



TYNWALD COURT OFFICIAL REPORT

RECORTYS OIKOIL
QUAIYL TINVAAL

PROCEEDINGS

DAALTYN

(HANSARD)

Douglas, Tuesday, 11th October 2011

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BUSINESS TRANSACTED

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The House adjourned at 11.29 p.m.

Present:

The President of Tynwald (Hon. C M Christian)

In the Council:

The Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man (The Rt Rev. R M E Paterson),
The Attorney General (Mr S M Harding),
Mr R P Braidwood, Mr D M W Butt, Mr D A Callister, Mr E A Crowe,
Mr A F Downie OBE, Mr E G Lowey and Mr J R Turner,
with Mr J King, Deputy Clerk of Tynwald.

In the Keys:

The Speaker (Hon. S C Rodan) (Garff);
The Chief Minister (Hon. A R Bell) (Ramsey);
Hon. D M Anderson (Glenfaba); Mr L I Singer (Ramsey); Hon. W E Teare (Ayre);
Mr A L Cannan (Michael); Mr T M Crookall (Peel);
Mr 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 and Mrs K J Beecroft (Douglas South);
Mr 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);
Mr J P Watterson, Mr L D Skelly and Hon. P A Gawne (Rushen);
with Mr R I S Phillips, Secretary of the House.

Tynwald

The Court met at 10.30 a.m.

[MADAM PRESIDENT *in the Chair*]

The Deputy Clerk: Hon. Members, please rise for the President of Tynwald.

The President: Moghrey mie, Hon. Members.
The Lord Bishop will lead us in prayers.

PRAYERS

The Lord Bishop

Orders of the Day

Introduction of the Speaker to Tynwald

5 **The President:** Please be seated, Hon. Members.
We come now, Hon. Members, to the first Item on our Order Paper, the introduction of the Speaker to Tynwald.
I invite the sponsors of the newly-elected Speaker of the House of Keys to escort him to the Chamber.

Mr Gawne and Mr Houghton escorted the Speaker into Tynwald Chamber and brought him before the President.

10 **Mr Gawne:** Eaghtyrane, I have the honour of presenting the Speaker of the House of Keys.

The President: Mr Speaker, I am pleased to welcome you to Tynwald Court and invite your sponsors now to take their seats please.

Mr Gawne and Mr Houghton resumed their seats.

15 **The President:** Mr Speaker, you return to this Court with the endorsement, not only of your constituents, but also of your peers in the House of Keys to serve in that distinguished office for a second term. Your role is unique in requiring you to preside in one chamber, whilst freeing you to speak, both for your constituents and for the House in the environs of Tynwald Court.

20 I congratulate you on your successful re-election, which is evidence of the confidence of the Members of the House in your ability to fulfil this role with integrity. Defending the rights and privileges of the House and ensuring the democratic conduct of its business are fundamental to the office, and representation further afield is also a task you have undertaken very effectively during your tenure to extend the awareness of our constitution and parliamentary structures in Tynwald beyond these shores.

25 I wish you well, Mr Speaker, in the continuation of those tasks in the year ahead.

The Speaker: Madam President, I thank you indeed for your warm words of welcome.

I consider it a great privilege to be returning to this Hon. Court as Speaker of the House of Keys, a position I will certainly strive to uphold – recognising the need to uphold the rights and

30 privileges of the Members of the House of Keys, and also to represent my constituents in Garff,
who have done me the honour of returning me again – to the best of my ability.
Thank you, Madam President.

Several Members: Hear, hear.

Congratulations to Members and welcome

35 **The President:** Hon. Members, may I also extend my congratulations to those of you who
have been elected, or indeed re-elected, to the House of Keys and welcome you, along with your
Legislative Council colleagues, to this first sitting of Tynwald of the new legislative session.

We are in the midst of what is a particularly challenging period, but we know from our history
that, when faced with difficulties, this Island, its parliament and people, show their mettle, and
whether the external pressures to which we are subject grind us down or polish us up will depend
40 upon the stuff of which we are made.

I have faith that we are made of stern stuff, Hon. Members, and that the resolve of everyone
here in Tynwald will be to act in the interests of taking us through to a sustainable future. I hope,
Hon. Members, that cool heads and rational debate will be the hallmarks of our deliberations, and I
wish you well as you seek in this forum to act in the best interests of the people of the Island.

Supplementary Order Paper

Papers laid before the Court

45 **The President:** I call upon the Clerk to lay papers in respect of the Supplementary Order
Paper.

50 **The Clerk:** Madam President, I lay before the Court the Written Policy Statements, circulated
in compliance with section 2(2B) of the Council of Ministers Act 1990, from the two nominated
candidates for the post of Chief Minister, which are set out on the Supplementary Order Paper.

Ballabeg,
Lhen Road,
BRIDE
IM7 4BG

NOMINATION OF ALLAN ROBERT BELL MHK AS CHIEF MINISTER. STATEMENT OF POLICY PRIORITIES.

Since 2008 global events have changed our world and as these events continue to unfold and
economic storm clouds gather they ensure that the next five years will be the most challenging
period that we have faced for a generation, both for Tynwald and also the Island.

55 However we must not let ourselves become downhearted. In the early eighties we also faced
very difficult economic times and by working together and developing long term strategies, both
social and economic, ultimately we succeeded in developing one of the most successful economies
in Europe.

I am proud that I was part of the team which developed that recovery strategy and with the
benefit of my experience of that period, 27 years as a Member of the House of Keys, with a wide
60 range of Government and Parliamentary responsibilities and especially latterly, as Minister for the
Treasury and Economic Development over the last turbulent ten years, I now offer myself as a
candidate for the position of Chief Minister.

65 Without question our twin top priorities have to be the re-balancing of Government finances in
the wake of the VAT changes and the stimulation of further economic growth and diversification
to provide new revenue streams for Government and jobs for our people.

However, we must not allow our pursuit of these vital goals to blind us to the need to maintain our social cohesion and quality of life. The next Government must provide the leadership and openness needed to promote a fully inclusive, compassionate and, above all, fair society if we are to succeed. A society which is at ease with itself.

70 To deliver these ideals I would propose two initial reviews.

Firstly to endorse the principles of the long term strategy document, The Development of a Prosperous and Caring Society, which laid the foundation for our current success in 1987, to see what we can learn from that far sighted strategy and to build an updated range of options for the next 20 years. I believe that we should take advantage of our current difficulties to move beyond short term palliatives and, through working together, produce a long term vision of where we want the Island to be in the future.

75 Secondly, I believe we need to revisit the Report on the Scope and Structure of Government. I would propose to reconstitute the original committee and charge them to produce an update on progress so far and suggestions for the future. Once completed, I believe we need a full Tynwald debate on the issue to identify a collective and acceptable way forward.

80 Central to any changes which may be identified in this report must also be a change to the culture of Government, without which any new proposals will fail. We cannot continue to deliver services and achieve the savings we need without challenging the long established processes and working practices across Government. To achieve these changes we need to engage staff at all levels, from Chief Executive to middle management and especially our front line staff, including the relevant Unions. In driving through change I believe in two principles. Firstly, a slash and burn approach to downsizing Government too quickly will be very damaging to both the economy and society; a more measured approach is called for, with a judicious use of our Reserves when necessary. Secondly, there can be no ring-fenced sacred cows in the review process. We must scrutinise every aspect of our operations.

