



# Parish of St Martin

A report for parishioners on work undertaken for a parish-led “Village Plan” to provide affordable homes & sheltered accommodation in the Parish of St Martin

## **Foreword**

*Introduction from the Connétable yet to be completed but held back in the event that Minister progresses with social rented homes*

*Comments from the St Martin's Village Plan Review Committee Chairman yet to be completed for same reason*

*Photographs of the site and other areas yet to be added throughout the report:  
ie: Field 402, Village Green, new & old School sites etc*

*This page to be completed dependant on the Review of specific aspects of the Island Plan that is being undertaken in January 2014 by the Independent Inspectors*

DRAFT

*Amended December 2013*

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\*Incomplete following decision of the Minister for Planning & Environment to re-zone Field 402 for States-led social rented and affordable housing at 80% & 20% split.

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## Introduction

1. On the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009 the (Draft) Jersey Island Plan was formally released for public consultation. The intent was that the public consultation would be followed by a Review in early 2010, undertaken by an Independent Planning Inspector. The final stage of the process was for the Draft Plan to be debated by the States of Jersey during 2010 and to be adopted with any approved amendments later that year after the rigorous and exhaustive consultation exercise.
2. Prior to the public release of the (Draft) Jersey Island Plan for the consultation process the then Connétable of St Martin, Mr S. Yates had commenced research on various issues relating to the community and some of those issues were, by chance, to ultimately feature in the (Draft) Plan. The then Connétable produced his own document entitled: *St Martin, Village Regeneration, Community Regeneration, 2010 and Beyond*.
3. Uncertain as to what proposals the (Draft) Island Plan 200- was to contain or when it was to be released for public consultation Connétable Yates forwarded his document to the then Chief Minister and to his States colleagues back in July 2009 for their information and comment after having shared it with members of an existing parish forum entitled the *St Martin's Village Plan Review Committee*. That forum had been responsible for bringing a parish-led initiative many years previously for thirty, first-time buyer homes for what is now known as the Rue De La Haye Village development, St Martin.
4. The Connétable's document outlined the development of St Martin's Village dating back to 1993, put forward proposals for an extension to the Village envelope, identified issues relating to pedestrian safety, car parking, public transport, recreation and sport, environment & conservation and even suggested a central focal point in the form of a "public square" at the heart of the village near to the Parish Church.
5. The vision of the then Connétable was to consciously seek ways to support the community, ensure its continuing viability through the provision of affordable housing for young people, comfortable accommodation for senior citizens in retirement, good public transport, availability of recreational & leisure facilities and an improvement in all aspects of road safety thus enhancing the quality of life in the Parish.
6. The (Draft) Island Plan was subsequently circulated in September 2009 for the first stage of its "public consultation". As stated above, some of the areas identified in the Connétable's document were, by chance, set out within the proposals of the new (Draft) Island Plan.
7. The Connétable's document *St Martin, Village Regeneration, Community Regeneration, 2010 and Beyond* was made available to parishioners and a public exhibition held at St Martin's Public Hall over a prolonged period for parishioners and interested members of the public to visit and make comment. Questionnaires seeking parishioner's views of the "vision" and any propositions or ideas they felt suitable for incorporating into a "Village Plan" were available at the display to assist

that parish consultation. The exhibition was advertised through the Press, covered extensively by the various media agencies and a Parish Assembly was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009 so that a more detailed explanation could be given.

*(Note:- A Parish Assembly is a gathering of Principals and Officers of a Parish and a person is a Member of the Assembly and may therefore vote on an issue if they are registered as an elector or are a rate-payer of the respective Parish)*

8. At that Assembly parishioners were advised of the pending (Draft) Island Plan, in particular those sections of the Draft that identified proposals for parochial authorities to undertake and develop their own “Village Study Plans”. A detailed PowerPoint presentation was given as to the requirements of the proposals relating to “Village Plans” during what unfortunately became a “lively and heated” Assembly.
9. Although the *St Martin, Village Regeneration, Community Regeneration, 2010 and Beyond* document was no more than the aspirations of the then Connétable for future decades, many parishioners felt the document was premature and at the conclusion of the Assembly a double proposition was approved that:-
  - Yes - The Parish supported the idea of a “Village Plan” for possible new development in the future but;
  - That the Connétable should resubmit for the approval of a future Assembly the names of the persons he proposed to be appointed as members of a Committee to work on that new “Village Plan”.
10. As a result of that second proposition a Parish Assembly was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 but during that Assembly further concerns were expressed by a parishioner as to the process the then Connétable had undertaken to recruit members on to the proposed Village Plan Working Party. The Assembly decided against electing the candidates who had offered to serve on the proposed new committee until their names had been made available to parishioners for inspection!
11. At the third Parish Assembly, held on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010, the existing *St Martin’s Village Plan Review Committee*, the group who had been responsible for the Rue de La Haye development, formally stood down from office and the Assembly approved the new committee. A list of all those who had expressed an interest had on this occasion, been made available at the Public Hall for inspection beforehand.
12. The extraordinary number of twenty-seven people had put their names forward to serve on the new committee and the managing of such a large group was immediately identified as an issue. However it was felt difficult to restrict the numbers by way of election or to reject some as all had offered their services to assist in bringing forward a “plan” to help the Parish of St Martin fulfil its ambitions. The group was therefore divided into four sub-groups with specific responsibilities for:-

- First-time buyer housing & retirement / sheltered homes
- Public Transport, Traffic and Pedestrian safety \*
- Recreation and Sport \*
- Conservation and the Environment \*

(\*Note\*: Although mention has already been made of the previously existing St Martin's Village Plan Review Committee other groups of parishioners were already working together in these three separate forums prior to the formation of the new group).

13. The Assembly also (as taken from the formally recorded minutes) "**charged the new committee with the task of preparing a St Martin's Village Plan under the provisions of the (Draft) Jersey Island Plan, a document currently subject to public consultation and representation, and to consider oversight of the Village Plan thereafter**".
14. The elected group of 27 decided to appoint a separate "Council", comprising of a Chairman, a Secretary, the Connétable, one representative from each of the four working parties, and two other members, this in order that they could collate the progress of each sub-group at a more manageable forum. All posts (the new working party and the "Council") were of an honorary capacity.
15. Although the document previously prepared by the then Connétable related to the whole of the parish the newly elected working party concentrated their efforts on a new "Village Plan" in accordance with the concepts outlined in the new (Draft) Island Plan. The (Draft) Island Plan specifically referred to housing in rural centres, Policy H5 and "Village Plans" and therefore the proposed St Martin's Village Plan related to the hub of the Parish including the Churches, the Public Hall, the Parish School (construction work on the new School commenced in April 2013) and the Village Green as it was believed any new development would relate well to the existing built up area, the local facilities and services.
16. Both the "Gorey area" and "Maufant Village area" were seen as already densely populated (in particular Maufant), with many high value and first-time type buyer type homes respectively.
17. The intention of the new working party was to prepare a report for parishioners but also for the attention of the Planning Minister as it was believed that the Minister was already seeking to re-zone land for development in addition to any parish-led schemes. It was therefore imperative that the Minister (and relevant Departments) would need to know the site(s) identified and being progressed by the Parish.

