

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, 29 July, 2026 at 7.00pm to:-

1. Receive and, if deemed advisable, approve the Act of the Parish Assembly held on Wednesday, 28 January 2026.
2. Receive and, if deemed advisable, adopt the accounts of the Connétable for the financial year 2025/2026, the said accounts having been previously audited by the Parish Accountants and examined by the Committee named for the purpose.
3. Receive and, if deemed advisable, approve the Connétable's estimates for the year 2026/2027, including grants to various charities.
4. Having approved the estimates, tax the rate accordingly and order that it be levied.
5. Name a Committee to examine the accounts of the Connétable for the financial year 2026/2027.

Connétable Richard Honeycombe opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and pointed out the emergency exits at the front and rear of the hall.

Apologies were received from:

Advocate Richard John Michel (member of the Roads Committee),

Mr & Mrs Ken Vibert

Senator Ian Gorst

No further apologies were received from the floor, so the Connétable asked the Parish Secretary Designate to read the convening notice.

The Connétable moved on to item 1 of the agenda and advised that the minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 28 January 2026 have been made available on the Parish website and a copy is also on the chairs. As there were no questions on the minutes, Connétable Honeycombe asked for a proposer to approve the minutes. They were duly proposed by Mr Allan Quenault, and seconded by Mr Roy Le Bas, and approved unanimously.

The Connétable moved to Item 2 of the agenda, and introduced Mr Sam Luce of Alex Picot & Co, to present the accounts. Starting with the homes accounts, which are included as Appendix A of the minutes, Mr Luce presented the accounts, highlighting the expenditure for professional fees of £18,823. He explained these were due to legal and professional advice sought from BCR Law and Tillyards, in connection with the proposed purchase of field O594, which has been earmarked as a development site to expand the Parish's over 55's accommodation.

Mr Luce then moved on to the expenditure for management fees, which has seen an increase from £38,719 in 2025, to £59,615. This, he explained, was due to an increase of 5% on the prior 10% management fee, equating to 15%, paid to the Parish. Additionally, there is a one-off fee of £35k paid to the Parish, for development management fees. This, he explained, was due to the extensive time and work spent by the Parish teams on the proposed development of field O594.

Upon the conclusion of the presentation, Mr Luce asked for questions from the floor. With no questions forthcoming, the accounts for the homes were duly proposed by Mr David Caps, and seconded by Centenier Bernie Connor, before being approved unanimously, and they have been included in these minutes as Appendix C.

Moving on to the Parish accounts, which are included as Appendix B of these minutes, Mr Luce presented the accounts and drew attention to the first entry, that being salaries. The figure for salaries was £37k over the estimate, and £46k over the figure for the previous year. The under-estimate, Mr Luce explained, was due to Social Security and pension contributions not being included in the estimation, as well as a new member of staff joining the team in February. Moving on to the road's expenses, Mr Luce advised the meeting that these were down on the previous year due to salaries, the time spent by Parish staff on the roads being less than the previous year.

Completing his presentation, Mr Luce asked for questions from the floor. Mr Kevin Cronin asked why the expenses appertaining to the homes accounts seemed to be included in the Parish accounts. Mr Luce explained that the figures for the management and development fees were included in the homes accounts as an expenditure, and also in the Parish accounts as a credit. The monies were due to the Parish, from the homes account.

With no further questions ensuing, the Parish accounts were proposed by Mr Richard Renouf and seconded by Mr David Caps, and approved unanimously.

Connétable Honeycombe brought the meeting to item 3 on the agenda, and presented the estimates for the current financial year, drawing attention to the salaries in the first instant. The estimate for salaries of £228k is over £24k under the actual figure for the last period. This, the Connétable explained, was due to the impending retirement of a senior member of staff, hence a saving of 8 months against that expenditure. He added that a new member of staff had been recruited in February, which has been included in the figure.

Moving down the estimates, Connétable Honeycombe highlighted a higher than previous figure for computer expenses. This is due to recent cyber security legislation having been passed by the Privy Council, and due to be brought into force very soon. As the Parish is a stated Operator of Essential Services (OES) in the new legislation, it is required to undertake ongoing training and vulnerability scanning, amongst other measures, which equate to an annual cost of around £5k per annum.

Moving on to the refuse and recycling expenses, this estimate is down on the actual spend of the previous year. This is due to a senior member of staff who is retiring at the end of the year, hence a reduced sum shown on those numbers.

Having completed his presentation, and with no questions forthcoming from the floor, the Connétable asked for a proposer and seconder. Mr Kevin Cronin proposed the estimates, with Mr Brian Follain seconding that proposition. The Assembly subsequently approved the estimates unanimously.

The Connétable then asked if there were any proposals to set the rate per quarter for the year, in accordance with item 4 of the agenda. Mr Kevin Cronin duly proposed a rate of 1.36 pence per quarter, that being sufficient to meet the expenditure shown in the Connétable's estimates. The proposition was seconded by Mr Brian Follain. The Connétable asked if there were any propositions for alternatives rates, none of which were forthcoming and the rate per quarter of 1.36 pence was duly approved unanimously by the Assembly.

The final piece of business for the evening was to elect a committee to examine the accounts in 2027. The Connétable advised those present that no current member of the Accounts Committee had announced they wished to step down, so the Connétable asked the floor if there was a proposition to re-elect en bloc the current Committee, to stand for a further year. Richard Renouf duly proposed, with David Caps seconding the proposition. The meeting voted in favour with 6 for, and 3 abstaining.

Before closing the meeting, Connétable Honeycombe placed on record his thanks to his two Procureurs, without whose guidance he couldn't serve the Parish as he does. He further extended his gratitude to the Roads Committee for the hard work and dedication throughout the year, as well as the Roads Inspectors, for their input during the Visites du Branchage.

Connétable Honeycombe continued to the Honorary Police, and said he was fortunate to have such a dedicated and enthusiastic community police force, and he thanked the Centeniers, Vingteniers and CO's for all their hard work throughout the year. He added his thanks also to Nigel Hall, chairman of the Rates Assessment Committee, and to his Committee, for all the work that goes on behind the scenes.

He further placed on record his thanks to the Homes Allocation Committee, who carry out the difficult role of selecting tenants for the Parish's over 55's accommodation.

Connétable Honeycombe also mentioned the Parish staff, who do such a tremendous job in so many areas of the Parish.

Finally, he thanked his parishioners for their loyalty, support and encouragement. He added that it was the parishioners that gave him the strength to serve them as Connétable.

The Connétable then asked the floor if there was a proposition that the minutes of this meeting be approved at the next Parish Assembly. David Caps duly proposed and Kevin Cronin seconded.

Before the meeting concluded, Allan Quenault, Senior Procureur du Bien Public, thanked the Connétable for maintaining such a low rate, and for all the hard work he puts into the role of Connétable.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Connétable Richard Honeycombe