85 To stimulate further economic activity we must build on the very effective and cooperative relationship we have with our business community. They know better than ourselves where the opportunities lie and Government must be prepared to support them in expanding existing business and also diversifying into new sectors for the future.

90 Our economy overall has not been in recession and is still growing, and this is recognised by our continuing AAA credit rating. To maintain that vibrancy we must have a stable taxation system and I would seek to maintain our 0/10% corporate tax structure. This has now been accepted by the international community and we must fight to protect it.

95 The UK is in the process of establishing enterprise zones in deprived areas. We have to ensure that the whole of our Country becomes an enterprise zone, with appropriate incentives, cutting through red tape where necessary and providing the necessary infrastructure and incentives to attract new business. We also need a review of our planning system to ensure that it gives adequate consideration and priority to economic development.

100 Greater coordination across Government with regard to training and retraining has already begun. We must build on this to raise the skill levels in our workforce and also to help tackle the growing issue of youth unemployment. We must give hope and confidence to our young people that they have a future here.

105 In spite of the problems we have faced with our VAT Agreement, I do not believe that the time is right for abrogation. It is still broadly beneficial for the Island and any change at this time could seriously damage the economy. I do believe, though, that we need to consider and cost our future options, with the aim of improving our understanding of all aspects of the agreement in anticipation of any arbitrary actions by the UK government in the future.

110 Our experiences with the UK over the last few years lead me to believe that we must reassess the value of our reciprocal agreements with that country. The UK is currently reviewing both its pension and benefit systems with an eye to future reform. Any changes will directly impact the Island.

115 I believe we need an in depth review of these issues, especially the benefit system, to investigate whether it would now be more appropriate for the Island to develop its own procedures to establish a new structure more suited to our own needs rather than follow a system which will be ideologically tailored for the needs of the UK. Additionally, the UK has suggested amalgamating its tax and national insurance payment procedures. If things stay as they are, the Isle of Man will have to follow suit if any changes are made. This may also not be in the best interests of the Island.

120 A major problem facing most developed countries is an ageing population. During the last five years the number of Isle of Man pensioners has increased by over 2,000. This rate will accelerate and we need to plan to deal with a higher dependency ratio and the consequent costs of medical

130 and social care, especially nursing care in old age. I propose that methods of funding these costs be fully investigated and that a commission be established to review the situation, along with proposals to maintain the sustainability of the Manx state pension. Events of the last few years and the implications of my suggestions, including the protection of the economy, prove beyond doubt that we have to become a lot more proactive in dealing with our various international partners. I have extensive experience in promoting the Island in the wider world and with negotiating in hostile environments.

135 If I am elected Chief Minister, raising the Island's profile would be one of my top priorities. However I recognise that there have been limited opportunities for other Members of Tynwald to gain greater experience in this area. I would undertake to ensure that whenever possible other Members are encouraged to build their experience and confidence to help protect the Island's reputation in the future.

140 Improved communications off Island will be vitally important in the future. However, so will internal communication, too. If the outgoing Government can be criticised for one thing it is that we have been very poor at keeping the public fully informed as to progress in many areas. I believe we need a complete rethink on how Government and Tynwald communicates with our people. We have to be more open and honest, especially when making what may well be difficult and painful decisions in the time ahead. Even where there may be disagreement, people are more likely to accept a decision if it is clearly explained beforehand.

145 To build that essential trust I would propose to introduce the Freedom of Information Bill, whilst accepting that there are areas where confidentiality has to be protected. However, it must also be recognised that it may come at a high cost if the Jersey example is accurate, and other areas of Government expenditure will be adversely affected.

150 Additionally, I would undertake to hold public meetings around the Island periodically to reach out more effectively to our people.

At this stage I do not intend to go through all the possible issues facing us in the time ahead but I would comment on a few which I believe need to be addressed.

155 The construction industry is a very important element of our economy and is struggling as a result of the economic slowdown and the reluctance of banks to lend. We should use this opportunity to utilise their spare capacity to address our housing problems, particularly the current shortage of starter homes, and progress the Dept of Social Care's Housing Review with some urgency. Although we will have reduced revenues in the next few years we have to do our utmost to protect core services. I am concerned by what appears to be a growing problem of Health Service waiting lists. In spite of our various initiatives, waiting times are going beyond acceptable levels.

160 I still believe that we need a definitive review of the scope and structure of Local Government. This is needed to improve efficiency and value for money at local levels and to free Members of Tynwald to be genuine national politicians, focusing more on the broader strategic issues. Extra powers, such as street cleaning and minor road repairs, could be devolved from central government. Once the new role of local government has been identified, a rate revaluation should take place to introduce a fairer system across the Island.

165 Like many members of the public, I have been dismayed at the amount of time spent in the last House navel gazing with respect to internal constitutional matters. In principle, I agree with direct elections for Legislative Council as long as we do not create political instability in the process. I would support a totally independent review to introduce new thinking into the debate, leaving Members more time to deal with more pressing issues. Energy costs have a massive impact on inflation, which is detrimental to both households and business alike. We should encourage the development of renewable energy and reduce our energy waste. There is a clear economic imperative to do this as every pound saved is a pound which can instead be spent in our economy.

175 These are but a few of the challenges the Island will be facing over the next five years. More than ever before, I believe Tynwald, collectively, has to give the leadership and vision to unite and inspire our people to successfully navigate these turbulent times.

180 If I am given the privilege of being elected Chief Minister I promise that I will do my utmost to promote a unified team, not only in the Council of Ministers, but right across Tynwald and beyond. This is not the time to be distracted by yesterday's squabbles or overbearing egos. I do not have all the answers and I will make mistakes. I am only human.

185 I would hope that all Members who wish to contribute will be given the opportunity to do so and I would hope to also draw on the very extensive experience we have within our midst outside of Government.

I promise that I will be accessible to everyone and provide a listening and collegiate leadership wherever possible.

190 Internationally, the world economy is in uncharted waters. There is no quick or easy answer to the challenges which face us. However, we start from a position of relative strength. We have to look to the future with confidence and self-belief, working together to defend our achievements, our rights and our independence. I offer you my experience to help deliver that belief.



6th October 2011

Election of a Chief Minister, Council of Ministers Act 1990, Section 2, Written Statement

Dear Members,

195 I am the only candidate for Chief Minister who set out the programme for government in my manifesto at the recent general election. The policies for the position of Chief Minister are exactly the same. This was a demonstration of my honesty and openness to the electorate. These policies have not changed and are now attached for your consideration.

As Chief Minister, I will work with members of Tynwald who will work with me to achieve the caring and prosperous society that our Island deserves. I will build alliances and revitalise politics but if I cannot convert adversaries into partners I will stand up to them.

200 As your Chief Minister I will expect my government to focus on sound fiscal responsibility and international affairs. My government will work with the private sector to sustain growth and maintain confidence and investment despite the current constraints on government finances. We will encourage our people to become minority participants in financing the infrastructure of our strategic lifelines where appropriate.

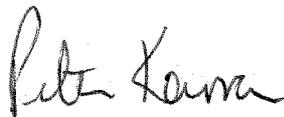
205 We are an Island but we are not immune from outside influence and inspection. It is of prime importance that your Chief Minister has an unblemished political career. Any outside body can inspect my political career and they will find nothing that could be of detriment to the Island's reputation.