## **First time buyer & Retirement Homes sub-group**

18. It is suspected that the majority of parishioners who attended the initial Parish Assembly in November 2009 did so after the prolonged publicity given to the “*St Martin, Village Regeneration, Community Regeneration, 2010 and Beyond*” document via the media by the then Connétable and to the public exhibition that had been held at the Public Hall leading up to the Parish Assembly (*this is supported by the fact that it took three Parish Assemblies before the parishioners even agreed to the set-up of the working party*).
19. There is little doubt that many parishioners attended the Assembly to gain information about housing development within the parish that might affect them personally especially as the initial document had identified a number of possible sites around St Martin. New homes were always likely to attract the attention of parishioners, some in support whilst others with very strong objections!
20. Although Mr Yate’s document had been prepared as a “discussion document” alone and related to the long term aspirations he had for the Parish for the next 25 years many of the parishioners failed to grasp this concept. It had never been intended as a short term “plan” for large scale housing development in St Martin during the life of the proposed new Island Plan, ie: 10 years. Nevertheless many parishioners opposed the suggestions he put forward in the document and it was not supported.
21. As the (Draft) Island Plan had been made available for public consultation by the time the initial Parish Assembly took place it had become apparent that recommendations within the Draft Plan indicated that support would be given to the six rural parishes (of which St Martin was identified) for producing their own parish-led “Village Plans”, these for small scale developments and that any previous “Village Plans” that existed would not be revisited by the Minister.
22. As an example, the Draft Island Plan contained information, proposals and statements on issues relating to supporting Parish communities and the rural economy including:-
  - That there was an identified need to protect the viability and vitality of Jersey’s smaller rural settlements, predominantly in the northern and central parishes of St Ouen, St Mary, St John, St Lawrence, Trinity and **St Martin**.
  - An acknowledgement that limited, small-scale new development relating to key rural settlements, on “greenfield” land involving the loss of countryside could be important in maintaining parish life.
  - That development could be considered justifiable in supporting and enhancing the parish communities, to sustain schools, shops, pubs, public transport and honorary service.
  - The extent of development required would need to be subject of study and site specific consideration together with rigorous consultation within each particular parish.

23. Policy SP 1 also covered development outside the “built-up” areas and indicated that development would only be permitted in specified circumstances and that development on “greenfield” land in exceptional circumstances, where it justifiably supported parish communities or the rural economy and which met an identified need and where it was appropriate to do so.
24. The Parish of St Martin, as indeed some other rural Parishes, found themselves in a difficult position in that they wished to progress by putting together a new “Village Plan” under the draft proposals as that Draft Island Plan clearly stated that the Minister did not propose to review existing “Village Plans”. This led to continued delays, delays that the St Martin’s Housing Association had already faced for many years with a previous Planning Minister who had continually delayed approving or supporting the re-zoning of a field in St Martin (Field 402) for affordable, first-time buyer homes, until the new Island Plan had been approved.
25. As the (Draft) Island Plan had yet to be “examined” and “approved” it left the new Working Party operating under the then existing Island Plan but with knowledge of the proposals that were contained within the new (Draft) Island Plan for “Village Plans”. Some members of the Working Party felt confused as to the best way forward. The provisions of the existing Island Plan seemed to remain applicable and it was felt that proposals for any new “Village Plan” submitted by the Parish of St Martin were unlikely to be examined and agreed by the Minister until the new Island Plan had been approved.
26. The Chairman of the *St Martin’s Village Plan Review Committee* reported back to parishioners at a Parish Assembly on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010, updating parishioners on the work of the four sub-groups and advising them that the Committee supported the initiative of a “Village Plan” development project being undertaken on Field 402 and supporting the idea that the project be undertaken by the *St Martin’s Housing Association*.
27. The *St Martin’s Housing Association* already existed as a totally separate body to the *St Martin’s Village Plan Review Committee*. The *St Martin’s Housing Association* had already identified Field 402 for the development of 13 Category A first-time buyer houses and 2 Category B houses (these two for the owner of the field as part of the deal to acquire the land) and were ready to proceed with that project but had been repeatedly delayed, as stated earlier, by the then Planning Minister, this to await the new Island Plan.
28. An explanation of the *St Martin’s Housing Association* within the Parish is reproduced below from the Parish web-site:-

*The St Martin’s Conservation & Development Plan, drafted by a Committee set up at the invitation of I.D.C in 1989 by the then Connétable Mr Stanley De La Haye, and later approved by the States in December 1993, recommended at paragraph 2.1:*

- *That the Parish implement the development of old persons’ homes*
- *States Loan family houses and starter homes within the rezoned areas.*

On the 7<sup>th</sup> December 1993 the States approved the *St Martin's Village Conservation and Development Plan*. A Parish Assembly was held on Wednesday 5th January 1994 where parishioners approved by overwhelming majorities that:

- a) Two areas of land be purchased by the Parish,
- b) That an "Association" be formed, to be known as "*The Parish of St Martin Housing Association*", to be legally independent of the Parish, and to transfer the land at (a) above to that Association.

The Association was incorporated in 1994, with the Objects of the Association:-

*to provide residential accommodation and any ancillary amenities by whatever mode of tenure it shall have from time to time deem appropriate for persons native to or resident in the Island of Jersey and in particular persons having a close connection with the Parish of St Martin, and to provide assistance whether financial or otherwise for the provision of such accommodation.*

29. Further unexpected issues arose within the Parish that were to alter the course and certainly delayed the preparation of the new "Village Plan" as some of those involved on the working party suddenly found themselves trying to deal with other unexpected issues. These included:-

- A land exchange proposition (or sale to the Parish) from a St Martin family of a small area of land, a house, a tea room and various outbuildings situated in the centre of the existing village. This was ultimately declined as the parish were not in a position to offer building plots on the Glebe land (ie; Green Zone land) nor had they the finances to acquire the area of land offered.
- The retirement of the Parish Rector and vacating the Parish Rectory adjacent to the land identified above. A building survey of this parish owned Rectory subsequently identified major problems and the need for costly refurbishment. Consultation subsequently followed before refurbishment was authorised after a generous benefactor provided some of the funding by way of a gift and an interest free loan.
- The proposed private development of 14 First-time buyer houses on Field 410 near to the Catholic Church and immediately alongside the cemetery with the "gifted" offer to the Parish of St Martin of 10 x two bedroom flats in a two storey apartment block. This was overwhelmingly rejected at a Parish Assembly due to the Green Lane location and type of development envisaged.
- The Chairman of the *St Martin's Village Plan Review Committee* successfully fighting an election for the position of Parish Deputy and taking up Office at the end of 2011 with all the additional work that entailed.
- Likewise, the retirement of the Connétable of the Parish and that position being filled at the end of 2011 by the honorary Secretary of the *St Martin's Village Plan Review Committee* who also held the position of Secretary to the *St Martin's Housing Association*.

