



HOUSE OF KEYS OFFICIAL REPORT

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PROCEEDINGS

DAALTYN

HANSARD

Douglas, Monday, 12th December 2011

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Volume 129, No. 8

ISSN 1742-2264

*Published by the Office of the Clerk of Tynwald, Legislative Buildings,
Finch Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 3PW. © Court of Tynwald, 2011*

Present:

The Speaker (Hon. S C Rodan) (Garff);
The Chief Minister (Hon. A R Bell) (Ramsey);
Mr L I Singer (Ramsey); Hon. W E Teare (Ayre);
Mr A L Cannan (Michael); Hon. T M Crookall (Peel);
Hon. P Karran, Mr Z Hall and Mr D J Quirk (Onchan);
Mr R H Quayle (Middle); Mr J R Houghton and Mr R W Henderson (Douglas North);
Hon. D C Cretney (Douglas South);
Hon. C R Robertshaw and Mrs B J Cannell (Douglas East);
Hon. J P Shimmin and Mr C G Corkish MBE (Douglas West);
Mr R A Ronan (Castletown); Mr G D Cregeen (Malew and Santon);
Hon. J P Watterson, Mr L D Skelly and Hon. P A Gawne (Rushen);
with Mr R I S Phillips, Secretary of the House.

Business Transacted

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The House adjourned at 10.22 a.m.

House of Keys

The House met at 10.00 a.m.

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

5 **The Speaker:** Moghrey mie, good morning, Hon. Members.

Members: Good morning, Mr Speaker.

The Speaker: The Chaplain will lead us in prayer.

PRAYERS

The former Chaplain of the House of Keys

Leave of absence granted

10 **The Speaker:** Hon. Members, I have given leave of absence to Mr Anderson, who is off Island on Government business, and to Mrs Beecroft because of a family bereavement. I am sure the whole House will join me in offering her our condolences.

Two Members: Hear, hear.

Order of the Day

Election of Legislative Council Member Mr Tony Wild elected

15 1. Election of one person to serve as a Member of the Legislative Council for a period expiring on 28th February 2013.

Nominees

Mr Brian Rae MBE FRMetS

Mr Tony Wild

Proposers

Hon. Phil Gawne MHK

Mr John Houghton MHK

20

The Speaker: We turn to the single Item on our Order Paper, and this is to elect a person to the Legislative Council for a term expiring on 28th February 2013.

25 There are two nominations on the Order Paper. These nominations were all accompanied by statements of qualification and reason and support, as required, and the papers were circulated to Hon. Members by the Secretary on 25th November. I shall, firstly, call on each Member to propose the candidate whom that Member has nominated. I shall then call for a seconder to the nomination. Only the proposer and seconder may speak.

30 Under Standing Order 8.3.5, each Member may vote either for one of the candidates or for none of the candidates. All voting papers completed otherwise are invalid and no vote recorded on them will be counted. Voting is by placing an X in the box of the ballot paper opposite the candidate you wish to vote for. Under the Constitution Act, the successful candidate needs no fewer than 13 votes in his favour.

We will proceed to a conventional ballot in relation to the names on the Order Paper and if, when voting has been concluded, the vacancy remains, I shall call for fresh nominations for a further round of elections.

I call on the Hon. Member for Rushen, Mr Gawne.

Mr Gawne: Gura mie eu, Loayreyder.

Hon. Members, it gives me great pleasure to nominate Brian Rae for the vacant Legislative Council seat. I have known Brian all my life, and I am sure he would be capable of filling the role of Member of the Legislative Council extremely well. He has a long and highly commendable record of public and community service, which was outlined in the introductory letter I circulated with my Rushen colleagues a few weeks ago.

Hon. Members, the future constitutional position and electoral system for the Legislative Council is something which has exercised our collective minds for a number of years now, and I know some Members have, in the past, taken the view that spoiling their ballot paper or not voting for anyone will in some way assist in the transition from old to new. While there may be some merit in this argument, it is our collective duty to ensure that we have a full complement of Members in the Legislative Council, so I urge Hon. Members to vote for one candidate today, so that, if at all possible, we can get a result today.

I am here, of course, to promote Brian Rae's candidacy. Brian has a long record of public service in the Isle of Man and most particularly in the community in which he lives, in the south. It has been my privilege to work with Brian in a variety of roles, and I am pleased to support his candidacy.

Brian is intelligent, insightful and has substantial experience of how Government works. Brian is, by profession, a scientist, and as such, takes an evidence-based approach to decision making. I think an excellent example of this is the stance that he took in relation to the Legislative Council elections. Brian was not bowled along by the general popular view that, yes, indeed, we must go for direct public elections for the Legislative Council. What Brian said was just let's think about the constitutional implications about this. I believe that is the role of Members of the Legislative Council, just to give us the opportunity to reflect on what we are trying to do. I think Brian has made absolutely clear he is not against the principle, but we need to know exactly what the mechanism is and how that is actually going to work. I think that is a good example of the sort of thing we need in the Legislative Council: Members who are prepared to point out to the Keys, in a gentle way, that perhaps, we need to fully consider all the implications of what we are about to do.

Brian's skills and experience, I think, would be particularly useful in the Legislative Council and Tynwald, bearing in mind the relatively short period for which the successful candidate will be elected to serve.

