

Explanatory notes regarding the 2020 Remède

We have conducted a detailed scrutiny of the Remède to see if there are any costs we could reduce or projects we could delay. Unfortunately all projects for the coming year are subject to contracts, so if they could be cancelled there would certainly be penalties to pay and the work would still need to be done, therefore they would end up costing more. A fact to remember is that doing so would have a financial effect on the companies employed to do the work and their staff.

Items such as Waste and Recycling collection are done by contract leaving no room for negotiation.

The costs of floral displays in St. Peter Port have been reduced by removing all the flower tubs which were on States owned property, unless the relevant departments were willing to take them over. This has reduced the costs involved e.g. labour, flowers and watering by approximately £10,000.

The seeds and plants for the baskets on buildings throughout the Town are planted six months in advance so we could not cancel those and although we considered not having any winter planting take place, it would mean the Town without flowers for eight months of the year. It is a proven fact that flowers are very good for people's wellbeing, for both locals and visitors alike. This work is also done under contract a year in advance. As an example of cost saving, if we were able to cancel the summer floral display it would save about £30,000 and divided between all the ratepayers, it would only save an individual ratepayer £3.75 a year, or 7.2 pence a week.

Repairs to the two sections of Candie Cemetery walls due to begin shortly are necessary, as when previously inspected by a qualified engineer they were found to be bulging and leaning. It is a safety issue which has to be dealt with.

The cost of electric power for street lighting has reduced as the present lamps are being replaced by LED's. Maintenance costs are estimated on an annual basis and adjusted each consecutive year.

Work to repair, replace and repaint the railings at the west end of Cambridge Park is also taking place. This is necessary for Health and Safety reasons, as some sections have rusted to a point where they have sharp edges and are dangerous.

Restorative work on the fountain on the east side of the Town Church will begin hopefully in the near future and the money for this job is ring fenced from last year's Remède, so has no effect on the 2020 rates.

We hope the above points help you, our Parishioners, to understand why we need to progress with the above items and why there is no leeway to do otherwise.

Dennis H Le Moignan
Jenny M Tasker
St. Peter Port Constables.