

Minutes of the Meeting of Executive Council held on Tuesday, 25th February 2020 at 9.30am
in the Council Chamber

Present: His Excellency the Governor (Dr Philip Rushbrook)
The Hon Chief Secretary (Mrs S O'Bey)
The Hon Financial Secretary (Mr D L Richards)
The Hon Attorney General (Mr A T Cansick)
The Hon C R Beard
The Hon A A Green
The Hon L A Henry
The Hon D F Thomas
The Hon R K Yon

In attendance: Clerk of Councils (Mrs C C Johnson)
Head of Corporate Support (Mrs C A George)
Head of News (Mrs K Yon)
Head of Governor's Office (Mr Greg Gibson)

OPEN SESSION

71.1 Welcome

The Governor welcomed all to the meeting.

71.2 Proposed revisions to the St Helena Ordnance Survey Map (ExCo Memo 18/2020)

The Director of Infrastructure and Transport, Mr Derek Henry and the Senior GIS Surveyor, Mr Devlin Yon, were in attendance for this item of business.

The Chairman of the Environment & Natural Resources Committee introduced the memorandum asking Council to advise whether the proposed revised map of St Helena should be accepted, following suggested amendments to the draft map from the public, during a recent consultation process. The Director of Infrastructure and Transport provided further details about some of the changes that had been made when updating the map.

Members noted that the new map would be on sale from 1st April. There was some discussion about printing and quantities of the map that were to be produced; costs were also discussed and clarification was given as to pricing. It was suggested that an Application for use on mobile phones might be developed but noted that there were no plans to do so at this time.

Following discussion whilst noting that production of an updated map of the island was long overdue, Council advised and the Governor agreed, that the proposed revised map of St Helena should be accepted, following suggested amendments to the draft map from the public, during a recent consultation process, subject to:-

- the cost of the map reflecting the cost of production, or a profit
- A mechanism being in place to review pricing in future
- consideration being given to the development of a digital version.

The Governor thanked the Director of Infrastructure and Transport and the Senior GIS Surveyor, for their attendance and at this point they both left the meeting.

(Action: Clerk of Councils)

71.3 Port and Aerodrome (Health) (Amendment) Bill 2020 (ExCo Memo 19/2020)

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee introduced the memorandum asking Council to advise whether the Port and Aerodrome Health (Amendment) Bill, 2020, should be printed, published and presented as Government Business at the next formal meeting of the Legislative Council.

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee explained that this was an urgent amendment to introduce measures needed to address or prevent an outbreak of the coronavirus. The Attorney General explained the provisions of the Bill.

Members noted that the suggested amendments included provision to define “proper officer” and asked whether such an officer was required to have a medical background. It was explained that this was not necessarily the case but that a ‘proper officer’ would be appointed by the Director of Health.

Following discussion, Council advised and the Governor agreed, that the Port and Aerodrome Health (Amendment) Bill, 2020, should be printed, published and presented as Government Business at the next formal meeting of the Legislative Council. It was noted that a Certificate of Urgency would be required in order for the Bill to be included in the Oder Paper for the formal meeting of the Legislative Council taking place on 28th February 2020.

(Action: Clerk of Councils)

71.4 Confirmation of Open Session Minutes of 21 January 2020

The minutes of the open session of 21st January 2020 were confirmed subject to the following amendment:-

71.4.1 (66.3) St Helena National Trust (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 (ExCo Memo 8/2020)

The Attorney General advised that there was a problem that it was not clear that Members served for three year terms at a time but can only serve two three year terms as an Officer. He further stated that the three year term of a member needed to start again if becomes an Officer so can have up to two three year terms in that position. It was agreed that the Attorney General was to make changes so this was clear in the Regulations before publication.

Following discussion, Council advised and the Governor agreed, that the St Helena National Trust (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 should be approved with the amendment outlined by the Chairman of the Social and Community Development Committee and the amendment outlined by the Attorney General, and brought into force prior to 27 January 2020.

71.5 Matters Arising from the Open Session Minutes

There were no matters arising from the open session minutes.

71.6 Confirmation of Open Session Minutes of 28 January 2020

The minutes of the open session of 28th January 2020 were confirmed.

71.7 Matters Arising from the Open Session Minutes

71.7.1 (67.3) St Helena World Heritage Status (ExCo Memo 12/2020)

The Chief Secretary advised that the Scoping Group would take this forward and she would bring this up with the CEED when she arrived back on Island.

(Action: Hon Chief Secretary)

71.8 Any Other Business

71.8.1 Criminal Justice (Fixed Penalties) Bill

The Chairman of the Social and Community Development Committee advised that the public consultation on the Criminal Justice (Fixed Penalties) Bill had closed and whilst there had been a low turnout to the meetings there were no adverse comments. He asked Members whether they would give their approval for the Bill to be printed and published and presented as Government business at the next Legislative Council meeting scheduled for late March 2020; all Members gave their support.

(Action: Clerk of Councils)

The Governor advised that he had spoken to the Director of Police, Mr David Lynch about amending the form that was included in the Regulations underpinning this Bill and this was now being discussed with the Attorney General's Chambers.

(Action: Hon Attorney General)

71.8.2 Safeguarding Exploitation Training

The Chief Secretary said that she wanted to draw Members' attention to the exploitation training provided by the Safeguarding team who had recently visited the island whereby a number of issues were raised by those attending the training sessions, as follows:-

- 1) where do we see potential hot spots – the lack of lighting as well as lack of Police presence was raised in regard to the Public Gardens and the Wharf at peak times
- 2) certification/vetting of taxi drivers – what are the rules if any in place because this could potentially be an area of concern whereby children could be exploited
- 3) identity cards showing proof of age when purchasing alcohol – these were once available why no longer the case?
- 4) Longwood Green and the Longwood Avenue Bus Shelter were also areas of concern.

The Chief Secretary explained that she would be taking these matters to the Safeguarding Children's Board but in order to address these concerns, policy initiatives might need to be changed. She asked if Members could make mention of these issues having been raised during the Executive Council radio broadcast so that the public would be aware their concerns were being addressed.

(Action: Hon Members)

It was noted that the Director of Children and Adults Social Care would be writing to the Infrastructure and Transport Committee about her concerns regarding the Longwood Avenue bus shelter.

Some concern was expressed about the lack of social activity for the Youth on the island, especially at weekends and the fact that some Police Officers were questioning young people as to why they were present at certain places.



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Clerk of Councils

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Governor

31 March 2020

Date