## **Recreation and Sport Sub-Group**

30. Field 388 opposite St Martin's Public Hall and Junior School was purchased by the Parish of St Martin in 2004 to further a vision by the then Connétable John Germain, of an area for recreational use by people of all ages. Since that time much effort has gone into making the *St Martin's Village Green* a successful facility that everyone is encouraged to enjoy.
31. Despite the delays with the preparation of the new "St Martin's Village Plan" in regard to housing the sub-group of this Working Party were in an easier position and able to continue developing the facility with the knowledge that the improvements could only benefit any subsequent development in the St Martin's Village vicinity.
32. Although the "Village Green" had existed since 2004 many people have been unaware of the facility and surprised to find the large, safe and relaxing area to enjoy in the centre of the countryside adjacent to a large free car park (see Traffic Road Safety sub-group report for more information).
33. During recent years much work has been undertaken in developing the "Village Green". The area has been enhanced by the completion of a circular footpath around the entire grass area that now allows young children to learn to ride their cycles in safety away from the road traffic and car park. Dog owners may walk the path exercising their dogs, joggers are often seen running around the "Village Green", some with personal trainers, and hikers include the pathway as a start or finish in their walks around the Parish.
34. Hedgerows have been planted that will in due course provide wind shelter as well as an excellent habitat for wildlife. The "Village Green" is immediately opposite a very environmentally aware primary school. A possibility exists of extending the "Village Green" to include a small area of private land, prone to flooding and unviable for horticultural use, as a bog or wetland area that will in turn attract further wildlife. There has been some concerns raised regarding safety and upkeep costs but this initiative remains a future possibility.
35. Tree planting has been undertaken alongside the pathway that circles the "Village Green" and a copse planted which will in time provide further habitats for the birds and other wildlife.
36. A long term project was to establish a petanque terrain on an area of the "Village Green" and this was achieved in early 2011. Such was the enthusiasm of the sub-group to provide this facility that when parishioners sought cutbacks in their 2010/11 Parish Rate and declined the proposition for additional funding for the project members of the small working party took it upon themselves to raise the funding and sought donations from interested parties. Not only were they able to reach the sum necessary for the provision of the petanque terrain but they were able to finance the completion of the pathway around the entire Village Green. They were also able to provide hedging and therefore shelter around the new petanque terrain. Further donations resulted in attractive litter bins being donated and benches acquired in memory of loved ones and positioned in various locations around the "Village Green".

37. A new St Martin's Petanque Committee was formed in February 2011 and now play regularly on the terrain and have played both friendly and league games with other clubs and parishes as well as entertaining their friends from the Parish twinned town of Montmartin-sur-Mer. Other parishes and organisations have sought permission to play on the terrain and the area is used frequently. Children from the St Martin's School use the Green and terrain for sport activities.
38. Successful community events and car-boot sales are regularly held on the "Village Green" and major fetes, Parish Festivals and the Diamond Jubilee celebration events have all been held on the "Village Green". The large fundraising November 5<sup>th</sup> Bonfire is held annually alongside the "Village Green" and the Green itself used for the entertainment and concessions at the event.
39. As a result of concerns that had been expressed by the St Martin's Honorary Police as to policing the "Village Green" discussions were undertaken with Officers from the Transport & Technical Services Department. The area was subsequently incorporated as a designated "park" under the Policing of Parks (Jersey) Regulations 2005.
40. Although the title tends to indicate the area became a formal park the legislation differentiates the various "parks" around the Island into five categories and includes areas as diverse as the Howard Davies Park, Westmount slopes, the Railway Track, Gorey promenade and Portelet Common. The "Village Green" falls well into a country type park.
41. As the "Village Green" has become increasingly popular in recent years there has been an increasing call for the provision of public toilet facilities. Those at the Public Hall are only open when the Hall is open (and even then not always accessible) and there is one outside toilet alongside the Hall but on the opposite site to the "Village Green" meaning that users, young and old, have to cross the main road to reach them.
42. During 2010 an unsuccessful request was made by the Parish of St Martin to the Treasury and Resources Minister for *Fiscal Stimulus Funding* to assist the Parish to fund public toilet facilities on the "Village Green".
43. The Parish of St Martin wished to address the problem and research commenced in to the various options available although concerns were then raised regarding the ongoing maintenance and security of any public facilities that might be provided. The suggestion of self-cleaning / self-locking units was also explored.
44. However when the owners of the existing nearby Village Tea Rooms decided to sell their property with the likelihood of the closure of their tea rooms the working party decided to launch yet another "fund-raising" campaign to match the "Village Green reserve fund" that parishioners had approved back in 2008.
45. As a result of good house-keeping the Parish had initiated that "reserve" in order for major future works to the "Village Green" and Public Car Park alongside and various sums had been ring-fenced annually since that time. At the 2013 Rates Assembly a further £25,000 was authorised and the "reserve" now stands at £100,000.

46. This ongoing initiative is now a large “community project” with parishioners either promising to give of their time, their professional services or making financial contributions with the sub-group seeking a “pound for pound” target. The group have already raised approximately £85,000 in gifts from parishioners to match the £100,000 in the Parish “reserve”. A Planning application has been approved by the Planning Officers and the detailed planning application relating to the structural requirements is now with the Department (December 2013) with a decision expected within the next month. The tenants of the existing nearby Tea Rooms have been given notice to vacate their accommodation many times pending the sale of the site but extensions given due to the delay in the sale date. The provisional date for sale to be passed by the Royal Court is set for the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014.
47. It is hoped that the Parish of St Martin will be able to boast a purpose built, parish owned, chalet style Village Tea Room combined with toilet facilities on the “Village Green” in the near future. The Tea Room, if approved, would increase the facilities offered to those using the “Village Green” and that in time, the rents received by the Parish from the tea room lease-holder would help to cover the upkeep costs of the “Village Green” as well as being a source of income to offset the rates or to provide improved facilities in the parish.
48. During 2013 a one-off opportunity arose and the Parish of St Martin purchased Field 720A (measuring some eleven verges). Although there is no intention to seek development on this “green zone” land the field is adjacent to the “Village Green” and opposite the new St Martin’s School. It has allowed the Parish to bring land they own closer to the hub of the parish, maintains the future of the annual charity bonfire event and allows the school children’s small vegetable garden to remain.
49. Consideration may be given at some future date for additional facilities on the “Village Green” including a small playground and even a multipurpose all-weather pitch but these projects are some way off and dependant on funding. Likewise it may be that the parochial authorities may in due course consider bringing forward a proposition for a “home” pitch for the St Martin’s football club.
50. Sport and recreation is thriving in St Martin and this report is not intended to detract from the many other recreational & sporting facilities throughout the parish that are remote from the “Village Green” area. These include cricket with the excellent facilities at the nearby Farmers Ground, fresh and sea-water angling at reservoirs and around the coast, hiking, shooting, cycling, hung-gliding, sailing and canoeing to name just a few.

