



ALDERNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Annual General Meeting

Date: 28th May 2025

Location: The Georgian

Present:	Andrew Eggleston (President)	AE
	Vanessa Main	VM
	Nicky Burland	NB
	Tony Haywood	TH
	Agnes Perry	AP
	Jeannie Cameron	JC
	Ilona Soane-Sands	ISS
	Rowie Gaydon (Secretary)	RG

Janet Eggleston, Malcolm Matthews, Beth Chapman, Morte Birch, Dawn Tindall,
Ethan Gillingham, Bruce and Jane James, Adrian Cross, Gill Lowe, Colin Perry,
Alastair Forrest, Tracy Farquhar-Beck, Brendan Noone, Lucy Stribrska.

Apologies: Patrick Puddle, Holly Chandler, Nigel Lawrence, Alex Flewitt, Jenny Rowley, Kris Kronwitter, Bruno Kay-Mouat

The Minutes of the last meeting held in May 2024 were approved, proposed by Gill Lowe and seconded by Ian Corder

Matters arising from AE

AE highlighted the success of the second Careers Fair organised by Nicky Burland and the head of St Anne's school, Wendy Wilson. This year the inclusion of an evening session proved very beneficial, enabling adults to attend and learn about opportunities for older people. The next event has been set for 12 February 2026.

The joint meeting between the States and the business community had proved very worthwhile and it is proposed to ask for a bi-annual meeting going forward.

The 30 second ad featured on island FM at the end of December had been very successful.

The proposal for an experimental period of pedestrianisation in Victoria Street had shown most retailers/ businesses to be in favour. So far there has been no trial or formal survey so this should be raised with the States again.

Last year, David Nash had suggested all business emails could have the Alderney link at the bottom as an extra way of marketing the island . This is still worth considering.

Presidents Report

AE had previously distributed his report to all members but some items were re-emphasised.

The AI presentation held recently had been a great success and was well attended. However, it was felt an evening session might be more beneficial for a further presentation.

A recent meeting between Council and Guernsey Post boss Steve Sheridan had included discussion on the desire for the physical office to be re-sited on Victoria Street. It was noted that the staff running the service are employed by the store owners at Le Cocq's so have other duties as well. There is a lack of PO Boxes due to space constraints. Steve Sheridan was keen to know of any potential premises which could be considered.

AE mentioned that members might not be aware of the Alderney Post Forum which is an informal group tasked with helping businesses deal with post related issues. This has been run by Nigel Lawrence with Hillius Pretorius on an email basis.

Anyone interested in becoming involved would be encouraged.

There has been discussion recently with the States about the lack of aviation fuel available on island. Surprisingly, Aurigny have not been pro-active in pushing for this, in view of the effect on their payloads, but apparently Guernsey Port Authority are not in favour of the set up.

Once again there is work to be done with the States on pushing for leasehold mortgages to enable first time buyers to get on the property ladder. From this has come the proposal to set up a Chamber housing group, separate to the States, which would also look at the issue of long-term unfinished properties.

AE reminded everyone that there is already a Transport Group and invited anyone to get involved , explaining that this is not an onerous task and mainly involves discussions by email.

The new Jersey airline applications had come from nowhere and there are currently three as well as the forthcoming Jersey-Alderney boat service. Both should prove to be a huge advantage to Alderney tourism and business.

AE advised members that Chamber had been asked at the last minute, to provide information from the commerce perspective on the new runway amendments which were recently passed by Guernsey States. The presentation was sent to all Guernsey representatives emphasising the impact on Alderney. Guernsey had previously been trying to combine the runway issues with the review of the 1948 agreement. The new amendments mean these are now two distinct areas for consultation.

Collaboration between Chamber and the new Alderney States members is progressing well with far more pro-active and positive action.

Following the recent debacle with Aurigny flights, a letter has been sent from council to Nico Bezuidenhout asking for an update. A letter was also sent to Deputy Peter Roffey in his role as President of the STSB asking when Alderney could expect an improved service. To date there had been no response from either.

Finally, AE commented that Council members are trying to do as much as possible within the constraints of time and numbers in this voluntary capacity.

