

Record of a Meeting of the Advisory Committee for  
Les Chenes School, held at the School on Monday,  
10th October 1977.

Present: Senator R.R. Jeune, Chairman  
Deputy A.D. Le Brocq  
Centenier M. Billot  
The Reverend E. Coleman  
Jurat J. Vint  
[REDACTED]

In atten- J.H. Cabot, Senior Administrative Assistant, Education Departm  
dance: C.A. Smith, Children's Officer  
[REDACTED]

come  
and  
Apologies

1. Apologies for absence were received from the Director of Education and from [REDACTED], who were both out of the Island. The Chairman welcomed those members who had not been at the inaugural Meeting.

Record of  
Previous  
Meeting

2. The record of the Meeting held on 4th August 1977, having been circulated, was approved.

Staff  
Matters

3. [REDACTED] confirmed that four members of staff were now in post:  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] who would be responsible for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had also been appointed and would take up his post on 1st January 1978. One further appointment needed to be made to complete the staffing of the School for Phase II of its development, that of Night Supervisor, who would provide waking cover for four nights per week rostered with the other male members of staff, covering the remaining three nights on a sleeping-in basis.

Admissions

4. It was reported that [REDACTED] d.o.b. [REDACTED] 64 had been admitted to the School on 14th September 1977. [REDACTED] was sleeping at Haut de la Garenne and attending Les Chenes during school hours, to avoid the [REDACTED] of being [REDACTED] in the School and of having [REDACTED] with children.

The Committee discussed the question of children already committed to the care of the Education Committee and attending special schools on the mainland, being brought back to the Island and transferred to Les Chenes now it was available. It was accepted that it might not be in the child's best interests to interrupt a course of training which he had started, and that there could be a discrepancy in age.

The Children's Officer reported that there was also the possibility of another child in Jersey being admitted to the School within the next few weeks. It was noted that there was only room for four children in the School in Phase I.

The Committee was informed by the Vice Chairman that there was one child at present on remand at H.M. Prison, and a discussion took place on the possibility of him and other such children being admitted to Les Chenes. It was noted that the Junior Remand Wing at H.M. Prison was to be closed temporarily for security reasons, due to the construction of the new Young Offenders' Centre. Previously children awaiting Court hearings had been admitted to Haut de la Garenne, but it was agreed that it would be preferable for them in most cases to be admitted to Les Chenes rather than the Children's Home or H.M. Prison. The Children's Officer asked that the Committee members should note that the Director of Education did not subscribe to this view because of the limited accommodation available in Phase I. The Principal also expressed his reservations.

It was therefore agreed to ask the Education Committee to consider at its next Meeting the designation of the School as a Remand Centre.

Buildings

5. The Committee considered the plans of the proposed alterations and extensions for Phase II, and a description was given of the work to be done. Approximately one-half of the money allocated had been used in Phase I, including the purchase of the property. It was hoped to obtain estimates for December Supply Days so that there would be no further delay in accepting a tender for Phase II, which would otherwise have to be deferred until April 1978.

Security

6. In considering the building plans, the question of security was discussed with a view to the extent and degree of security to be provided. The Principal stressed that the emphasis at the School would be on rehabilitation, and that a balance must be maintained between enforced security and staff vigilance. The number of absconders from similar Units varied considerably and was not necessarily lower in those schools with extremely secure buildings. The Committee agreed that the best approach for Les Chenes was the minimum requirement for security, and that the question of the height of the wall to the west of the courtyard should be discussed with the Chief Architect, who should be asked to submit designs. The Committee was concerned that the School should not present a prison-like appearance either from the outside or from the inside, but equally that the children should not be presented with a "challenge" to abscond.

e of  
next  
Meeting

7. The Committee agreed to hold its next Meeting in January 1978.