## **Public Transport, Traffic & Pedestrian Safety sub-group:**

51. Like that of the Recreation and Sport sub-group this team were also able to progress issues that were not directly dependant on or awaiting the implementation of the (Draft) Island Plan. They were able to work on issues that were likely to be taken into consideration if and when a new “Village Plan” was to be submitted to the Minister for consideration at some future date after the new Island Plan was approved.
52. Many facilities already existed that made the area near the Public Hall and Parish Church suitable for a small scale development in any new “Village Plan” and that fell within the provisions of the (Draft) Island Plan. This group re-visited road safety issues predominantly around the existing Village, ie: around the Parish Church, the “Village Green”, the Public Hall and school.
53. The sub-group undertook continued research on road safety issues including:-
- A safer pedestrian route off of La Grande Route de Rozel with the proposition of a series of footpaths across fields. (Ongoing).
  - Traffic flow and speeding on La Longue Rue adjacent to the Parish owned “sheltered” housing occupied by elderly residents. (a twelve month survey report following the implementation of restrictions on La Longue Rue was unanimously adopted at a Parish Assembly following a successful trial period).
  - Worked closely with the Honorary Police in relation to accident black-spots and to areas where speed is a cause for concern. (Ongoing).
  - Possible footpath in the field alongside La Grande Route de Faldouet and towards Field 402, previously mentioned as possible “Village Plan” development site.
54. Community projects: Consideration was also given in seeking the mutual assistance from the Jersey Field Squadron, Royal Engineers to allow some of the road safety projects, in particular the building of footpaths alongside roadways and across meadows, to be achieved at reasonable costs to the limited budgets available to the Parish. To date this practical support has not been forthcoming and the terrain difficult to build such footpaths if they are to be user-friendly, ie; wheelchairs, prams, elderly people!
55. Sheltered bus-stops: The Parish received a sizeable private donation to provide two bus shelters at locations that would benefit older residents. The donation held a proviso that the work should be progressed as soon as possible and that being the case the sub-group instigated consultation with the relevant States department and identified two sites. One shelter was positioned near the Parish Church opposite an existing shelter. A second site was identified near to “retirement homes” at Gorey and the proposition was brought to a Parish Assembly for consultation and unanimously approved. These sheltered stops added to those already positioned in St Martin opposite the Parish Church, outside the Public Hall and at Gorey.

56. Pavements: As a result of funding being made available to the Parish by the States of Jersey for a road safety initiative a decision was made to extend a pavement on Le Rond Collas southwards towards the Catholic Church and the existing parish-owned sheltered-type housing alongside La Longue Rue. Pavements now extend for some distance from the hub of the Parish in two directions (west & south) but there is an urgent need for similar footpath provision in the other two directions. How that is to be achieved is still under review but consideration may have to be given for:-

- “pedestrian roads” as exist on La Grande Route du Mont a L’Abbe and West Hill in St Helier and Rue du Jambart in St Clement and catered for under the relevant Parish Order legislation, and / or;
- for a country “footpath” to be established eastwards in the field alongside La Grande Route de Faldouet, similar to a footpath that currently exists alongside Les Varines in St Saviour.

Concerns have been expressed in the past by parishioners at the possible introduction of “pedestrian road” measures (mainly in relation to the coloured tarmac and road pillars thought not in keeping in the countryside) but they do prevent speeding as well as providing a degree of safety for pedestrians. The narrowness of the road and amount of traffic using La Grande Route de Rozel remains one of great concern to the current Connétable.

57. Parish Car Parks: There is no need for illegal parking within the area of the Public Hall, Church or school. A parish-owned large car park exists opposite the St Martin’s Public Hall and the Junior school. This has been provided and funded by the parishioners despite repeated calls for funding and support from the Education Department as the majority of use is predominately from parents taking or collecting their children from the School. During 2013 the States (Jersey Property Holdings) have funded and made the necessary changes in the layout of the Parish car park, this to assist with pedestrian safety associated with the re-positioning new school and for spaces set aside for some teaching staff. This was approved by parishioners at a Parish Assembly.

As a result of a series of cars being abandoned on what was, in effect, an unregulated area of parking, a decision was made by the Parochial Authority to ensure some form of effective policing control. Consultation was made with the Transport & Technical Services Department and the car park incorporated in the Road Traffic (Public Parking Places) (Jersey) Order 2006. The car park became “designated” as a 12 hour in 24 hour car park. This now allows the Honorary Police to have effective control and ensure cars are not abandoned in the car park thereby restricting the availability of parking spaces, in particular at school related times.

The area set aside for disabled parking remains within that car park. Paid Permit parking is available to allow longer term parking in some areas at an appropriate fee set by the Connétable to offset ongoing maintenance costs. *(Note; no permits have been requested following the introduction of the small fee).*

A further car park exists near the Parish Church and that too is funded by the Parish. The car park was intended for use during Church services and specific areas in that car park have been set aside for disabled parking. That car park remains outside of the Public Parking Places legislation although funded by the parish.

58. Public Transport: The central part of St Martins is well serviced by public transport with at least 30 services a day to and from town. Services are provided by routes Numbers 3 and No 13. Although two main routes they all pass the Public Hall or the Parish Church and a short walking distance from the churches, sheltered houses, estates, “Village Green” and school. St Martin is also a short distance from St Helier and taxi fares are reasonable for most for the short journey to town. Obviously longer journeys to the west of the Island and Airport are expensive but the same may be said for those parishes most distant from a passengers chosen destination.
59. Street lighting: The Jersey Electricity erected further street lights in and around the central hub of St Martin. Standard lamps were positioned at the exit of La Rue de La Haye on to Le Rond Collas, along La Rue de la Croix au Maitre and on La Grande Route de Faldouet. This has improved safety for both pedestrian and vehicle users.
60. Working in partnership with States Departments: During the consultation regarding the proposed new school the Parish of St Martin authorities worked closely with the Education Department, Property Services and Transport & Technical Services with initiatives to provide parking spaces for teaching staff of the new school, a new entrance to the Parish owned Public Car Park opposite the old school and changes to the re-cycling facilities. Although the changes were financed by the States the Parish supported the changes at a Parish Assembly.
61. Previous speed reduction initiatives: The Parish have previously worked closely with both the States Road Safety Officer Mr Philip Blake and senior Officers from Transport & Technical Services on road safety initiatives along the length of La Rue de la Croix au Maitre to prevent illegal parking and speeding outside the school. This resulted in the positioning of “planters”, creating passing areas, traffic priority rights and an extension of the pavement from the Rectory to the Parish Church.