210 During the 30 years of my political career I have held many positions, some of which are listed on the next page. I have always been willing to work with those who share my principles and vision. Rather than listing everything, I will give you a couple of examples. I was part of a Labour Party alliance with Sir Miles Walker and, during this time, a lot of social legislation was introduced which many initially felt was impossible to achieve. I was Chairman of the Water Authority and, under my leadership, proper systems of management, infrastructure planning and sound financial control were achieved. The financial structure which I initiated allowed the Island to achieve its triple A rating which has proven to be essential to the promotion of the Island in the worldwide stage of business and commerce.

215 I will pursue a programme of genuine openness and transparency in government. I am determined to navigate a path which will drive forward the process of improving efficiency, quality of service and the value for money agenda in government. I will encourage scrutiny and constructive criticism to facilitate this process.

220 Working together we can build on previous achievements and make the necessary changes to ensure the continued growth and success of our nation.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Karran MHK
Leader of the Liberal Vannin Party
Member for Onchan

PETER KARRAN MHK – ABBREVIATED HISTORY

DEPARTMENTAL MEMBER:

1985 to 1986	Highway Board
1986 to 1991	Health & Social Security
1996 to 2001	Health & Social Security
1987 to 1991	War Pensions Committee
1991 to 1993	Home Affairs
1991 to 1996	Education
1993 to 1996	Highway, Ports & Properties
2001 to 2006	Agricultural, Fisheries & Forestry
2006 to 2011	Elected not to take a Government Position

CHAIRMAN:

1990 to 2002	Water Authority
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COMMITTEES OF TYNWALD:

1985 to 1986	Trade Union Legislation
1987 to 1986	Petition for Redress
1987 to 1981	Ecclesiastical
1987 to 1989	Drug Abuse
1995 to 1996	Tynwald Ceremony
1998 to 1999	Ministerial Government
1999 to 2002	Tynwald Honours
2001 to 2006	Public Accounts Committee
2007 to Present	Tynwald Honours



**House of Keys General Election
Thursday 29 September 2011**

Liberal Vannin Party

National Manifesto

Bringing politics back to the people

Liberal Vannin Manifesto

Dear Voter

I am pleased to present the Liberal Vannin Party Manifesto which has been developed by our Party in recent years as the problems with our Government have been getting worse.

I am delighted that we are contesting nine constituencies in this election and in my constituency of Onchan I am joined by Zac Hall making the number of Liberal Vannin candidates ten in all.

I have been engaged in politics on the Island for over 30 years and I am delighted with the values, skills, and experience of all the Liberal Vannin candidates. With your support, we can face the national challenges head-on, bring about democratic reform and protect our prosperous and caring society.

Each of our candidates has developed a manifesto to reflect the interests and challenges of their particular constituency. But at this election we have all been surprised, and pleased, that most voters are much more concerned about national issues rather than the issues on their doorstep.

We have therefore developed this manifesto to address the national issues that our country is facing and I commend it to you.

Yours

Peter Karran

Liberal Vannin Party Leader

Bringing Politics Back to the People

LIBERAL VANNIN PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT

There is a widespread feeling of disappointment in our politicians: we need change. If the same politicians are elected it won't change - more of the same gets more of the same, and that isn't good enough for the Isle of Man.

A Liberal Vannin Government will get a grip on spending and international affairs, and involve the public with the difficult choices ahead to build on our success and secure our future.



REFORM AT HOME AND CONFIDENCE ABROAD

Enhance openness and increase scrutiny

- Introduce a Freedom of Information Act
- Appoint an independent Auditor General and an Ombudsman
- Remove Government from selection of judiciary
- Reduce the number of departmental political members to nine

90% think prospective Chief Ministers should take part in public debate

**Manx People Power
2011**

Reduce the cost of politicians

- Require all members of Tynwald to contribute to their pensions
- Eliminate fixed annual sum for expenses
- Abolish the supplement to Tynwald members salaries for membership of departments and statutory boards

Reform the process of selecting the Chief Minister

- Have an open Tynwald Ballot for Chief Minister
- Require all candidate Chief Ministers to publish a national policy programme before a general election

Improve democratic representation

- Redraw constituencies for the House of Keys to provide equal representation for all voters
- Arrange national elections for Legislative Council

54% of residents considered VAT issues, unemployment, cost of living and government deficit as the most important issues facing the new government

Act more self-confidently abroad

- Exercise greater control of Government revenue by investigating repeal of VAT revenue sharing
- Negotiate better reciprocal arrangements and extend the Island's international relationships

**LV Research
2011**

Bringing Politics Back to the People

SUSTAINING ECONOMIC GROWTH

A Liberal Vannin Government will work with the private sector to sustain growth and maintain confidence and investment - despite the constrained government finances.

Finance sector, diversification and innovation



- Continue to develop regulation and tax policy to enable the finance sector to flourish
- Open discussions to join the European Free Trade Assoc. that our Island left when the UK joined the EU
- Address issues arising from the possible abrogation from the UK revenue sharing agreement
- Create business parks in north, west and south
- Promote the Island's business abroad by involving both the Lieutenant Governor and the business community
- Refund VAT on start-up expenses, encourage industry clusters and promote the Island as a location to hold intellectual property

.....the Airport Director and Minister stated recently that if the airport were run on commercial lines annual cost savings of £2 million could be made

IOM Newspaper
July 2010

23% of people surveyed believed that the IOM should increase recycling & reduce waste

LV Survey 2011

Island's strategic lifelines

- Explore the development of a privately funded deep sea linkspan to encourage competition in sea freight and transport and attract cruise liners
- Secure London City and other UK landing slots
- Provide ownership and financing opportunities to Manx residents for all strategic lifelines

Leisure, food, energy and environment policy

- Cooperate with the private sector and community to provide facilities for residents and tourists of all ages
- End the Countryside Care Scheme and provide incentives to farmers to produce more high quality food
- Encourage our farmers to be part of the first Island Nation to be an organic and compassionate food producer
- Manage the forests for biomass fuel
- Increase the energy efficiency of all buildings
- Require MEA to pay a reasonable rate for micro generated electricity
- Increase recycling by joining up waste management initiatives

Bringing Politics Back to the People

REDUCTION OF GOVERNMENT WASTE

LVP does not believe in privatisation but will encourage Manx residents to be minority participants in the financing of our infrastructure and our strategic lifelines.

Create culture change

- Appoint a political member to the Chief Minister's Office who is responsible for government culture change to improve quality and reduce costs
- Create a Tynwald committee to advise on priorities for delivery of services by reference to 2006 Scope and Structure of Government recommendations
- Avoid redundancies in the public sector by redeploying personnel
- Contract out some services and corporatise some operations

"An annual review of basic expenditure and activity (BEAR) is in place which is no longer fit for purpose....."

Report by the Standing Committee of Tynwald on Public Accounts 2011

Maintain competitive tax rates

- Set up a Tax and Welfare Commission to review the present regimes to ensure the Island can fund welfare provision without making our tax rates and national insurance rates uncompetitive
- Close existing public sector pension schemes to new entrants
- Ensure government expenditure is less than government income by the 2014/15 financial year

Why does the MEA sell electrical goods when it makes a loss doing it?

