

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Council held on 1st May 2018 at 9.30am in the
Council Chamber

Present: Her Excellency the Governor (Mrs L Honan)
Chief Secretary (Mrs S O'Bey)
Financial Secretary (Mr D Richards)
Acting Attorney General (Mr A Caswick)
The Hon A A Green
The Hon L A Henry
The Hon D F Thomas
The Hon R K Yon
The Hon K Hercules

In attendance: Head of Governor's Office (Miss L MacMorran)
Assistant Chief Secretary (Support) (Mrs G Francis)
Clerk of Councils (Miss L H Buchanan)

Overseas: Attorney General (Mrs S O'Donnell)
The Hon C Scipio O'Dean

OPEN SESSION

22.1 Welcome

The Governor welcomed all present.

22.2 Sustainable Economic Development Plan (SEDP) (2018-2028)

The Government Economist was present for this item.

The Chairperson of EDC introduced this memorandum, highlighting all the hard work that had gone into producing the SEDP and he thanked all of those involved. Further explanation was provided by the Government Economist in the form of a presentation. She was able to explain that the general principle of the SEDP was to increase exports and decrease imports on St Helena. She went on to explain the next steps for the SEDP, which were to deliver tailored presentations to all staff in SHG, Committees and the different Boards.

All agreed that the SEDP was an important piece of work and that it was vital that it became embedded within society. Discussions were had on whether the document included enough about the youth on the Island and how they should be involved within the work. The Chairperson of EDC confirmed that work was already in place with the Education Directorate to ensure that training opportunities are in place to support the SEDP, including an increase in

agriculture studies and apprenticeship schemes. **After further discussion, the Government Economist agreed to incorporate more detail into the document about how the youth would be involved.**

(Action: Government Economist)

Further discussion was had on how the SEDP would be implemented, especially in regards to the funding of different projects. The Chairperson of EDC confirmed that the SEDP would, going forward, always be a consideration of new funding applications and that it was the prerogative of the Elected Members on how budgets are allocated.

After some discussion, Members advised and the Governor agreed to approve the Sustainable Economic Development Plan (2018-2028), so that it can be taken forward for implementation, subject to the changes discussed being made.

22.3 Births and Deaths (Registration) (Amendment) Bill

Crown Counsel (Community Care) was present for this item.

The Chairperson of SCDC introduced this memorandum, highlighting why it was so important for this legislation to come into force. He explained that due to the increase in births and deaths occurring in South Africa a change in the law was necessary. Crown Counsel (Community Care) went on to explain the finer details of the Bill including the definition of someone who was 'ordinarily resident'. She also explained that a change in date needs to be made to the Bill to ensure it comes into effect after the next meeting of Legislative Council.

After some discussion, Members advised and the Governor agreed to give approval for the Births and Deaths (Registration) (Amendment) Bill, **to be printed, published and presented as Government Business at the next meeting of the Legislative Council.**

(Action: Clerk of Councils)

22.4 Marriage Regulations 2018

Crown Counsel (Community Care) was present for this item.

The Governor declared her interest in this item as the resident of Plantation House.

The Chairperson of the SCDC introduced this memorandum, including the background to the Regulations and the need for this item to be brought back to Executive Council. He explained that there are two changes to the fees that had been made by SCDC. He also explained that the Committee had no objections to Plantation House applying to become a registered site for wedding ceremonies.

A typo was identified in Section 2 f of the Regulations and Crown Counsel (Community Care) agreed to correct this before any publication.

After some discussion, Members advised and the Governor agreed to enact the Marriage Regulations 2018 including the proposed fees as well as agreeing in principle that an

application should be made to register Plantation House as a venue for civil marriages, with the caveat that only the marriage ceremony should be done at plantation House.

22.5 Confirmation of Open Session Minutes of the 27th March 2018

The open session minutes for the 27th March 2018 were confirmed.

22.6 Confirmation of Open Session Minutes of the 17th April 2018

The open session minutes for the 17th April 2018 were confirmed.

22.7 Matters Arising from the Open Session Minutes of the 17th April 2018

22.7.1 (21.4) Increase in Fees and Charges: Trademarks, Patents and Companies Registration (ExCo Memo 07/2018)

The Acting Attorney General confirmed that the change to the law was an error by John Wilson and he believes there was a provision for the substantive Attorney General to make the correction. He explained that he would like to wait for the substantive Attorney General to return to the Island before he confirmed this to be the case.

(Action: Attorney General)

22.7.2 (21.7.1) Letter from SHINE in the Independent

The Chairperson of ENRC confirmed that he had responded to the letter but that he had not yet had any response back from SHINE.

22.8 Any Other Business (Open Session)

22.8.1 Liberated African Remains

It was confirmed that this item would be coming to Executive Council on the 15th May. Members expressed disappointment that the memorandum on the Liberated African Remains was late coming to Executive Council.

22.8.2 Brexit Meetings

It was confirmed that if funding can be found, the Hon Derek Thomas would be attending the meeting being held in mid-June regarding Brexit.

22.8.3 JMC

Discussions were had as to what items Members would like to raise at the next JMC. It was decided that a Brexit update should be placed on the agenda, as well as a discussion on insurance and liability and finally a discussion on Reasonable Assistance Needs, to include budgeting issues. **Assistant Chief Secretary (Support) would inform the SHG UK Rep.**

(Action: Assistant Chief Secretary (Support))