3.5 Connétable C.H. Taylor of St. John of the Minister for Transport and Technical Services regarding the village improvement scheme for St. John:

Could the Minister advise what sum of money has been spent to date on the village improvement scheme for St. John, including all officer time and all consultants' fees, architects' fees, and other fees and costs?

Deputy E.J. Noel (The Minister for Transport and Technical Services):

As the new chair of the Parish Project Board which leads and directs the work to be undertaken in St. John I am somewhat bemused why the Constable has chosen to ask this question in the Assembly, rather than merely approaching the Technical Services staff that he has at his disposal to develop out this Parish scheme. However, the answer is £35,394 and the breakdown is as follows. Architects £10,382, traffic analysis £3,036, survey work and traffic data collection £8,382, T.T.S. office time £12,363, consultation materials £1,350. These figures are proportionate to the overall scale of the potential scheme and the road safety benefit that it will deliver. Should the Constable wish to continue or bring forward a scheme without T.T.S. support he only needs to say and I will reprioritise my officers on to other projects.

The Deputy Bailiff:

Connétable, supplementary question?

3.5.1 The Connétable of St. John:

Does the Minister not agree that the sum of money should be consulted with the Constable throughout the progress? Mindful of what happened with the Sea Cadets, I would hate to see a repetition within my own Parish, and I would ask that we are kept abreast within the Parish of all monies that are spent on our behalf. Thank you.

Deputy E.J. Noel:

As I said, I go back to my opening sentence. I am surprised that the Constable is asking for that information in this Assembly when he is the chair of the project board and he has direct access to the officers involved, and they will provide that information quite willingly, as they have done throughout all of the other 3 Parish projects. Again, I repeat, if he does not want T.T.S. to be involved and wishes to go it alone then please let the Constable say so and I will reprioritise my officers on to other important matters, which is something I may have to do in any event.