Performance improvement

- Act on 2011 recommendations of Public Accounts and MEA Select Committees addressing inadequate financial management and budgeting in Government
- Reduce expenditure on external consultants by empowering Government managerial and technical staff to make decisions
- Empower all members of the public sector to identify and implement service improvements
- Only approve capital projects following review of published cost benefit analysis
- Create a level playing field when comparing private sector bids public sector costs



Bringing Politics Back to the People

OUR CARING SOCIETY

Health care

*"..... on average
Manx children have
more than two
decayed, filled or
missing teeth by the
time they are five"*

Dept of Health
August 2011

- Protect the front line staff and services
- Introduce benchmarking by specialty involving lay members who report to the Minister
- Develop a website listing consultants, their qualifications and waiting times
- Establish independent auditing and encourage the formation of a Patients' Association
- Promote the Island as a destination of choice for specialist health care by attracting world class specialists to base their business on the Island
- Implement adequate safeguards for the Liverpool Care Pathway and the "do not resuscitate" policy
- Set up a working party to develop an effective first class dental health care policy and system

Social care



*".....I am delighted to
add my personal
endorsement to the
LVP's determined
strategy towards the
welfare and
wellbeing of our
Manx Service
men and women"*

Charles Wilson
Honorary Colonel

- Assist our elderly to remain in their own homes and retain their independence
- Review residential and nursing homes legislation
- Broaden and make public the results of independent inspection procedures
- Investigate the provision of financial assistance to family members for caring for elderly relatives
- Introduce a system of direct payments allowing the elderly and disabled to retain more control of their lives
- Introduce measures to address the financial problems of an aging population
- Implement an independent audit of social care
- Introduce a committee of lay members to improve the effectiveness of the service
- Bring into force the Disability Discrimination Act

Military covenant

- The Minister for Social Care will have responsibility for Manx Service personnel and Veterans, seeking to put into Manx Law a Military Covenant defining our duty of care to all past and present Manx Service personnel

Bringing Politics Back to the People

OUR CARING SOCIETY

Education and Training

- Protect front line teaching
- Empower parents to select preschool education by the introduction of a voucher system
- Emphasise aspiration and achievement and teach all our young people about civic duty and responsibility
- Encourage more apprenticeships by positive discrimination for those who provide them in the tendering process for public contracts
- Provide work experience for those out of employment and training for more than 6 months
- Help the long term unemployed get back to work by introducing incentives for employers
- Protect the grants system for qualified students and reintroduce tax relief for educational covenant

*57% of Full Time
Equivalent staff
employed in
relation to
schools are not
teachers*

*Hansard data
February 2011*

Housing

- Introduce a protected housing scheme to enable Manx residents to buy new houses for homes rather than investment purposes
- Encourage those in social housing to participate in our property owning democracy by the introduction of joint equity schemes
- Introduce a landlord accreditation scheme to improve the quality of the rental sector



Immigration

- Improve the work permit regime
- Consider bringing into force the 2001 Residency Act
- Review the application of the June 2011 points based Immigration Rules

*Housing
availability &
affordability for
first time buyers
were the most
frequently raised
concern by those
under 25*

Pensions and Benefits

- Investigate and prosecute cheats
- Monitor the changing UK National Insurance and basic state pension regimes and then review the Manx system recognising the importance of residence in the Island and contribution to the system

LVP research 2011

Bringing Politics Back to the People



Want to know more
about our policies? Visit
www.liberalvannin.org
for a spoken or large print
copy just write to
FreePost 1131
Troutbeck
Strang Road, Union Mills
IM8 6JH

You & Liberal Vannin

Spend your vote wisely and vote for the
only team committed to:

Reform the political system

Reduce government cost and waste

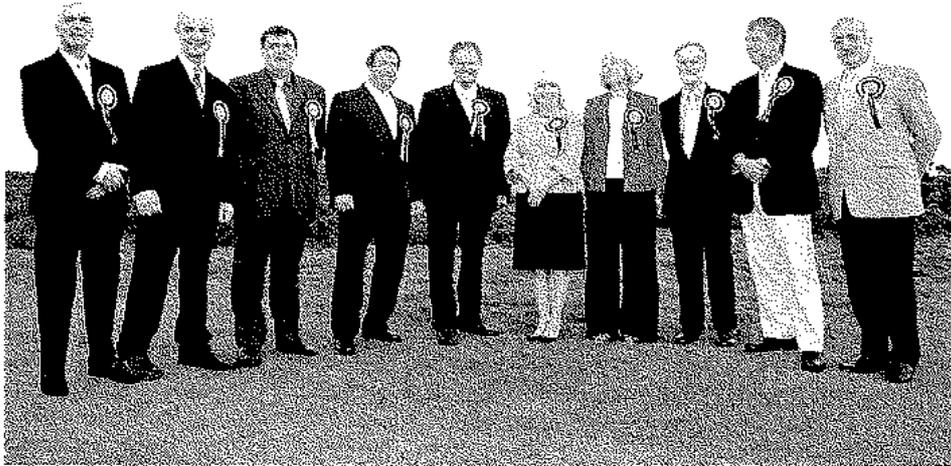
**Support the private sector to sustain
economic growth**

**Provide efficient world-class health and
education for all**

Protect housing for locals

**Provide better government, better
scrutiny and a Freedom of Information
Act**

Meet the Liberal Vannin Party Team



Bringing Politics Back to the People

Orders of the Day resumed

Nomination of Chief Minister Mr Bell elected

2. In accordance with section 2 of the Council of Ministers Act 1990, to nominate one Member of Tynwald for appointment as Chief Minister.

The Members proposed for nomination are:

Hon A R Bell MHK
Mr P Karran MHK

225 **The President:** Hon. Members, we now move to the main business at Item 2 on our Order Paper, the election of the Chief Minister.

This election is governed by section 2 the Council of Ministers Act 1990 and by Standing Orders 1.5, 2.4A, 3.17A and 5.3.

Two Members have been proposed, Mr Bell and Mr Karran. I intend to –

230 **Mrs Beecroft:** Sorry. A point of order.

The President: Yes, Mrs Beecroft, Hon. Member for Douglas South.

235 **Mrs Beecroft:** I beg to move that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the election in accordance with the procedure set out in Standing Order 5.3(5) to (7), (9) to (11) and (13) to be modified to the extent that each Member's name be placed on their ballot paper and that once the President has announced the result, the Clerk shall read out the names of the Members voting and indicate which Members have voted for each candidate.

240 Thank you.

Mr Hall: Madam President, I beg to second.

245 **The President:** Hon. Members, the question is that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the election in accordance with the procedure set out in Standing Order 5.3(5) to (7), (9) to (11) and (13) to be modified to the extent that each Member's name be placed on their ballot paper and that once the President has announced the result, the Clerk shall read out the names of the Members voting and indicate which Members have voted for each candidate.

250 As this is a motion to suspend Standing Orders, at least 16 votes of the Keys and six votes of the Council are needed. Hon. Members, clearly the intention here is that this not be a secret ballot, but that it is clear who voted for whom.

I will put the question. Those in favour of suspension of Standing Orders, please say aye; those against, say no. The noes have it. A division is called. We shall vote electronically on the division.

A division was called for and electronic voting resulted as follows:

In the Keys – Ayes 18, Noes 6

FOR

Mr Quirk
Mr Hall
Mr Karran
Mr Ronan
Mr Crookall
Mr Anderson
Mr Bell
Mr Singer
Mr Teare
Mr Cregeen
Mrs Beecroft
Mrs Cannell
Mr Robertshaw
Mr Shimmin
Mr Corkish

AGAINST

Mr Quayle
Mr Cannan
Mr Henderson
Mr Houghton
Mr Watterson
The Speaker

Mr Cretney
Mr Skelly
Mr Gawne

The Speaker: Madam President, the motion carries in the Keys, 18 for, 6 against.