It is likely that changes will take place in this area following the completion of the new school in December 2014, a school that is now positioned further west than the existing school but this to be subject of consultation between the parish and relevant States departments in due course.

62. We aim to make our roads safer for all road users: As part of the Honorary Police 2013 Policing Plan (obtainable on the Parish of St Martin website) the Connétable and Chef de Police have promised to prepare a consultation document and discuss with the Minister of Transport & Technical Services traffic issues that exist in the parish, in particular those relating to speeding and illegal parking, this to ensure greater road safety.
63. It is hoped that the above breakdown relating to the facilities that exist in and around the central part of the existing St Martin’s village satisfy many, if not all, of the requirements of a “Village Plan” and show that improvements is an ongoing commitment by the Parish to identify and implement road safety improvements.

## Conservation & the Environment

64. This small sub-group worked closely with the existing forum named the *St Martin's Conservation Trust* and initially reviewed the *St Martin, Village Regeneration, Community Regeneration 2010 and Beyond* document. Some members of the new Village Plan sub-group were also members of the Conservation Trust.
65. The St Martin's Conservation Trust had been previously set up to encourage and to initiate enhancement schemes in the Parish. The concept was put before a Parish Assembly on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 1992 and received unanimous approval. The Trust was created as a Charitable Trust by individual parishioners in December 1992 with the formal aims to promote and assist in the protection and conservation of architectural, archaeological and cultural heritage, and the landscape environment and buildings of historical and scientific interest in the Parish of St Martin.
66. The Trust had acted as a catalyst and body for raising and distributing funds and for the provision of qualified expertise. It has also monitored all Planning applications for development within the Parish, voicing their concerns to the Connetable and Planning Department whenever they felt the need arose.
67. Like the previous two sub-groups the newly formed Conservation and Environment sub-group of the Village Plan Working Party were able to work together without restrictions of the pending (Draft) Island Plan. The St Martin's Conservation group had already reviewed and made comment on the *St Martin, Village Regeneration, Community Regeneration 2010 and Beyond* document.
68. The new sub-group reviewed the document produced by the Connétable in particular the areas relating to:-
- The development of areas of the Castle Green, Gorey off La Route de la Cote for improved parking facilities.
  - The "Village Square" proposal near the Parish Church.
69. The sub-committee identified other issues for future consideration:-
- Future enlargement of St Martin's Arsenal.
  - Identified possible sites for parish led housing including land alongside the Parish Rectory, St Johns Ambulance training Hall off Le Rond Collas and on "brownfield sites" yet to be identified in the Parish.
70. The work of the Trust was widened following the retirement of the Parish Rector when decisions were needed to be taken as to the future of the Rectory. It was envisaged that the sub-group would take an active part in deciding the future of this tired property that was in need of substantial investment. Work commenced on the future of the old building with grave concerns that the Parish would have to dispose of their asset. However as a result of a generous offer from an anonymous benefactor the Parish have been able to totally refurbish the rectory and make watertight the adjoining annexe.

## **Consultation process:**

71. Having taken into account the proposals set out within the (Draft) Jersey Island Plan the *St Martin's Village Plan Committee*, the *St Martins Housing Association* and the parochial authorities endeavoured to comply with every aspect of the Draft to satisfy the Minister for Planning & Environment.
72. The difficulty encountered by the Parish, as previously stated within this document, was that they found themselves, maybe mistakenly, having to comply with the requirements set out in the proposed new Plan (still in draft form at that time) whilst the existing Island Plan and its objectives remained in force.
73. Whatever was to be decided the parochial authorities felt that all proposals should be thoroughly explored and shared with the parishioners and relevant statutory agencies.
74. Propositions within the new (Draft) Jersey Island Plan included clauses:
- Where new development is proposed in a rural location the Minister will require the parochial authorities to undertake and develop their own "Village Study Plan".
  - The "Village Study Plan" will need full and comprehensive assessment and engagement of the local community, relevant stakeholders and the relevant regulatory departments of the States of Jersey.
75. Although it was accepted that some parishioners would oppose any form of development in the Parish the parochial authorities and *St Martin's Village Plan Working Party* felt there was a need for small developments of:
- Parish-led, first-time buyer or affordable homes
  - Parish owned, further sheltered type accommodation.
76. The Parish strived to achieve a thorough consultation process with the community, giving everyone ample opportunity to participate in that process. That consultation process included:-
- Circulation of the *St Martin, Village Regeneration, Community Regeneration, 2010 and Beyond* document to the previous St Martin's Village development Committee, to all Ministers and then made publicly available to all parishioners both on the Parish website and in hard copy.
  - Provided a public exhibition at St Martin's Public Hall over a protracted period of November and December 2009 of the above document and proposals.
  - Provided questionnaires, seeking feedback on all aspects previously described in this document, ie; first time buyer and sheltered housing, road

safety and public transport, sport and recreation and conservation and the environment.

- Held a Parish Hall Assembly on the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009 with a PowerPoint explanation of “Village Plans” in relation to the (Draft) Island Plan.
- Held Parish Hall Assemblies on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010 resulting to the formation of the *St Martin’s Village Plan Working Party*.
- Set aside ring-fenced funding, approved by the parishioners at the annual Rate setting Assembly, to allow for consultation and professional fees associated with property reviews that were likely to be undertaken during 2010 / 2011.
- Produced written submissions to the Minister and Independent Planning Inspector from the then Connétable on behalf of the Parish of St Martin and from the St Martin’s Village Plan Working Party, both in support of the concepts of the (Draft) Island Plan.
- Verbal presentation to Review Inspector by the then Connétable, supporting the concept of the (Draft) Island Plan, Village Plans and the rural community.
- Meetings with senior Planning Officers to discuss issues relating to the Rectory site, the Amy site and Field 402.
- Regular minuted meetings of the four sub-groups identified in this document, combined meetings of the entire Working Party members and also meetings of the smaller “Council” forum.
- Liaison meeting between the new *St Martin’s Village Plan Working Party* and the existing *St Martin’s Housing Association* to seek their views as to whether the Association would again seek to progress the development they had commenced many years previously with development of Field 402 for 13 x first-time buyer homes and 2 category B homes.
- Consultations with the Amy family in relation to proposals regarding their offer of the Central House site in exchange for building sites within the Parish.
- Met with Alpine Construction in relation to their proposed private development of Field 410 and offer of 10 units of free retirement (near sheltered type) accommodation apartments and how it may affect any future Parish-led Village development. This offer was overwhelmingly rejected at a Parish Assembly as being in the wrong site and not the type of accommodation that elderly people were seeking.

