

PARISH OF ST LAWRENCE



Minutes of the Parish Assembly

Held on Wednesday 18th February 2026 at 7.00 p.m.

Assembly Room, St Lawrence

Welcome and Apologies: 46 people present

The Connétable welcomed all present before asking for apologies.

Apologies:

Rector Phil Warren

Deputy Hilary Jeune

Mr Stephen Cohu

Mrs Louise Cohu

Miss Lucy Cohu

Mr Thomas Cohu

Deputies in Attendance:

Deputy Kirsten Morel

Deputy Andy Howell

Deputy Elaine Millar

Convening Notice:

An Assembly of the Principals & Electors of the Parish of St Lawrence will be held in the Parish Hall on Wednesday 18th February at 7.00pm for the following business:

1. Receive, and if deemed advisable, approve the Act of the Parish Assembly held on 27th January 2026.

A Parish Assembly held on 25th February 2025 supported the application for a Taverner's Licence by Trevellyan Operations Limited for the premises the Jersey War Tunnels, Les Charrières Malorey, St Lawrence, JE3 1FU. The Licensing Bench subsequently granted a Taverner's Licence subject to:

That the licence shall only be effective; (i) on Sundays to Wednesdays from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00p.m.; and (ii) during the Permitted Hours as defined by Article 28 of the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974 on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; and, subject to compliance with any restrictions imposed by Planning and Building Control.

2. To consider an application by Trevellyan Operations Limited to vary the licence to remove Condition 2 [above] and to trade under the permitted hours stated in Article 28 of the Licensing Law (Jersey) 1974:

Permitted hours

The permitted hours are-

Weekdays

9 am to 11 pm

Extended on New Year's Eve to 1 am on New Year's Day.

Sunday, Good Friday and Christmas Day

11 am to 11 pm

3. To consider an application by Trevellyan Operations Limited for an Annual Entertainment Permit

	(P49) to conduct various functions and events on the said premises. Deidre Mezbourian Connétable de St Laurent	11 February 2026				
1.	Receive, and if deemed advisable, approve the Act of the Parish Assembly held on 27th January 2026.					
	The Connétable asked for a proposer and seconder for the minutes. They were proposed by Miss Pam Staley and seconded by Mrs Ann Binney. On a show of hands, all were in favour with none against. The Minutes having been approved were signed by the Connétable as President of the Assembly.					
2.	<p>To consider an application by Trevellyan Operations Limited to vary the licence to remove Condition 2 [above] and to trade under the permitted hours stated in Article 28 of the Licensing Law (Jersey) 1974:</p> <p><i>Permitted hours</i> <i>The permitted hours are-</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Weekdays</i></td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: right;"><i>Sunday, Good Friday and Christmas Day</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>9 am to 11 pm</i></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>11 am to 11 pm</i></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Extended on New Year's Eve to 1 am on New Year's Day.</i></p>		<i>Weekdays</i>	<i>Sunday, Good Friday and Christmas Day</i>	<i>9 am to 11 pm</i>	<i>11 am to 11 pm</i>
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	<p>The Connétable welcomed again all present, particularly those who had not previously attended a Parish Assembly. She explained that those who were eligible would have the opportunity to put comments forward and to ask as many questions as they felt necessary to make their decision on the matters before them. She asked that those wishing to speak raise their hand and she would call them in order of being seen; when they addressed the Assembly they were to stand and to give their name for recording in the minutes. She explained that anyone who addressed the Assembly was entitled to address the Licensing Assembly to be held in the Royal Court on Thursday 19th March at 10am.</p> <p>The Connétable then invited Mr Trevellyan to address the Assembly.</p> <p>Mr Trevellyan spoke for 25 minutes, referring to both items on the Convening Notice [the requested change to permitted hours and the P49 application].</p> <p>He informed the Assembly that he was Patron and Trustee of Jersey Heritage, with a passion for the Island and its history and so the opportunity to acquire the Jersey War Tunnels could not be missed. His main objective was to preserve the site and to expand its offering to the Island to include free entry to all school children, as well as uncovering more of the site. Part of his strategy was to improve the offering of the café by transforming it into a restaurant. His vision was for the site to become both an asset and a hub for the community.</p> <p>He explained that he was requesting a variation to the current liquor licence, which allows the café to have extended opening hours on Thursday, Friday and Saturday until 11pm. He hoped to have permission for those hours but for 7 days a week, in accordance with Article 28 of the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974. He was also seeking permission for a P49 Entertainment Licence, which is an annual licence that covers all events and if granted, would stop the need for single applications to cover every event. The P49 application had been recommended to him by the Bailiff's Office.</p> <p>He explained that as part of the P49 application process, if approved, the Fire Service had recommended any entertainment should end at 10pm. He had therefore decided to ask the Licensing Assembly on 19th March to condition the liquor licence, if approved, to restrict the serving of alcohol to 10pm. He guaranteed to the Parish Assembly that he would request that condition.</p> <p>Explaining the type of events to be held, he said it included the local singers 'Optimistic Voices' and charity events, for example, to raise funds for the British Red Cross and the Poppy Appeal. All events would be respectful as the site was for reflection and remembrance. He then invited the Operations Manager for the War Tunnels, Captain Mike Billings, to address the Parish Assembly.</p>					