In the Council – Ayes 2, Noes 6

FOR	AGAINST
Mr Turner	Mr Callister
Mr Braidwood	Mr Crowe
	Mr Downie
	The Lord Bishop
	Mr Lowey
	Mr Butt

255 **The President:** In the Council, the motion fails to carry, 2 for and 6 against. The motion therefore fails to carry.

We revert now, Hon. Members, to the process which I was outlining. I intend to take the nominations in alphabetical order of the nominees, and I will therefore invite the proposer and seconder of the nomination... Can I just consult with the Clerk, please.

The President consulted the Clerk.

260 **The President:** I will take the nominations in alphabetical order and invite the proposer and seconder of the Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Bell, to speak, followed by the proposer and seconder of the nomination of the Hon. Member for Onchan, Mr Karran. Hon. Members, following established practice, there will be no other speeches.

265 The procedure, Hon. Members, is in two parts. The first part consists of a ballot to produce one nominee, with the Council and the Keys voting together as one body. If one candidate attracts the majority of the votes of the Members present and voting, I shall then put the motion that the candidate be nominated as Chief Minister.

Following nomination by this Court, the successful nominee will then be appointed by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

270 I call on the Hon. Member, Mr Teare, for Ayre to propose the Hon. Member, Mr Bell.

Mr Teare: Thank you, Madam President.

I am delighted to nominate the Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Allan Bell, for the position of Chief Minister.

275 Mr Bell is one of our most senior politicians, commanding respect in this Chamber, in the Island and further afield. During a long and distinguished political career he has held many senior posts within government, including being one of the first Ministers under the ministerial system in 1986.

280 For many years he held the position as Treasury Minister and was responsible for difficult negotiations with many international organisations and other jurisdictions. During the recent Election my constituents told me that we should devote a much clearer focus to our international relations and the Hon. Member has considerable experience and expertise in this area. Indeed, I would go so far as to say that he is without equal. His skills were recognised by his constituents at the recent General Election, when he was returned as their representative, topping the poll.

285 I have worked closely with Mr Bell since I was elected seven years ago and have been impressed by his work ethic and drive for the betterment of the Island and our people. However, my association with Mr Bell goes back much further. We both went to the Ramsey Grammar School at the same time. He, like myself, started work in a bank in Ramsey and left to pursue his own business interests. The Hon. Member served in local politics before being elected to the House of Keys in 1984. His considerable experience in government, and on various Tynwald and Council of Ministers' committees, has made him ideally suited to lead our country through the present difficult period. Like me, he is optimistic and I am sure that he will, if elected, bring a different style of leadership.

290 I know that he will be inclusive, seeking to involve as many people as possible in the major decisions which now face us and he will place great emphasis on effective communications.

295 In this major period of change, it is important that decisions are made without any procrastination. I would suggest, Hon. Members, that we would do ourselves and the community

which we serve a considerable disservice if we do not move quickly to appoint the right person to this vitally important role.

300 The feedback which I have received, both from my constituents and from the wider population of this Island, is that there is a considerable groundswell of support for the Hon. Member for Ramsey. I am confident that this is not misplaced and that Mr Bell is the right person to take us forward and I commend him to this Hon. Court with my own unqualified support.

Thank you, Madam President.

305 **The President:** The Hon. Member for Rushen, Mr Skelly.

Mr Skelly: Thank you, Madam President.

It gives me pleasure to second the nomination for the Hon Member for Ramsey, Mr Allan Bell, for the position of Chief Minister.

310 I am a new Member, but I have known Mr Bell for many years. In fact, I used my first general election voting opportunity in 1984, to help him become a Member of the House of Keys, and he has been here ever since. I have great respect for Mr Bell, who has held many ministerial positions where he has gained extensive experience and truly understands the complexity of international politics. His time as Treasury Minister has helped us build the solid financial foundation we all
315 enjoy today, an envy of most Western nations. His commitment to an inclusive style role is to be welcomed by all Members, as we will need a unified political team to benefit the Island we all serve.

The Hon. Member's political career has not always been easy, and we must recognise these are not easy times now. The challenge that lies ahead requires a Chief Minister who can show strength
320 of leadership, build effective relationships both domestically and internationally and guide our nation to a brighter future. Madam President and Hon. Members, I believe Mr Bell is the right person for that job.

The President: Thank you.

325 I call upon the Hon. Member for Douglas South, Mrs Beecroft.

Mrs Beecroft: Thank you, Madam President.

Hon. Members will be aware that I have been elected as a Member of this Hon. Court for just
330 over a week. I have not had time to adjust to the world of politics and the way things work here. So I am going to use real-world principles that are used when people are applying for promotion to a more senior position within any other organisation. These would be the paperwork submitted with their applications, their previous history, leadership and teamwork skills, and any areas of risk. I will take each of those headings in turn.

335 Firstly, the paperwork submitted with their applications: the Hon. Member for Onchan, Mr Karran, had already published his programme for Government prior to the General Elections, so he only needed to add a covering letter and his written application was complete. His manifesto for the General Election was sent to all voters and it focused almost entirely on national issues and was very specific. The Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Bell, has produced his written statement of intentions, which now includes his national policies in his letter of application. Superficially, both
340 their applications appear to be very different. However, on closer inspection, apart from the all-important lack of detail in Mr Bell's, there are remarkable similarities.

Just a few of these are: Mr Karran's manifesto says, 'Create business parks in the north, west and the south', because we already have business parks in the east. Mr Bell says, 'ensure the whole country becomes an enterprise zone'.

345 Mr Karran says, 'freedom of information'; Mr Bell, 'freedom of information'.

Mr Karran says, 'Introduce measures to address the financial problems of an ageing population'; Mr Bell's, 'A major problem facing most developed countries is an ageing population.'

350 Mr Karran says, 'Create culture change'; Mr Bell's, 'a change to the culture of Government'.

Mr Karran says, 'diversification and innovation'; Mr Bell's, 'diversifying into new sectors'.

Mr Karran has been holding public meetings three times a month for the last five years. Mr Bell's manifesto states that he is now going to start holding public meetings.

355 Madam President, I am sure the electorate must be wondering, as I am, why Mr Bell has dressed himself up in Liberal Vannin colours. Has he been reading our newsletters and manifesto and been converted to good common sense, or is it something else?

Many people say that Government is like a bus, some Members want to take it in one direction and some another, but previous administrations have proved that some just do not care where it

goes as long as they are on it. Hon. Members will decide for themselves which category Mr Bell falls into.

360 There is a saying that imitation is the most sincere form of flattery, and we are so flattered that we are tempted to send Mr Bell a Liberal Vannin membership application form. (*Interjections*) On second thoughts, maybe not. The Liberal Vannin party does not need or endorse political spin, and Mr Bell clearly does. (*Laughter*)

365 In his manifesto for Chief Minister, he states:

‘If the outgoing Government can be criticised for one thing it is that we have been very poor at keeping the public fully informed as to progress in many areas.’

370 I find this quite incredible. Four hundred and fifteen thousand pounds was spent in total in the last year by Government on PR, including £346,000 –

Mr Braidwood: Point of order, Madam President.

375 I thought this was the nomination for Mr Karran, (**Two Members:** Hear, hear.) for Chief Minister. Going off on tangents is not the way forward.

Mrs Beecroft: Madam President, I am not going off on a tangent. I am comparing the two applicants, as you would in the real world.

380 **The President:** I think Hon. Members would like you to concentrate on the person you are nominating.

Several Members: Yes. Hear, hear.