- Met with the Catholic Church Council re the proposed private development of Field 410.
- Meetings with the Island's Dean concerning the future of the Rectory and seeking information on specification requirements of any new Rectory build.
- Met with the Parish Church Council to seek their views as to the future of the existing Rectory and possible sale of that building and construction of a new, purpose built Rectory on re-zoned land.
- Further meeting with Conservation Group and Rector relating to the future of the existing Rectory.
- Verbal update on the work undertaken by the St Martin's Village Plan Working Party Chairman to the Parish Assembly on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010.
- Began enquiries as to how the Field 402 site could be re-zoned for the proposed development.

## **Explanation of the delays:**

77. It may appear that progress of a proposed new “Village plan” has been slow but many of the volunteer members of the St Martin’s Village Plan Working Party have worked with enthusiasm and dedication and should be commended by the parishioners for their efforts.
78. Although the forum originally comprised some 27 members a number found that they were unable to commit themselves to the time required on the various projects and resigned from the committee for personal reasons within a short period of time. Furthermore many apologies were received whenever meetings of the Working Party were held and information had to be passed through the recorded minutes.
79. Nevertheless, the current Connétable now believes that a forum of 27 was too large and unlikely to succeed.
80. The delay in the approval of the (Draft) Island Plan 200- was far longer than originally anticipated. This placed the Working Party in a difficult position, as stated earlier within this report, in having to plan for the proposed “new” Plan whilst working to the requirements of the “old”.
81. The new Island Plan was approved close to the end of the previous composition of the States Assembly and changes were taking place within the Parish of St Martin associated with the formation of a new Government and Parish administration.
82. The Working Party was also presented with a series of unexpected events that were to delay progress whilst the ongoing consultation took place. These included:-
  - The retirement of the Parish Rector and the repossessing of the Parish Rectory in a state unfit for purpose. Numerous meetings followed before a decision was made to refurbish the building. That refurbishment is now complete and will remain a Parish asset although a tenant has yet to take up occupancy (and assist with the repayment of the interest free loan).
  - The situation with the Rectory became more complicated following the unexpected offer to the Parish of Central House and outbuildings immediately alongside the Rectory, this in exchange for up to five building plots on Glebe or other parish-owned land. The offer resulted in a detailed document being prepared by a Parish Procureur on various options open to the Parish for consideration but it was agreed that the parish were neither speculators or developers to enter into such projects nor did they have funding.
  - The unexpected offer to the Parish by a private developer of the gifted 10 x two bedroom retirement apartments in a purpose built complex on Field 410 in exchange for Parish support for that developer to build 14 private houses on the remaining site. As already stated, this offer was overwhelmingly rejected by parishioners at a Parish Assembly and some likened it to a “bribe”.

- The long delayed project initiated by the *St Martin's Housing Association* in 2001 and taken further in 2006 regarding a development in Field 402 in order to provide 13 x Category A houses and 2 x Category B houses (for the owner of the relevant land). The *St Martin's Village Plan Working Party* met with the *St Martin's Housing Association* and asked that they progress this development as the best option currently available. Parishioners were advised of this project during a Parish Assembly when a verbal report on the progress of the St Martin's Village Plan Committee was read by the Chairman of the Working Party to those present. The St Martin's Village Plan Working Party recommend to the parishioners that this project be progressed as a small, Parish-led development, to undertaken by the St Martin's Housing Association to provide the 13 affordable homes..
- Delays were experienced because of the ongoing plans by the Sport & Education Department to build a new St Martin's Junior School and the subsequent objections from various individuals and organisations that took up much valuable time.
- Upon approval of the new Island Plan in 2011 the then Connétable did not seek re-election and was replaced by the then honorary Secretary of the *St Martin's Housing Association* (who was also honorary Secretary of the *Village Plan Review Committee*).
- Likewise, the Chairman of the *Village Plan Review Committee* was elected as Parish Deputy in a strongly contested election and both the new Connétable and Deputy took up their new positions in November 2011 together with new responsibilities.

## **Actions taken during the past two years**

83. The *St Martin's Housing Association* has maintained regular contact with the owner of Field 402 who is still wishing to progress with the arrangements in place to gift the field to the St Martin's Housing Association for affordable housing in exchange for 2 x four-bedroom homes to be built on the site.
84. *The Village Plan Working Party* formally met with the *St Martin's Housing Association* and the Association agreed to take on the development project in Field 402 if it were to go ahead.
85. The *St Martin's Housing Association* commissioned the original Architects who had prepared plans for the Field 402 development to prepare updated plans for the houses on Field 402, these to comply with revised and updated Planning Regulations.
86. *The St Martin's Housing Association* commissioned a scaled model of the proposed development of the Field 402 project (*available for inspection*).
87. Professional fees of approximately £50,000 have been spent to date by the non-profit / no income *St Martin's Housing Association* with a further sum of approximately £80,000 yet to pay, this for the project management of the Field 402 project.
88. Together with the project Architect met with Senior Officers of the Planning Department to enquire how best the St Martin's Housing Association should progress with the Field 402 proposals. The advice, although sound, appeared contradictory in that the Planning Minister was already undertaking amendment work relating to the new Island Plan and that there were various options open.
89. The *St Martin's Housing Association* invited the Connétable of Trinity and another senior Member of that Municipality to address the Association on issues that they had encountered in the preparation of their new homes alongside Trinity Parish Hall.
90. The Connétable of St Martin wrote to the Minister for Treasury and Resources enquiring whether support would be received for States Loan funding for the proposed development similar to that enjoyed by the Parish of Trinity. A favourable response was received from the Treasury Minister.
91. The Connétable made contact with the Housing Minister and senior Officers of the department to enquire the best way forward in ascertaining names and numbers of persons with St Martin connections on the Housing Gateway Scheme. This liaison is ongoing and the Parish intend to maintain that contact.
92. Have maintained contact and updated all applicants who had applied for consideration for consideration of an affordable home on the progress of the project, of the forthcoming review of the Island Plan and of the possibility of social-rented homes on the site.
93. The Parish Connétable and Parish Deputy sought information as to how to bring the pre-zoning proposition to the States and ascertained that the Proposition would need to be brought by the States by the Minister for Planning & Environment.