Perhaps Brian's more important attribute is his total commitment to serve the Manx people, which is demonstrated through his nearly 40 years working for the Civil Service and 25 years as a member serving on the Arbory Parish Commissioners. Brian has been a member of Arbory Parish Commissioners continuously since 1986 and held the office of Chairman on several occasions. He has also represented Arbory on the Marashen Crescent Elderly Persons' Housing Committee throughout the same period and held the office of Chairman there for all but the first three years.

Since being retired from the Civil Service, Brian spent some time as a school governor at Arbory Primary School and continues to be a counsellor with the Manx Citizens' Advice Service in the south. He is Treasurer and poppy organiser for the Colby branch of the Royal British Legion, and also a qualified case worker for the British Legion. He is also Vice-President of the Laa Columb Killey and he received the MBE in 2007 for services to meteorology, and to the community in the Isle of Man. The above, in my view, makes him eminently suited to being a Member of the Legislative Council. He has a record of serving our community. He has fought several public elections and is both personable and a popular member of the community.

Hon. Members, in seeking an appropriate candidate for the Legislative Council, I feel we should have someone who has experience and integrity; someone who has a demonstrable record of working for the Manx people; someone who is personable and can see the lighter side of things; but above all, someone who understands the excitement and, at times, trauma of standing for public election. Brian Rae clearly possesses all of these qualities, and I commend his candidacy to you today.

The Speaker: Hon. Member...

Mr Skelly: Delighted to second that nomination.

95 **The Speaker:** I call the Hon. Member for Douglas North, Mr Houghton.

Mr Houghton: Thank you, Mr Speaker and I have great pleasure in nominating Mr Tony Wild to Hon. Members for consideration to the Legislative Council today.

100 I would like to thank those Hon. Members who may not already know Mr Wild, but who did take the opportunity of meeting him in person in the Millennium Room last week. Mr Wild has a distinguished career in the finance sector, with 33 years' experience, ranging from cashiering duties at Lloyd's Bank Ramsey branch in 1978 to running a bank with 1,500 employees and £10 billion of assets. He has worked for 14 years in the United Kingdom finance sector and 15 years in the international market. It is in these key areas where he built relations with people, who now hold senior positions in the United Kingdom finance industry in London. One of the many values
105 Tony Wild is able to utilise, if he was elected, is his ability to open doors in key areas which could be of benefit to the Island in the future.

Mr Speaker, Mr Wild has a sound experience of business strategies and has a clear vision for the future and the delivery of financial performance. As an accomplished leader in this field, he is able to draw the best out of people through motivation, developing and mentoring.

110 Mr Wild has previous experience in parliament and government circles. He piloted the construction of no less than three successful Lloyds TSB Bills in the past and was present in the public gallery of each branch to offer advice during each stage of the parliamentary process.

He has also worked with Government through the Isle of Man Bankers' Association where, as its president, he was a committee member of the Institute of Financial Services, together with membership of numerous working parties and consulting groups assisting Government.

115 In summary, Mr Speaker, Tony Wild is a man of integrity who has the skill set to hit the ground running. Hon. Members have been furnished with his *curriculum vitae*, which clearly demonstrates a track record of determination and commitment in everything else, and I have great pleasure in commending him to the House, sir.

120 I beg to move.

The Speaker: Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Bell.

125 **Mr Bell:** Mr Speaker, I beg to second the nomination and would briefly like to remind Members that the Isle of Man, over the next few years, will be facing unprecedented challenges - two in particular. One, economically, we have to grow the economy and develop new avenues of revenue to support our public services - we have to deal with the fallout from the euro crisis, which is far from over yet and may have a serious impact on the Isle of Man in the next few years; and we have to rebalance our finances in the wake of the changes to the VAT Sharing Agreement.
130 Therefore, Mr Speaker, the nomination today is at a critical time for the Isle of Man and it is very important that the Island gets someone who has a deep-rooted grasp of both these issues. These are the vital challenges for the Isle of Man in the next few years.

I believe that Tony Wild has that experience. He has an extensive and successful career in banking. He has built Lloyds into one of our major success stories and created many jobs for our people in the process. Mr Speaker, as Treasury Minister, I worked closely with Mr Wild on a number of issues and committees and it is very clear to me he is a proven team player with a record of hard work, leadership, vision and success, and undoubtedly a man of high integrity. Mr Wild has shown long-term commitment to the Island and the welfare of our people and that commitment, I think, is shown further, Mr Speaker, today in his nomination for the vacant post in the Legislative Council.

140 Therefore, Mr Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to second the nomination.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members.

We now proceed to a ballot and I call on the Secretary to distribute ballot papers.

145 Could I ask the Hon. Member for Douglas East, Mrs Cannell, to kindly be a teller; and the Hon. Member for Middle, Mr Quayle, likewise, if he would act as teller.

A ballot took place.

150 **The Speaker:** Hon. Members, the result of the election is that Mr Brian Rae received 5 votes; Mr Tony Wild received 16 votes; and there was one spoilt paper.

I therefore have pleasure in declaring Mr Tony Wild duly elected as Member of the Legislative Council and offer congratulations of the House to him.

155

Members: Hear, hear.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, that concludes the business of the House today.

The House will now stand adjourned until the next sitting, which will take place at 10.30 tomorrow, 13th December, in Tynwald Court.

The House adjourned at 10.22 a.m.