385 **Mrs Beecroft:** I am sorry, Madam President, would you repeat that?

The President: I would ask you to concentrate on the person you are nominating, please.

Mr Karran: Point of order.

390 It is very sad that we have got a situation where an Hon. Member is doing her maiden speech –

Mr Henderson: It is a personal attack.

Mr Karran: – and I think it is quite disappointing that it shows what –

395 **The President:** Please resume your seat, Hon. Member.

I will invite Mrs Beecroft to continue, please. Let us start off as we mean to go on with a little tolerance of one another. Listen to views, but I would invite you, Hon. Member, to argue the case for Mr Karran. The case for Mr Bell has been made.

400 **Mr Hall:** This is to do with democracy, freedom of –

The President: Please resume your seat, Hon. Member.

Mrs Beecroft, continue please.

405 **Mrs Beecroft:** Thank you, Madam President. I do find it difficult to just put one side of the story, though.

The President: You may find it difficult, Hon. Member, but I would invite you to try to do so.

410 **A Member:** Hear, hear.

415 **Mrs Beecroft:** Without comparing, it is very, very difficult, but I will move on to point 2 then, the previous history. Again, it is all comparison, in the real world to compare two, Madam President, but there is not much difference in length of service, with Mr Bell being elected in 1984 and Mr Karran being elected in 1985. However, their careers, particularly in the last 10 years, have been very, very different and these are the years I shall concentrate on, as they have the most relevance.

420 Mr Bell was chosen for Treasury Minister in 2001 and stayed in this position until 2010, when
he was made Minister for the newly created Department of Economic Development. During his
time as Treasury Minister, the Island continued with its economic growth. However, the recent
VAT revelations have caused many to realise that this Island experienced growth, despite
Government rather than because of it. It is very easy to appear to be a successful Treasury Minister
when you have many more millions pouring into the Government coffers every year under the
previously more favourable VAT regime.

425 Given that Mr Bell's self-promoted successes have been fairly easy –

The President: Hon. Member, I do think I must invite you to speak about your proposed
candidate.

430 **Several Members:** Hear, hear.

Mr Karran: I think, Eaghtyrane –

435 **The President:** Are you raising a point of order, sir?

Mr Karran: Point of order.

Maybe the answer is that we withdraw our nomination from this contest, as we are not going to
have freedom of speech in this Hon. Court. I wish my nomination to be withdrawn.

440 Thank you.

Mrs Beecroft: Madam Speaker, (**Mr Lowey:** President.) am I allowed to put on record that I
find it rather disgraceful that Mr Karran has been put in the position of withdrawing his
nomination?

445 **The President:** Mr Karran has not been put in this position. I just invite you, Hon. Member, to
observe the practice of supporting your candidate. I am sure... you may continue in the vein in
which you have started and Hon. Members will make their own judgements as to whether that is a
good approach or not.

450 I would invite Mr Karran not to withdraw his nomination and let us have a proper democratic
election in this Chamber.

Several Members: Hear, hear.

455 **Mr Karran:** Well, how can you have a democratic election if people are not allowed to put
their case for their –

The President: Hon. Members, I will make this point: the Hon. Member, Mrs Beecroft, has
chosen the manner in which she seeks to put her point. I would suggest it is perhaps not the most
helpful, but I will not prevent her from speaking.

460 With your indulgence, Hon. Members, I think we will hear the rest of the nomination and
Members will make their own judgement as to whether that has been well presented or not.

I take it that the Hon. Member will continue to allow us to hear the proposals for his
nomination?

465 **Mr Karran:** I am not in the position of having... standardisation of Standing Orders... I will be
happy with that, Madam President.

The President: Mrs Beecroft, please continue.

470 **Mrs Beecroft:** Am I allowed to start where I left off previously?

The President: You may if you choose to do that. I would just guide you that it may not be the
most helpful.

475 **Mrs Beecroft:** Thank you, I think I was up to... Yes, it was about keeping the public informed.
Mr Bell was stating the Government had not been able to do so. I found it quite incredible;
£415,000 was spent in total last year by Government on PR, including £346,000 spent by his own
Department alone. What is his excuse for this very poor record with the communication skills with

480 the Manx public, given his Budget? Is this the person you should trust to get our message out internationally?

When being interviewed on the 'Politics Show' on BBC1 Northwest on 11th September, Mr Bell was asked whether he thought the Government on the Isle of Man was too big, whether it needed to be scaled down, and whether some services needed to be contracted out. He answered 'yes'. He went on to say, 'I, as Treasury Minister, have warned on a number of occasions at
485 Budget time that Government was getting too big. We employ something like 20% of the workforce at the moment. I have frequently warned that this is unsustainable in the long term.'

Was the Allan Bell on the 'Politics Show' and the person now seeking to be Chief Minister the same Allan Bell who was Treasury Minister, the guardian of the nation's purse strings for nine years? If so, how can he now distance himself from his responsibility and the decisions which
490 allowed this to happen?

I might not be entirely familiar with the political system yet, but I did think that the position of Treasury Minister was at the core of the administration.

Point 2, previous history: Madam President, there is not much difference in length of service, with Mr Bell being elected in 1984, and Mr Karran being elected in 1985. However, their careers,
495 particularly in the last 10 years, have been very, very different and these are the years I shall concentrate on, as they have the most relevance.

Mr Bell was chosen for Treasury Minister in 2001 and stayed in this position until 2010, when he was made Minister for the newly created Department of Economic Development.

500 **Mr Braidwood:** This is appalling.

Mrs Beecroft: During his time as Treasury Minister, the Island continued with its economic growth. However, the recent VAT revelations have caused many to realise that the Island experienced growth, despite Government rather than because of it.

It is very easy to appear to be a successful Treasury Minister, when you have many more millions pouring into the Government coffers every year under the previously more favourable VAT regime. Given that Mr Bell's successes have been fairly easy, let us look at the areas that went wrong under his watch as a Minister: our examples of incompetency, such as the very basic failure of management in his own Department, which led to the £2.2 million additional cost of euros for the Ronaldsway airport runway extension. As so often happens, no-one has been held
505 accountable for this failure.

There are simply too many examples of massive failure of judgement by Mr Bell to itemise them all, but I would remind Hon. Members of just a few: his failure to control MEA capital expenditure; the costly debacle of the scheme of arrangement for the collapsed bank, KSF(IOM), which caused unnecessary delay and distress for depositors and damaged international reputation; the film industry, by the passing of public funds into CinemaNX, a private company which is not open to public scrutiny and is haemorrhaging taxpayers' funds due to questionable investments. (**A Member:** Rubbish.) But his most spectacular... and what should be most fatal to his ambition of becoming the next Chief Minister of the Isle of Man, was his staggering lack of judgement in his involvement in the planning process for the Mount Murray development. I am sure that many,
510 both within and outside this Hon. Court, need no reminding that there was a commission of inquiry into that scandalous affair.

The President: Hon. Member, may I just draw your attention to one point, please. You are covered by privilege in this Hon. Court, but I do hope that you will take care not to make statements which cannot be substantiated as you move your motion.

Please continue.

Mrs Beecroft: Yes, Madam President.

Mr Karran initiated the inquiry (*Interjection by Mr Braidwood*), and I quote from paragraphs 11.133 and 11.134 of the Report, where it states:

'The then Treasury Minister, Mr Bell, knowingly misled the House of Keys.'

535 I would remind you of the summary conclusion of that Report, and again, I quote:

'Accordingly, we conclude that there was corruption of the system of Government, in the sense that it failed to withstand pressure determinedly applied to it by the experienced developers...'

