



## Economic Development Committee (EDC) Minutes

**Date:** 5 April 2018

**Venue:** Council Chamber

**Time:** 9.00 am

**Present:**        **Chairman**                    Hon Lawson Henry  
                         **Members:**                    Hon Cruyff Buckley  
                                            Hon Clint Beard  
                                            Hon Gavin Ellick  
                                            Hon Financial Secretary, Mr Dax Richards  
                                            Government Economist (GE), Mrs Nicole Shamier  
                                            Assistant Financial Secretary, Mr Nicholas Yon  
                                            Director ENRD, Mr Derek Henry  
                                            Private Sector Development Manager, Mr Martin George  
                         **Secretary**                    Miss Anita Legg

**Apologies:**    **Member:**                    Hon Mrs Christine Scipio-O’Dean  
                                            Director of Commercial Development & Enterprise, Mr Peter Bright

### **OPEN SESSION**

#### **8.1 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mr Peter Bright and the Chairman had excused Cllr Christine Scipio-O’Dean for compassionate reasons.

#### **8.2 Declaration of Personal Interest**

No interests were declared.

#### **8.3 Increases in Fees & Charges: Trade Marks, Patents and Companies Registration – Assistant Chief Secretary Support (ACS-S)**

The ACS-S informed EDC that following the approval, in January 2018, of the above increases in fees and charges, some omissions were noticed during the drafting of the Legal Notice. These changes (as advised by email dated 27/02/2018), were now brought back to committee for approval.

Under Trade Marks – for every search of the register – a new fee of £15 was being recommended, which EDC approved.

Under Companies Fees, the previous list taken to EDC only included “financial statements” for which there was no fee payable however EDC were now being asked to agree a NIL charge for “financial statements for specified private company or company limited by guarantee” and an increased fee of £75 for “financial statements for other companies not included in this category”. This had possibly

been inadvertently omitted from the previous list; EDC also approved this change and for the amended Regulations to be presented to ExCo.

**Action: Assistant Chief Secretary-S**

**Post Meeting Note:** ExCo were not prepared at this time to agree any changes to the fees in respect of Patents, as the Law Revision had amended the Patents (Registration) Ordinance 1927 and transferred the power to prescribe fees to the Registrar of Patents from the Governor in Council. The implications of this amendment would be reviewed.

#### **8.4 Aerodrome Charges (Amendment Regulations 2018) – Financial Secretary**

This matter had been discussed at the last EDC meeting, where members raised concern regarding the impact on islanders. However not all of the supporting documents had been circulated therefore it was now brought back to EDC for a formal decision.

As part of an exercise to increase SHG revenue generation, it was proposed to increase passenger service charges from £17 to £20; this would affect anyone flying out of St Helena, being £3 increase on flight tickets. It would also be brought into line with the short term entry visa fee (STV), for visitors arriving via sea, which had already been agreed in S&CDC. The Financial Secretary agreed to check if the difference between child and adult fees were on a par with the STV fees.

**Action: Financial Secretary**

Cllr Beard raised concern on this extra cost, albeit a small amount, due to the uncertainty around air fares presently and questioned why it needed to be brought in line with the STV. Following discussion EDC agreed the amendments and for the regulations to be presented to ExCo.

**Action: Financial Secretary**

#### **8.5 Sustainable Economic Development Plan, 2018 – 2028 Final Draft – Government Economist**

The GE reported that the working group had met and an updated document had been circulated to members. Although the document would be published in 2018 this was seen to be a live document. Members agreed consultation comments could be published but should be summarised and remain anonymous; the publication of the summary consultation comments could be agreed at ExCo.

EDC endorsed the SEDP to be presented to ExCo.

**Action: Government Economist**

#### **8.6 Port Regulations – Assistant Financial Secretary (AFS)**

Following discussion on the Port Regulations, the following key points arose:

- Section 3. (1) (b) It was clarified that any number of members up to 11 could be appointed however the AFS would respond to and clarify with Cllr Scipio-O’Dean
- Section 5. (1) (b) Meetings of the Authority – Agreed to include which persons or bodies could make a written request
- Section 5. (5) Agreed that the GIC could request minutes

