



**HOUSE OF KEYS
OFFICIAL REPORT**

**RECORTYS OIKOIL
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**PROCEEDINGS
DAALTYN
(HANSARD)**

Douglas, Tuesday, 19th April 2005

Present:

The Speaker (The Hon. J A Brown) (Castletown); Mr D M Anderson (Glenfaba);
 Hon A R Bell and Mrs A V Craine (Ramsey); Mr W E Teare (Ayre); Mr J D Q Cannan (Michael); Mrs H Hannan (Peel);
 Hon. S C Rodan (Garff); Mr P Karran, Mr R K Corkill and Mr A J Earnshaw (Onchan); Mr G M Quayle (Middle);
 Mr J R Houghton and Hon. R W Henderson (Douglas North); Hon. D C Cretney and Mr A C Duggan (Douglas South);
 Hon. R P Braidwood and Mrs B J Cannell (Douglas East); Hon. A F Downie and Hon. J P Shimmin (Douglas West)
 Capt. A C Douglas (Malew and Santon); Hon. J Rimington, Mr Q B Gill and Mr P A Gawne (Rushen);
 with Mr M Cornwell-Kelly, Clerk of Tynwald.

Business transacted*Page***Orders of the Day**

1. Mr Downie elected to serve as a Member of the Legislative Council until 28th February 2010463

The House adjourned at 9.45 a.m.

House of Keys

The House met at 9.30 a.m.

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Orders of the Day

Mr Downie elected to serve as Member of the Legislative Council until 28th February 2010

1. Election of one person to serve as a Member of the Legislative Council for a period expiring on 28th February 2010:

<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer</i>
Mr Dominic Francis Kevin Delaney	Capt. Douglas
Mr Alexander Frank Downie	Mr Shimmin

The Speaker: Good morning, Hon. Members.

Members: Good morning, Mr Speaker.

The Speaker: Please be seated, Hon. Members.

Item 1 on our Order Paper today is to elect one person to the Legislative Council to serve as a Member for a period expiring on 28th February 2010.

In accordance with statutory requirements in section 2 of the Isle of Man Constitution (Elections to Council) Act 1971, I called for nominations on 5th April 2005, to be made by 5 p.m. on 8th April, and those on your Order Paper resulted. Both nominations were accompanied by the required statements of qualifications and reasons in support, and were circulated to Hon. Members by the Secretary, as also required by the Act.

I confirm that the sitting of the House today takes place no sooner than 10 days after the close of nominations.

Before we proceed, I again remind Hon. Members of the advice I gave in the House on 4th March 2003, in relation to the text of Standing Order 209, which applies to this election, and I confirm that the same procedure is to apply today. I have, therefore, asked the Secretary to prepare ballot papers showing simply the names of the only candidates upon whom the House may now vote.

As Hon. Members are aware, the House is required, under the Act, to elect a person to the Legislative Council, when there is a vacancy, and a successful candidate requires not less than 13 votes in his favour.

Hon. Members, I would advise that today, if a candidate receives less than 13 votes, then they will be deleted from the election, as a majority of Members present and voting is 13 votes.

I would inform the House and Hon. Members that, as is our normal procedure, any spoilt ballot papers will be taken into account, in relation to calculating the number of Members present and voting. Failing a candidate obtaining

13 votes, then I will call for fresh nominations. I would advise that the procedure for Hon. Members voting is covered under Standing Order 209(g).

Finally, for the avoidance of doubt, I would advise that Standing Order 209(a) provides that only the proposer and seconder shall speak to a nomination. I intend to invite each candidate to be nominated in the order they appear on the Order Paper today.

Hon. Members, I now call upon the Hon. Member for Malew and Santon, Capt. Douglas, to speak to his nomination of Mr Dominic Francis Kevin Delaney. Hon. Member.

Capt. Douglas: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I wish to nominate Mr Dominic Francis Kevin Delaney for election to the Legislative Council.

Within the next few years the Island will be facing up to many changes. It will be, I suggest, Mr Speaker, a time when every Member of this House, and, indeed, those of our colleagues who serve in another place, will need to concentrate our efforts in protecting the people of this Island from the many problems which surely lie ahead. It will need cool heads and experience to resolve these problems and will, perhaps, above everything else, need the Members of Tynwald to enjoy the confidence of our people.

There are many who are much more experienced than I am. That said, I am able to recognise that Mr Delaney has earned the respect and, dare I say it, the affection of many people within his old constituency and, indeed, even outside his own area, on an Island-wide basis – surely the very requirements of a Member of the Legislative Council. Not for him the patronage of others.

Mr Delaney's course, throughout over 30 years of public life, has been to attend to the needs of the people and to the well-being of the Island. Choosing to serve at national-level politics does not always win you friends in the popularity stakes, but it can win admiration from opponents.