540 **The President:** Hon. Member, please resume your seat.
I have given you considerable leeway in the way in which you are presenting this...
(**Members:** Hear, hear.)

545 **Mr Karran:** Point of order, Eaghtyrane –

The President: Hon. Member, please resume your seat!

Mr Karran: – we want a proper parliamentary assembly –

550 **The President:** Hon. Member!

Mr Lowey: Standing Orders, Peter, are what we are complaining about...

555 **The President:** The Hon. Member is not arguing the case for her candidate. She is arguing a case against the other candidate. Your opportunity to speak, Hon. Member, is to propose the reasons why we should be supporting your nominee.

Mr Karran: Show us that in Standing Orders, Eaghtyrane!

560 **The President:** Please confine your remarks to those matters which are reasonable in defence of your nomination. By all means, you may refer to matters – indeed you have done – in relation to the Hon. Member who is also a nominee, but I do feel that you are in danger of straying beyond the bounds of that which you can substantiate, in some of these cases.

565 **Mr Karran:** That is not correct, Eaghtyrane.

The President: Please continue.

I would draw your attention, when you do so, to the point of Standing Order 3.31, where irrelevance or repetition on the part of a Member may cause me to caution you, Hon. Member.

570

Mrs Beecroft: Madam President, as I am reading from an Inquiry Report and it is a quote, am I allowed to finish that quote and then find...?

575 **The President:** Would you repeat, Hon. Member, please?

Mrs Beecroft: Yes, I was actually quoting fact from the Report. Am I allowed to finish that, or do you wish me to move on?

580 **The President:** I wish you to move on, please.

585 **Mrs Beecroft:** Mr Karran's history as a long-standing servant of the public is a very different story. Since 2006 he has refused governmental appointments, refusing to toe the Government party's line. He has been free to continue to bring about the fundamental changes that must happen for the good of everyone living on the Isle of Man. He has worked tirelessly to achieve this, often alone in this Court and often ridiculed and goaded into the odd outburst by Ministers, but this has never stopped him doing what he believed was right for all of the electorate. He has always put the needs of all the people of the Isle of Man before his own.

590 Mr Karran has the long and hard-earned reputation of being the most popular MHK on the Island and of being able to work with anyone who shares his principles and vision. In the recent General Election, Mr Karran handsomely topped the polls in Onchan and received a vote from two-thirds of those who voted. Liberal Vannin also won the second seat in Onchan with Zac Hall. In fact, Mr Karran easily topped the recent online poll run by Isle of Man Newspapers as the MHK with the qualities to be a good Chief Minister. Madam President, I hope that Hon. Members will support the wishes of their people.

595 Mr Karran launched the Liberal Vannin Party in 2006. Many predicted that it would not be heard of again after the General Election that same year, but time has proved that they were way off the mark. Liberal Vannin fielded candidates in nine constituencies just over a week ago. Around a third of the voters in those constituencies used one of their votes for Liberal Vannin. You cannot doubt that this amazing result is derived from outstanding leadership and teamwork skills.

600

605 Madam President, when selecting a Chief Minister, it is very important that the public perception is... It is beyond doubt that Government falls into a very high profile category, when you look at perceived risk. Our Chief Minister has to be above reproach to be able to represent us on the worldwide stage, unless we wish to invite unsavoury criticism. There is nothing in Mr Karran's career to give cause for concern, as far as our international reputation is concerned, unless you consider that some amusing references in *Tynwaldballs* puts the Island's reputation at risk.

610 Madam President, I hope that Hon. Members will recall the saying, 'Those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it.' Mr Karran leads a capable and diverse team in the Liberal Vannin Party which he has built from scratch, and he is now the most popular public choice for Chief Minister. He has fought long and hard for the good name and the future of the people. Whether you like it and not, you can never doubt his love for the people of this Island, or his readiness to fight for their best interests.

615 I understand that some in this Court are, at times, thought to be far removed from the real world and its standards, but I would remind Hon. Members that the real world will be watching and listening today, and will judge you in real-world terms on your decision. The theatre of public opinion is far larger than the stage of this floor in this Hon. Court. Each of us here must choose, in the name of the people, who is to form a new Government and lead us for the next five years.

620 The people want change. They want honesty. They want truth and they want a Chief Minister that they can depend on to do what is right for all of them and not just for some of them.

625 Madam President, as Hon. Members already know, Peter Karran is a man for all seasons. A good and honourable man who has worked in this place to maintain the highest possible standards that this Hon. Court demands of us all. He is the voice of the people. He is the man for the people. Peter Karran has proved time and time again that people can depend on him. In the worst of times, he has never let them down.

I commend him to you as our next Chief Minister and I commend him to the people of the Isle of Man as the man who will protect and defend their future.

Thank you, Madam President.

630 **The President:** Thank you, Hon. Member.

I call on the Hon. Member for Onchan, Mr Hall.

635 **Mr Hall:** Madam President, it is an honour for me to second the nomination of Peter Karran for Chief Minister.

Clearly, the job of the next Chief Minister is to rebuild our (*Inaudible*) nation and restore effective leadership. The next Chief Minister will not have time to get used to the office. We have so many challenges and we have such important work to do over the coming years. This is a crucial hour in the start of that work.

640 To those who have not yet made their minds up in this election, I would like to suggest one way to think about this. You are selecting someone to do a job, an important job, a critical job that relates to the safety of yourself and your family. Imagine that you have two job applications in your hand with the name and any party affiliations blocked out. They are both good patriotic men and they love the Isle of Man every bit as much as what we do. They have different life experiences that have led them to this moment. You have got to make this decision and you have got to make it right, and you have to decide, you have got to decide who am I going to select.

645 Peter Karran has always been a steadfast opponent of wasteful spending. He has got the right philosophy, which is the Isle of Man works from the ground up, not from the top down. As Chief Minister, he will restore the dream of our young people to own their own homes and bring an end to the phenomenon of a generation of renters, which is opening up a widening of the wealth gap that already exists between homeowners and non-homeowners. He believes in spreading opportunity for those who need jobs and those who create them. Many people dream of owning a small, successful business that will create jobs. As Chief Minister, he will support small businesses, not burden them with complex rules, regulations, red tape, which hampers decision making.

655 He fights for all the people of this nation, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. He is an independent man, who thinks for himself and we all know he is not afraid to tell you when he disagrees. No matter what the issue, this man is honest and he speaks straight from the heart.

660 As a qualified airline pilot, I applaud and support Peter Karran in his attempt to raise serious safety concerns for the benefit and knowledge of our nation about Barcelona-based FlightLine, operating under the umbrella of Manx2, whose aircraft tragically crashed in February this year,

with the loss of six lives. When people's lives are at stake, his questioning and probing should have been respected, welcomed and followed through, not ridiculed and dismissed.

665 The Isle of Man people have the right to know that when they are flying with a 'virtual' airline such as Manx2, they are often placing themselves on an aircraft that is registered in a foreign jurisdiction using an air operator's certificate of another company –

The President: Can you come back to the matter before the Court, Hon. Member?

670 **Mr Hall:** I will carry on, Madam Speaker.

Mr Braidwood: President!

675 **Mr Hall:** – based in a foreign jurisdiction and pilots that are licensed in a foreign jurisdiction, and whilst they may well comply with their own minimum standards, they can have a tendency to be much –

The President: Hon. Member, please resume your seat.