## **The need for housing?**

94. It is accepted that the (Draft) Island Plan was specifically tasked to identify sites for housing without further re-zoning of “green fields”.
95. However the Draft Plan identified “Parish communities” in the Spatial Strategy for locations of development and stated that **development on land outside the built-up area would be allowed to support the rural economy or parish community, to meet an identified need and where it is appropriate to do so.**
96. The Draft clearly stated that existing “Village Plans” would not be re-adopted but realised the need to protect the viability and vitality of Jersey’s smaller rural settlements (and named six parishes including St Martin) by acknowledging **that limited, small-scale new development could be important in supporting and enhancing local parish population, to sustain schools, shops, pubs, public transport and honorary service.**
97. The Draft also stated that the extent of development would need to be subject of study and site specific consideration together with rigorous consultation within the Parish.
98. It is hoped that this Working Party Report shows an active parish, intent on pressing ahead in all the above areas. It has outlined measures that have been taken in recent years to improve the facilities available around the hub of the Parish, measures taken to improve road safety for pedestrians and motorists alike, It shows the rigorous consultation process that the Working Party have attempted to make with the various agencies as well as the parishioners themselves but why progress slowed.
99. Following the exhibition held at St Martin’s Public Hall in November and December 2009 a total of 37 families expressed an interest in acquiring a **first-time buyer** or **affordable property**. However the St Martins Housing Association also held a database of persons who had previously expressed an interest and who had asked to be on future waiting lists. There is no doubt that some of those have since found accommodation or their circumstances have changed whilst others may have left the Island. The proposals for Field 402 relate to just 13 affordable homes and the St Martin’s Housing Association believes that they would have far greater difficulty in selecting the lucky families to be offered the opportunity to acquire their own home than to actually having to find 13 families prepared to take on an affordable home.
100. The Connétable also retains a waiting list of elderly persons who have expressed an interest in **rented sheltered-type accommodation** at the Parish owned Le Court Clos development. The homes see a small turnover of residents as some eventually move to Nursing Homes whilst others unfortunately die. The Parish attempt to maintain that list updated and there currently some 40 elderly persons on the list retained by the Trustees (the Connétable and two Procureurs). This list changes regularly as elderly people suddenly realise that their circumstances change and that they are unable to remain living on their own, in some cases in quite remote areas.

101. The St Martin's Housing Association, the St Martin's Village Plan Working Party and the parochial authorities understand the difficulties now facing the Minister for Planning and Environment. Tasked with having to find additional sites on the Island for social-rented and affordable homes the Minister has indicated that he wishes to provide up to 17 social rented homes on this site and five affordable homes.
102. The St Martin's Housing Association have however, and now supported by the Village Plan Working party, wished to provide 13 affordable homes for young families (and to remain as affordable homes and not merely first-time buyer homes that some may wish to acquire and sell within a short period of time outside the first-time affordable range). Two further homes would also be built and would ultimately assist the housing market on the Island.
103. The St Martin's Housing Association has always intended to sell the homes on a "shared equity" type arrangement whereby the St Martin's Housing Association would sell them to new owners at a subsidized rate but always retain a third of the sale price so that when sold that same benefit would pass to the new occupants, allowing them the same opportunity to get on to the "housing ladder" too.
104. The St Martin's Housing Association and the Village Plan Working Party are happy to undertake a review of the numbers of homes that can be built on the site but have two areas of concern that may affect the decision to proceed:
- The arrangement that exists with the owner of the land to provide two homes on the site in exchange for the remaining land (and the prospect of compulsory purchase if the Minister progresses down that avenue).
  - The disappointment of those who may have been able to purchase their own home built following a parish-led development similar to the previous successful development by the St Martin's Housing Association on La Rue de la Haye.

## **Recommendations of the St Martin's Village Working Party**

**(Yet to confirmed)**

- a. That this discussion document report be brought to the attention of parishioners as an initial draft of a *St Martin's Village Plan*, prepared by the Working Party as "tasked" at the Parish Assembly held on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010 to identify the progress to date.
- b. That the Parish of Martin continues to encourage social and sporting, community supported activities in the vicinity of the Public Hall, fully utilising the facilities of the Hall, the "Village Green" and the public car park.
- c. That all the necessary research be undertaken to support additional facilities on the "Village Green", in particular the Pavilion / Tea Rooms and public toilet facilities, for those using the area and that these brought to the attention of parishioners at future Parish Assemblies.
- d. That work continues with the relevant agencies to improve road safety, in particular for pedestrians along La Grande Route de Faldouet and La Grande Route de Rozel and for enforcing speed limits around the School, Public Hall, Churches, shops and existing sheltered houses.
- e. That the St Martin's Conservation Trust be fully supported by the Parish and parishioners and be tasked with continued monitoring of all proposed demolition or prospective new development within the Parish.
- f. That a Parish Assembly be called at the earliest opportunity to seek support from parishioners for the *St Martin's Village Plan Working Party* recommendation to:-
  - i) progress a small development of "affordable first-time buyer" homes and two Category B houses (to be gifted to the owner of the land) in Field 402,
  - ii) that those properties be sold on a "Homebuyer Shared Equity Scheme" in order to ensure the Parish retain part ownership and to prevent speculators from purchasing properties with the sole view of making short term profit by selling outside the "first-time buyer" market.
  - iii) that the development plans for Field 402 be led by the *St Martin's Housing Association* and,
  - iv) to seek the views of parishioners as to whether further small, Parish led developments should be sought on the completion of the Field 402 project and where.
- g. Continue to monitor developments in connection with the future of St Martin's Junior School and bring any proposals made by the Minister for Education, Sport & Education to a Parish Assembly at the earliest opportunity.

h. That the Parish concentrate their efforts on providing:

- i) First-time buyer homes for local (Jersey born and not necessarily St Martin born) residents and that those homes remain at first-time buyer home prices through Homebuyer schemes (*see conclusion for more information on this issue*)
- ii) Additional Sheltered accommodation near to St Martin's Village similar to that provided at Le Court Clos and such homes for the elderly who have Parish connections.