- Section 7 – Need to be consistent with subsection or sub-regulation
- Section 10 – There was need to ensure that the EPO is being adhered to
- EDC were cautious against making penalties consistent with other laws therefore the AG would make enquires on this issue
- It was noted fees are already in place, the only new fees being Craneage. The NIL fee for private containers was already included in Solomon & Co fees but this could be reviewed
- Fish cleaning – AFS to consider what distance fish waste needs be taken out to sea, for small recreational fishing in order to retain the island culture; section 16 to be reconsidered in regards to large quantities arriving by boat. This is to avoid attraction of predators to Port areas.
- The AG advised that if Ruperts is included, the Harbour Master and boundaries need to be defined
- The AFS advised that Phase II, licensing of vessels, would be presented to EDC shortly

It was agreed that amendments would be circulated and agreed via email due to short timelines.

**Action: Assistant Financial Secretary**

### **8.7 Update on ESH Report February 2018 – Private Sector Development Manager**

The February report had been circulated for advance reading and the PSDM advised that some progress had been made since then; key points that arose from discussion were:

- Governor's Cup Yacht Race – The PSDM reported the yacht race had already been advertised.
- Coffee Investor – The PSDM advised the investor had a reputable business but was unable to give any details. Concern was raised on availability of land for local producers but it was noted that the ANRD Estates Strategy Review working group is looking into this matter.
- Natalie Peters-Martin – EOI had been advertised and members had noted Mrs Peters-Martin's website, which they felt is good.
- Legislative Programme – The PSDM advised there was a typo error in the report relating to this topic and would be corrected in the March report.

**Action: Private Sector Development Manager**

The Chairman thanked the PSDM for keeping the committee updated.

### **8.8 Terms of Reference for EDC**

EDC noted that Agriculture and Fishing were not included in the revised TORs however the AG was undecided as this version had been passed to her by the previous official. The Secretary agreed to compare the details. It was suggested that cross cutting issues could be colour coded.

**Action: Secretary**

### **8.9 Confirmation of Open Minutes held on 8 February 2018**

The minutes of the open meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

## 8.10 Matters Arising

### 8.10.1 Maps

The Environmental Data & GIS Manager had reported that she had given the GeoInformation Group all the latest data and they were currently putting together a draft map, hopefully due this month. Once this arrives, meetings would be arranged with relevant interested parties to run through for error checking, comments, content check, etc. She had also had a meeting with Kimberley Peters at the Tourism office recently to discuss the next steps, (public consultation and ExCo) and other issues or outstanding questions. Once the first draft is received there will be some decisions that need making, such as who will take ownership of the final product, printing and publishing options, etc. The committee would be kept updated.

**Action: Director of ENRD**

### 8.10.2 Marketing Strategy

**Action: Assistant Financial Secretary (& Tourism Director) to follow up with ESH.**

### 8.10.3 Basic Veterinary Training

The Head of ANRD had responded that this issue arose during discussion around the routine Veterinary Treatment programme, which might be changed by the SVO and team and Ms Liz Johnson has asked for basic V-training to be provided to livestock producers, if a changed programme meant stopping some aspects of the current programme. ANRD had not changed the programme, simply revised the way they charge for the programme at the moment, therefore there was no need for a basic veterinary training programme, as ANRD will continue the routine veterinary programme as before.

## 8.11 Dark Skies Legislation & Light Management Plan – Assistant Chief Secretary-P

Mr Vince Thompson was in attendance for this item. The draft Ordinance to regulate the use of Artificial Light at night for the Protection of the Natural Environment was presented alongside the draft Exterior Lighting Management Plan. Following discussion EDC was informed that: exemptions are built into the legislation; ten years is allowed for compliancy and shops would have five years to sell non-compliant products; customs duties could be tied in; signs will be graded. Observatories included High Knoll, Broad Bottom, Pipe Ridge and the top of Man and Horse.

It was noted that Tourism is very much involved with dark skies and an Astronomer would be visiting the island for dark sky international week on 15<sup>th</sup> April.

EDC endorsed the Dark Skies Ordinance and the Exterior Lighting Management Plan to be presented to Info LegCo.

**Post Meeting Note:** Due to the Assistant Chief Secretary-P leaving the island at the end of his contract, a session with Info LegCo was not able to be held. Arrangements would be made in due course.

There being no further business, this session of the Agenda was concluded and the Committee resumed closed session.

Minutes Approved:                     *W. W. King*                      
Chairman

Date:                     3-5-18