Treasurers Report

TH presented the accounts for the financial year January-December 2024.

The opening balance was £6,179 and was £7,800 at year end.

The largest expenditure in 2024 had been £2K on the island FM project which was financed from membership and a States of Alderney grant of £500.

The current balance stood at £10,400 which included all subs for 2025.

A donation of £? Had been made to The Alderney Golf Club for the purchase of a trophy and £? To The Alderney Flying Club towards the cost of the Fly-in reception.

There is scope for projects and sponsorship and Council is open to any ideas from members.

IT costs were lower than last year.

The accounts were proposed by Janet Eggleston and seconded by Dawn Tindall.

TH was asked if he would continue in the role of Treasurer and he agreed.

Election of Council members

This year 3 members were due to stand down- Ian Corder, Nicky Burland and Vanessa Main. Ian had recently advised his intention not to stand for re-election. AE thanked him on behalf of Chamber for all his input and logical thinking .

Vice-President Nigel Lawrence had also tendered his resignation due to ill health. AE asked for acknowledgment and thanks for all his work behind the scenes on various projects over the years. Agnes Perry had recently been appointed as a full Council member from the co-opted group.

Brendan Noone was the only new submission for election so there were therefore 3 positions with 3

Candidates - Vanessa, Nicky and Brendan- who were duly elected to stand for the next two years.

Council members withdrew to privately elect the next President and Vice-President. After a short deliberation it was announced that AE had unanimously been re- elected as President for the 20th year and Nicky Burland would be Vice-President.

AOB

In her role as co-opted Council member and a States member, Jeannie Cameron gave the following useful information to members, stating that collaboration between States and Chamber was progressing really well.

Regarding the provision of AVGAS at Alderney airport, JC said a solution had been found and positive news would be announced soon.

Regarding the leasehold mortgage issue, the previous States Finance Group has now been replaced and JC is leading this. There is obvious constraint with Guernsey law but it is progressing in a positive way.

With regard to Jersey links, as well as the new direct ferry service, both Air Alderney and Finistair (based in Brest) have had their licence applications approved.

The States is in the process of setting up an Alderney listing in country drop down options for websites.

AE raised the issue of parking problems at The Butes and the IMC/LeVal car parks. A formal letter would be addressed to the GSC asking for the same time limits operating at the airport so that long stay vehicles could be identified and owners contacted. It was also suggested that public works employees could park behind the works building.

A further possible traffic improvement could be made by creating a one-way system going into Newtown from Braye Road thereby easing the congestion around the school.

Gill Lowe mentioned the need for more direct flights to Southampton as it could sometimes take all day to get to a UK destination via Guernsey.

JC said that the States can only put pressure on Guernsey and a direct approach from Chamber to the STSB was needed. Recently joined member Dawn Tindall, who had previously been a Guernsey Deputy, explained that, as the STSB are shareholders in Aurigny, the approach should be made to Aurigny direct. She did mention that Deputies who are not members of STSB can be approached however.

Brendan Noone asked about the age of the proposed Twin Otters due to replace the Dorniers. JC said they were (?) years old but the new incoming Guernsey States might change the current plan to use them. Dawn Tindall said it was not yet known whether the

Aurigny PSO will be continued. Nico had been asking for a two year extension but the forthcoming elections are holding things up.

On the subject of the elections, JC noted that only 5 of the prospective Guernsey representatives have included a mention of Alderney in their manifesto.

Dawn Tindall asked if there is a group within Chamber who discuss ideas "outside the box". AE said that there are frequent surveys and emails distributed providing the opportunity for open comment and discussion. The recent set up of an island "Think Tank" consisted mainly of individuals who had previously been in positions of influence but not achieved much in their roles. He invited everyone to get involved when another forum takes place.

Regarding the 1948 Agreement, JC explained that Alderney will have equal parity with Guernsey on all discussions and it would be important for Chamber to work out the key issues of concern to present from the Alderney viewpoint.

AE concluded the meeting by saying that communication is key and urged all members to be pro-active with ideas and proposals going forward.

The meeting was closed at 18.55

Signed by Chair

Date.....