680 **Mr Hall:** There is a point to that?

Mr Braidwood: Sit down.

685 **Mr Lowey:** Yes, the order of the Chair.

The President: Would you please confine your remarks to matters of nomination of the Hon. Member in terms of his character, without going through cases which have been through this Hon. Court and dealt with in the past.

690 **Mr Karran:** Point of order, Eaghtyrane.

Surely the Hon. Member should be allowed to do his speech, as far as being a seconder, as far as this Court is concerned.

695 **The President:** Hon. Member –

Mr Karran: He is arguing his case –

700 **The President:** – if you are quoting a point of order, you must quote which one, and I am not aware that there is one that you have quoted there.
Carry on, Hon. Member.

Mr Hall: They may well comply with their minimum standards, but they have a tendency to be lower in theory and in practice than our own UK standards, which set some of the highest and most respected standards in the world.

705 If we have learned anything, it is that the Isle of Man CAA, as a Division of the Department of Economic Development which Mr Bell currently heads, must meet its responsibility for regulating aviation on the Island. It has a crucial role to play and must scrutinise Island operators more vigorously that wish to serve our nation and take decisive action against those that do not conform to the high standards.

710 **Mr Quirk:** Point of order, President.

The President: Please quote which point –

715 **Mr Quirk:** The order is that the Member is talking about something that has happened in another jurisdiction, in another country, and I am wondering whether he is actually colouring this –

720 **The President:** Hon. Member, let's not start off on the basis of making spurious points of order without being able to refer to the number in the Standing Orders. (**Mr Lowey:** Hear, hear.)

Hon. Member, carry on, but *please* refrain from deviating from extolling the virtues of your candidate.

725 **Mr Karran:** He is going to get to that!

Mr Lowey: Listen to advice.

Mr Hall: With the support of our people, Peter Karran will revitalise politics. In short, he will put the government of our nation back onto the side of the people.

730 Our people expect us to come here for the right reason and not just to mingle with the right people. Politics is not just a game of clashing parties and competing interests. The right reason is to challenge and question the *status quo*, to serve the common good and leave this nation better than when we found it. No-one expects us all to agree, but we are expected to govern with integrity and goodwill and clear convictions and a servant's heart.

735 I strongly believe Peter Karran will carry himself in this spirit as Chief Minister of the Isle of Man, and it was this same spirit that brought him to this Court some 26 years ago. If character is the measure of this election, and hope the theme and goal we share, then I ask you to join me and help elect him as the next Chief Minister. We cannot spend the next five years as we have spent the last five years, hoping for our fortunes to somehow change. We have to act. We need a new direction and we have to work hard for it. Peter Karran is the choice of the people of this nation and I ask you to respect that choice and elect the best man for the job.

740 Thank you, Madam President.

The President: Thank you, Hon. Member.

745 That brings the nominations to a close. We will therefore ballot on the names of the two Members nominated.

I ask the Clerk to read out the names of those proposed and seconded.

The Clerk: Madam President, the names of the two candidates proposed and seconded are the Hon. A R Bell, MHK, and Mr Peter Karran, MHK.

The President: Ballot papers will be circulated.

I appoint from the Council to act as a teller the Hon. Member of Council, Mr Braidwood.

755 **The Speaker:** Madam President, I would like to ask the Hon. Member for Douglas East, Mr Robertshaw, to act as teller for the Keys.

A ballot took place.

The President: The result of the ballot is as follows: voting papers cast, 32, of which 27 were in favour of the Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Bell, and 3 were in favour of the Hon. Member, Mr Karran, with 2 spoiled papers. The result of the ballot, therefore, is that the Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Bell, has been elected in this ballot.

760 Accordingly, I put forward his name for approval by Hon. Members, and the question is that the Hon. Member Allan Bell be nominated as Chief Minister.

Those in favour, please say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. Division called.

We will take an electronic vote, Hon. Members.

A division was called for and electronic voting resulted as follows:

In the Keys – Ayes 21, Noes 3

FOR

Mr Quirk
Mr Ronan
Mr Crookall
Mr Anderson
Mr Bell
Mr Singer
Mr Quayle
Mr Teare
Mr Cannan
Mr Cregeen
Mr Henderson
Mr Houghton

AGAINST

Mr Hall
Mr Karran
Mrs Beecroft

Mrs Cannell
Mr Robertshaw
Mr Shimmin
Mr Corkish
Mr Cretney
Mr Watterson
Mr Skelly
Mr Gawne
The Speaker

765 **The Speaker:** Madam President, in the Keys, 21 votes for, 3 against.

In the Council – Ayes 8, Noes 0

FOR	AGAINST
Mr Callister	None
Mr Crowe	
Mr Downie	
The Lord Bishop	
Mr Lowey	
Mr Butt	
Mr Turner	
Mr Braidwood	

The President: In the Council, 8 votes for and none against. The motion therefore carries.

The Hon. Member then has been elected and his name will be forwarded to his Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, for appointment. I am sure we extend our congratulations to the Hon. Member (**A Member:** Hear, hear.) and wish him well in the very serious deliberations which will be coming before us in the coming years. (**Members:** Hear, hear.)

770

Hon. Members, that concludes the –

Mr Bell: Madam President, might I just say –

775

The President: You may, sir.

Mr Bell: – just a few words

Just to thank Hon. Members for the confidence that they have shown in me and the great honour, in fact, that has been bestowed on me, to lead the Island at this very difficult time. I am particularly overwhelmed also by the vote I have had from the people of Ramsey after 27 years, to return me there. It has been a very heartening and humbling experience on both counts, and I appreciate the level of support and confidence. I sincerely hope I can live up to everybody's expectations in the time ahead.

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I would also, Madam President, like to thank my proposer and seconder for their help in delivering this election today. I do appreciate the work they have put in.

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Madam President, as you rightly say, we are entering very challenging times, both for the Isle of Man and for the world economy – very challenging and, indeed, unknown territory in many areas, which will test all of us in the time ahead. The need to re-balance Government finances in the midst of this will be a further challenge to us all.

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Madam President, elections by their very nature are divisive, and I genuinely hope that, after this election today, we can put past divisions behind us and can work together as a team, to protect our achievements and the future of our people. I am a great believer that in adversity comes opportunity and in unity comes strength. The Island has achieved great things over the last 25 years, and I firmly believe that, together, we can emulate that success in the time ahead.

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Madam President, to assist this process, I offer the opportunity to all Members to participate in the work of Government, and I also extend that offer to Mr Karran and members of the Liberal Vannin Party. They have an important role to play and I would urge them to work with me and other Members of Tynwald to deliver the prosperous and caring society, based on openness, inclusivity, compassion and fairness, which I believe we all seek in the time ahead.

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Madam President, thank you for giving me the opportunity just say those few words. I passionately believe in this Island. I believe, working together, this Chamber, notwithstanding the difficulties ahead, can achieve every expectation of our people outside. I thank you all for your support, once again, and I hope I can work with you to deliver what we all hope to achieve.

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Thank you.

Several Members: Hear, hear.

The President: Hon. Members, I just draw your attention to the fact that there is a presentation on ARI at 1.30 today.

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That concludes the business before the Court. The Council will now withdraw and leave the House of Keys to transact such business as Mr Speaker may put forward.

The Council withdrew.

House of Keys

The Speaker: Hon. Members, the House will now stand adjourned until our next sitting in Tynwald Court on Tuesday, 18th October. Thank you.

The House adjourned at 11.29 a.m.