I suggest that the skills Mr Delaney has acquired over many years are needed now more than ever. Certainly, being elected by public mandate to serve in Douglas Town Council and in the Keys for so many years, surely, is an indication of the people's trust in him. We are entrusted by the electorate, sir, to take decisions on their behalf.

I beg to move.

The Speaker: Hon. Member for Douglas East, Mrs Cannell.

Mrs Cannell: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I rise to my feet in seconding the nomination moved by the Hon. Member for Malew.

Perhaps one or two things that Hon. Members – at least, those new to the House – may not appreciate about the Hon. Member, Mr Dominic Delaney, is that he fought for many years and initiated the Manx pension supplement, which is still enjoyed by our Manx pensioners today.

He fought long and hard for free bus passes for all pensioners, which is a privilege that all our pensioners still enjoy today and, hopefully, will do for a very long time to come. I think it is true to say he is highly regarded by the pensioners, but not least the pensioners.

When he was a Member of the House of Keys and, also, as a Member of the Legislative Council, he represented the Isle of Man at Lancaster University for many years. He identified financial problems in the University's economic

committee, and, as a consequence, he was actually co-opted onto the accounts committee, long after he ceased to be the parliamentary Member representing the Isle of Man on Lancaster University. He was co-opted onto that committee to help them sort the problems out and, indeed, he did sort the problems out.

He has always looked after the interests of our own young people, our students, when they have attended university, and they have often contacted him over the years and some have remained in contact with him today. So, he has always looked after the interests of the elderly and our young people.

Only recently, Hon. Members, Mr Speaker, he represented the Isle of Man in France at an exhibition, only during this last month, promoting the Isle of Man in France for tourists to come here, and it was a very positive trip and the feedback and the visitors that we are hoping to attract can be down to not only him, of course, but those who accompanied him from the Department of Tourism. So, still he was out there working, promoting the Isle of Man abroad, despite the fact that he remained outside the Legislative Council during that time.

He has always given 110 per cent commitment to all of his parliamentary work, all of his Government work, his Department work and, moreover, constituency work, and even today, he still has old constituents, who he used to represent, still contacting him.

He has given 110 per cent. He wishes to give another 110 per cent to the workings of the parliament and, in particular, to the issues that will be facing us over the next few years. I would ask Hon. Members to please give him support and return him as a Member to the Legislative Council.

The Speaker: I now call upon the Hon. Member for Douglas West, Mr Shimmin, to speak to his nomination of Mr Alexander Frank Downie. Hon. Member.

Mr Shimmin: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

All Hon. Members are fully aware of the two candidates this morning. I am honoured and delighted to be nominating my colleague in West Douglas, Mr Alex Downie.

All Hon. Members will be fully aware of his track record within this House and as a Douglas Corporation councillor. It is worth reminding ourselves that Mr Downie's first responsible post in Government was as Chairman of the Isle of Man Post Office, having served, prior to that, as Chairman of the Planning Committee.

The role that he fulfilled during the foot-and-mouth time, as Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, was held up by most within the agricultural community as dealing well with a difficult time in our history.

Since the election in 2001, when he topped the poll in West Douglas, he has been Minister for Trade and Industry,

an area which I think all of us realise, as we take ourselves forward into the future, is an important aspect of the economy for the future of the Isle of Man.

I think all Hon. Members have a clear choice, that they know the two Hon. Members involved. I believe that it has always been Mr Downie's decision and commitment that, at this stage in his political career, he has the experience suitable to go into the Legislative Council, and he made no secret of his ambitions in that direction some time ago.

Therefore, this is not an opportunistic opportunity to go forward, but is something that he thought, with his experience, he could take to the Legislative Council, in order to carry with him the experience that he has gained over years in parliament and in the Corporation.

All Hon. Members will make their choice. We all know what we have to do today, and I urge all Hon. Members to seriously consider using their vote today, and I trust that enough will vote for Mr Downie, sir.

The Speaker: Hon. Member for Douglas North, Mr Houghton.

Mr Houghton: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I can no better improve on the account given by the hon. mover to Mr Downie and I would be very pleased to second this nomination and urge people to vote wisely, sir.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I ask the Secretary of the House to circulate ballot papers.

Hon. Members, the two names on the ballot papers, as they appear, are Mr D F K Delaney and Mr A F Downie. I call on the Hon. Member for Garff, Mr Rodan and the Hon. Member for Ramsey, Mr Bell, to act as tellers, please.

A ballot took place.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, the result of the ballot is as follows: Mr Delaney, 9 votes; Mr Downie, 13 votes; and there were 2 spoilt papers.

I therefore declare, Hon. Members, that Mr Downie has met the requirement under the Act of receiving 13 votes and congratulate him on his election to the Legislative Council.

Hon. Members, I will advise the appropriate personnel of the decision of the House.

The House will now stand adjourned until 10.30 a.m. later this morning in Tynwald Court.

Thank you, Hon. Members.

The House adjourned at 9.45 a.m.