DRAFT

## Conclusion

105. The St Martin's Village Plan Working Party could have resubmitted revamped copies of the Village Plans of 1994 and 2009 as much of the work had been undertaken for both documents. However they wished to submit a fresh report but unforeseen events delayed the process.
106. This document has been produced on a voluntary basis by parishioners with a keen interest in their Parish. It has been produced by working party members, without a budget and not prepared by experienced consultants, architects or Officers as available to States Departments.
107. The St Martin's Housing Association have already spent in excess of £55,000 on professional fees associated with the production of plans, revised plans, a scaled model and the first stage of agreed professional fees for the proposed development in Field 402. This money has been provided by the non-profitmaking (no income source) St Martin's Housing Association account.
108. There is no doubt that housing development will remain high on the list of important and controversial issues within the Parish as it is indeed Island-wide.
109. There seems to be an ideology that affordable, subsidized first-time buyer housing, should be made available to the young families of parish residents or those with strong parish connections so that they can remain close to their parents, this on an Island that measures just nine miles by five miles. It may be that this train of thought should change as there is no requirement that new residents will become involved in parochial life. Local knowledge does however indicate that many young people whose families have had an active involvement in parochial life also tend to become involved with activities within their community.
110. Unfortunately many young local families have had to move from the Island and live away because of the local housing situation and many would have happily lived anywhere on the Island, not in a specific parish. Indeed that very same issue was raised (and minuted) by a St Martin parishioner at the Parish Assembly held on the 25th November 2009 when she asked if it was right to give preferential treatment to first-time buyers with St Martin connections! Another parishioner has queried whether the Discrimination (Jersey) Law 2013 will be breached if the Housing Association seek future occupants with strong parish connections.
111. Initial response to the consultation process following the exhibition at St Martin's Public Hall led to 37 families expressing an interest in acquiring a "first-time buyer" or "affordable home" in St Martin and enquiries continue to be received.
112. There is no doubt that many others who have previously expressed an interest over the past 20 years believe their names remain on the waiting list held by the St Martin's Housing Association. The Parish of St Martin is currently unaware as to how many others with Parish connections are on the States Housing waiting lists as

no consultation has yet been undertaken to obtain information through their department or evidenced through the proposed “Gateway” scheme.

113. A similar situation arises with “sheltered housing” waiting lists although these were updated after the Parish carried out the review requested by the States of Jersey Housing Department. The Trustees of the Le Court Clos development believe they could house at least a further 25 elderly people without the need to seek additional applicants.
114. Hard decisions will have to be made in the coming years as to how those who wish to acquire a St Martins Village Plan First-Time / Affordable buyer home or offered Parish owned Sheltered Housing homes are to be selected. Some people will be disappointed. This issue has not been addressed by the Village Plan Working Party but will be the responsibility of the St Martin’s Housing Association if the proposed development is approved.
115. At a time of public accountability and human right issues then it is recommended that selection decisions will have to be made before any projects are undertaken. Selection cannot be on a “first come-first served” basis nor through personal preference but more by “names out a hat” or urgent need bearing in mind the (Draft) Island Plan criteria of any proposed development would need to sustain the Parish community. In preparation for taking the Field 402 forward the St Martin’s Housing Association met with the Connétable of Trinity and one of the Procureurs of that parish for a briefing on the problems they encountered with the development they are currently undertaking.
116. It is obvious from this report that some issues have been progressed before being brought back to a Parish Assembly to agree the whole package, ie; two new bus shelters. However the donation was made privately to the Parish who in turn utilized the services of the sub-group to progress as the donor had stipulated that the matter be dealt with as soon as possible.
117. Likewise, work on the Village Green has been ongoing for many years and all the progress had been previously brought to a Parish Assembly in the past. The sub-group have been able to continue work during the past 3 years and receiving private donations that have been a most welcome gift to support the community.
118. No research made or recommendations have been made by the Working Party as to how any parish developed property will be retained in the first-time buyer market. A property in the Rue De La Haye Village development was recently advertised on the market for £625,000 sold subsequently sold for £595,000. It is obvious that the property was out of the range of a normal first-time family buyer.
119. However it is hoped that a shared equity type scheme would be used with the St Martin’s Housing Association retaining a third of the

The Parish of St Martin has a thriving community and proudly boasts many organisations including:-

- A Municipality of Officers eager to serve their Parish. Since June 2006 elections have been held for the positions of a Connétable, Parish Deputy, Procureur and Vingtenier.
- A very active, popular and enthusiastic Parish Junior School where placement is fully subscribed.
- Well attended Churches of many denominations with increasing congregations.
- A “Village Green”, central to the village and hosting many events & leisure activities.
- The privately funded and fully equipped Farmers Cricket pitch & pavilion.
- Varied range of Public Hall activities, ie; Lent lunches / baby clinics / dances / shows.
- Weekly Whist Club that raises funds for parish charities and for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.
- The Diamond Club that arranges monthly social events for the elderly.
- A Parish Support Team that provide voluntary assistance for the elderly & infirm.
- A Jumelage Association twinned with the French town of Montmartin-sur-Mer.
- The St Martin's Flower Club.
- A parish branch of the Women's Institute.
- St Martin's “Parish in Bloom” team who provide floral beauty around the parish.
- The Wednesday Group of housewives that meet socially and fund-raise for charity.
- Two football clubs (St Martins F.C. and Rozel Rovers).
- A Parish Battle of Flowers Association and accompanying Junior float committee.
- The St Martin's Rifle club.
- The St Martin's Petanque Group.
- The Gorey Fete Committee that raises considerable funds for local charities.
- St Martin's Charity Bonfire Committee who again raise funds for local charities.

**St Martin's Village Plan Working Party members;**

Mr S. Luce (Hon. Chairman)	PT, T & PS	& Council member
Mr M. Le Troquer (Hon. Secretary)	FTB & SH	& Council member
Mr W. Beaumont	R & S	
Advocate M. Clapham	FTB & SH	& Council Member
Mr P. Cobden	R & S	
Mr M. Cobden	PT, T & PS	
Mr P. Gaudin	FTB & SH	
Mr J. Germain	R & S	
Mr P. Germain.	C & E	
Mr A. Gibb	C & E	
Mr M. Jehan	FTB & SH	
Mr T. Jehan	FTB & SH	& Council Member
Mr G. Le Cocq	C & E	
Mr B. Le Marquand	R & S	& Council member
Mr J. Luce	PT, T & PS	
Mr J. Perchard	-----	
Mr P. Searle	PT, T & PS	
Mr L. Winton	PT, T & PS	& Council member
Mr S. Yates	-----	& Council member (virtue of position)

**Resignations:**

Rev. L. Turner  
 Mrs A. MacDonald  
 Mr P. Edwards  
 Mr C. Perchard  
 Former Deputy F. Hill  
 Mr P. Morcombe  
 Mr J. Le Gresley  
 Mr C. Ollerenshaw

**Key to sub-group working parties:**

FTB & SH = First Time Buyer & Sheltered Housing  
 C & E = Conservation & Environment  
 PT, T & PS = Public Transport, Traffic & Pedestrian Safety  
 R & S = Recreation & Sport  
 ----- = Did not sit on a sub-group.