Captain Billings informed the Parish Assembly that the Jersey War Tunnels was not just being developed for tourists, but for them to support local events. Confirming what Mr Trevellyan had said, the intention was to be community driven, and they would listen to, and be guided by, Islanders.

The Connétable informed the Assembly that she had received several emails from Parishioners who were unable to attend the Parish Assembly. She would seek their permission to attach their emails to the minutes to be sent to the Bailiff.

The Connétable then opened the floor to questions.

Claire Stevens commented that the residents should have been consulted and that she was concerned about the amount of traffic that would occur during the evening and the effect on noise levels. She was also concerned about the effect on the wildlife in the area, should the variation to the licence be approved.

Mr Trevellyan said that he was unaware of the lack of communication adding that there may be 60 people at an event and 186 covers was the maximum capacity at the restaurant.

Nicky Slatter noted that residents had been invited to attend a presentation at the Jersey War Tunnels at 6pm on Tuesday 17th February. However, as the invitation was not received until the previous day, it provided very little notice for residents to make arrangements to attend.

She stated that she is supportive of Jersey War Tunnels and its activities in general. However, she expressed concerns regarding events taking place at night, as these could result in increased light and noise pollution. In particular, she highlighted the potential impact on local wildlife, including toads, bats, and owls, which have established their natural habitats in the surrounding area.

Jason Cronin asked the Connétable how many complaints the Parish had received for either traffic issues or antisocial behaviour since approval of the licence? The Connétable informed Mr Cronin that none had been received by the Parish.

Nicky Slatter referred to Mr Trevellyan's earlier comment that the restaurant would have 186 covers, noting that this figure did not include staff and catering suppliers, who would also be present on site and would increase the overall number of people. She further raised concerns regarding noise associated with the use of glass bins.

Mr Trevellyan stated that he would not disregard environmental considerations and that he would be willing to fund wildlife initiatives where appropriate. He expressed the hope that visitors would not arrive on a 'one-person-per-car basis'. He noted that the last bus currently collects passengers from the War Tunnels at approximately 7.00 pm, and that the area is under the flight path.

Procureur Bruce Harrison stated that he lives in the area and considered it misleading to describe the valley as quiet. He advised that there have been issues with "boy racers" in the area and that the Honorary Police have been called on previous occasions.

Mr Trevellyan acknowledged the concern regarding noise from the glass bins and stated that he would arrange for this to be dealt with in the morning, rather than after an evening event.

Pod Abbot (Miss J.E.) raised concerns regarding the serving of alcohol at a site that is promoted for children's education.

Mr Trevellyan responded that he is fully aware of the regulations concerning underage drinking.

Rachael Rudd noted that, when purchasing her property, she was aware that it was situated under the flight path. However, she had not anticipated living next to premises operating under a liquor licence.

She expressed concern that, if the licence were granted, it could permit a range of additional activities.

Claire Stevens noted that there are already approximately nine hours of noise during the day; however, the area is generally quiet in the evenings. She added that traffic noise cannot be effectively mitigated.

Mr Trevellyan confirmed that he would mitigate traffic noise using best endeavours, by marshalling the car park and by suspending the car parking spaces that are next to Ms Stevens hedge during evening events. He also stated that the licence is valid for one year and if it were to be abused it would not be renewed the following year.

Lucy Nicolaou asked Mr Trevellyan how many events had taken place under the current licence? She also expressed concern regarding what she described as a lack of transparency with residents.

Mr Trevellyan stated that a letter had been sent to immediate residents on 27 January. He added that he would be willing to establish a group to meet every three to six months to consult / liaise with nearby residents.

He further noted that, in the ten months since obtaining the licence, he had applied for two P49 events.

