which the current drainage solutions cannot cope with. He suggested removing two of the stones that border the field on the west next to his property, allowing water to run off into that field and down into a gully. The stones currently prevent the water from running off the road, creating flooding outside his property, which is located in a valley between two slopes. He further suggested creating a channel in another field, for the same effect. RH replied that a highway authority cannot legally insist a landowner takes water from the road and the Parish cannot simply create measures to channel water from the road on to private land. The landowner responded by saying that it was exactly what the farmers had done further up the road, which is creating the flooding issue outside his property. He added that there had been an instance where water had flooded his garage at the foot of his driveway. RH replied that the light, sandy soil from the fields runs into the two sumps outside his property during heavy rainfall, which inhibits the drainage from the road surface. Photographs of the sand and dirt are included in Appendix A of these minutes.

The Committee made its way to the location of the recently created channels in fields situated to the east of the road. It was noted that there did appear to be manmade channels, one of which was quite significant. RH responded by advising the Parish would contact the Government's Land Resource Management team for further advice. Additionally, the farmers in the area would be written to again, with directives to keep the road clean from debris and dirt from the fields, in accordance with law.

The meeting ended with RH informing the landowner that he would receive an update in writing in the coming weeks.

Date Minutes Approved:.....

Signed:.....

Connétable de St Ouen

Appendix A

La Rue de la Campagne

