

March 2019

Dear Applicant

### **Ville Du Manoir Affordable Housing in Perpetuity Project**

I know that we were all of us rather crushed last April when the Environment Minister decided to refuse Andium Homes' application to develop the proposed 65 new affordable first-time buyer homes at Ville du Manoir. This was a bitter blow after a long and comprehensive consultation and planning process.

The Minister gave several reasons for refusing the application, the overriding one being that developing on these fields could not be justified at that time because there was insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the homes were actually needed. The Minister was clearly concerned that until the outcome of the Objective Assessment of Housing Needs Report was known it would not be sensible to make such a significant planning decision.

Of course, both Andium Homes and the Parish argued strongly that the demand for homes both in the parish and Island-wide was so significant that the OAHN Report was unnecessary to reach a decision on Ville du Manoir, but to no avail.

As you may be aware the OAHN Report was published last month and has confirmed that the Island is in dire need of new homes and in particular homes which are affordable for people like yourself, who just want to buy a home in which to raise a family.

Armed with the Report's findings I have lodged a proposition with the States to ask for the Ville du Manoir site to be rezoned under the Island Plan so that Andium Homes can resubmit their application and start the process of making housing on this site a reality, giving 65 families the chance to own a home in St Peter.

Time has of course moved on since the application was refused, there have been elections; we have a new Constable and a new Parish Deputy. I have taken considerable time to review the Ville du Manoir proposals. I fully support the scheme and want to see it developed as soon as possible.

However, some Parishioners have raised concerns about the proposed development and have expressed the view that the Ville du Manoir site is not the right place for a new affordable first-time buyer development for parishioners.

I think that it is important that my proposition in the States reflects the up to date views of parishioners about whether or not they want to see Ville du Manoir developed. To that end I feel that it is important that the project returns to a Parish Assembly and for the Assembly to vote on how it wants to proceed.

The Assembly will take place at the St Peter Youth & Community Centre on Thursday 14th March. The doors will be open at 7PM with voting registration at 7.15PM, for those registered as electors in St Peter, with the Assembly starting at 7.30PM.

If the Assembly votes (for what will be the third time) to support the project then I will go ahead with my rezoning proposition, however, if the Assembly votes not to proceed then the proposition will be withdrawn and that will be the end of the dream of an affordable home in the Parish for you and the other applicants. It goes without saying that every vote at the Assembly counts.

Whilst only those who are registered voters in St Peter can vote on the night, others can attend to show their support and hear what is being said on both sides.

I implore you all to do your utmost to be present to hear the arguments, to stand up and make your views heard and that you encourage family and friends to also come along and support you.

I look forward to seeing you on 14th March 2019.

Yours sincerely

Richard Vibert  
Constable St Peter