Peter Bates asked Mr Trevellyan how many events had been held during the current permitted hours? Mr Trevellyan confirmed the number was two.

Dr Rudd asked if the extra hours were to increase profit? Mr Trevellyan advised that the biggest cost is maintaining the tunnels to preserve them and any excess funds go into the funds for future maintenance costs. He added that he does not take a wage.

Amy Reading commented that she felt Mr Trevellyan was currently doing a great job; however, she expressed the view that the proposal was disrespectful to the memory of the site.

Mr Trevellyan stated that he was sorry that Ms Reading had interpreted the proposal in that way and confirmed that he had no intention of disrespecting the preservation or restoration of the tunnels.

Claire Stevens asked Mr Trevellyan to clarify if he intended to be open every evening? He said that he had no plans to open every evening.

Debbie Bates asked Mr Trevellyan what his plan was and to clarify exactly what he was asking Parishioners to vote for? He said that they have not tested the demand to be able to plan accurately but he would not open the restaurant if not commercially viable.

Ann Binney MBE commented that she had known Mr Trevellyan for several years and she felt that the Island is very lucky that he purchased the Tunnels. She felt he had been very open with residents, which she felt should ensure more support than he was receiving.

Pod Abbot (Miss J.E) asked if Mr Trevellyan could explain in more detail the outdoor events? He confirmed that they had car and military events in the main car park, usually held on Sundays, which ran from 9.30am until 12.30pm.

Deputy Morel said that he had listened to the concerns of residents and felt that Mr Trevellyan had not intentionally wished to upset the life in that area, but it comes down to the lack of communication. He suggested that it may be wise to set up email communication with the residents so he could inform them of any upcoming events. Mr Trevellyan said he would take that on board.

Nick Bond commented that he fully supported the War Tunnels but was concerned that the restaurant and events would cause light and noise pollution; he gave examples of previous nuisance he had

	<p>experienced when living next to licenced premises.</p> <p>John Pallot said that he understood the concerns of residents but asked that Mr Trevellyan be given a chance for one year.</p> <p>The Connétable asked if there were any further questions and informed the Assembly again that anyone who had asked questions during the Assembly was welcome to attend and address the Licensing Bench on the 19th March 2026 at 10am.</p> <p>There being no further questions from the Assembly, the Connétable asked for a proposer and seconder for item 2 on the Convening Notice</p> <p>Proposed: Mr Jason Cronin</p> <p>Seconded: Vingtenier Noel Le Fondré</p> <p>On a show of hands, 18 were in favour 13 against and no abstentions.</p> <p>The Connétable declared that the proposal had been accepted by the Assembly.</p>
3.	<p>To consider an application by Trevellyan Operations Limited for an Annual Entertainment Permit (P49) to conduct various functions and events on the said premises.</p>
	<p>The Connétable informed the Assembly that, at present, if the War Tunnels wish to hold an event, they are required to apply to the Bailiff’s Office for a one-off licence. She then asked Mr Trevellyan to speak to the request for a P49 permit.</p> <p>Mr Trevellyan confirmed that his intention was to close events at 10pm and that he was considering holding two to three events per week during the peak season.</p> <p>The Connétable then opened the floor to questions.</p> <p>Pam Staley asked Mr Trevellyan to confirm how many events had been requested in the P49 application and whether they would be daytime or evening events? Mr Trevellyan replied that any outdoor events would be held during the day only. He confirmed there would be no music at these events and noted that fewer than ten outdoor events were held in the car park last year.</p> <p>Peter Bates stated that he understood the points that had been made; however, his concern related to the fact that the application was for an annual licence. He expressed the view that granting such a licence could make it difficult to “close the gate” once it had been opened.</p> <p>The Connétable asked if there were any further questions and reminded those present that anyone who had asked questions during the Assembly was welcome to attend and address the Licensing Bench on the 19th March 2026 at 10am.</p> <p>There being no further questions from the Assembly, the Connétable asked for a proposer and seconder for item 3 on the Convening Notice.</p> <p>Proposed: Mrs Ann Binney MBE</p> <p>Seconded: Mr David Tupper</p> <p>On a show of hands, 18 were in favour 13 against and no abstentions.</p> <p>The Connétable declared that the proposal had been accepted by the Assembly. In closing, she advised the Assembly that, in accordance with Article 5(1) of the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974, she would recommend to the Licensing Assembly that both applications should be granted.</p>
	<p>There being no further business the Connétable thanked everybody for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.20pm.</p>

Signed:.....

Date.....

Mrs Deidre Mezbourian, Connétable, President of the Assembly