



Town of St. George, Bermuda

The Corporation of St. George

Press Statement

Media enquires

Town Manager, Candy-Lee Foggo
Storekeepers House, #5 Ordnance Island
St. George GE 05
Phone: 441 297-1532
Fax: 441 297-0062
Email: cfoggo@stgeorge.bm

The Last Town Hall Meeting

(February 15, 2019, Hamilton, Bermuda) - After 222 years of service to the residents and businesses, the Town of St George's Corporation may dissolve. The Town Mayor, her worshipful, Quinell Francis, JP, will host a Town Hall meeting to discuss the future of the Town as proposed in the Municipalities Reform 2019 Consultation Document.

Monday, February 18 at 7 PM at Penno's Wharf Cruise Terminal, the residents and businesses are asked to attend a special Town Hall meeting, which may be the last in the 400-year history of Town of St George.

Topics for discussion:

- The future of the Town - its economic opportunities
- The Corporation - it's staff, it's assets, it's services
- The heritage of St George - it's value
- The Government offer to take control of the Town

Mayor Francis said, "The Corporation of St George is saddened and disappointed the Bermuda Government has produced a consultation document with very limited consultation, and the offer of the abolishment of the Town's 400 years of heritage that the Corporation has cared for." The offer by the Bermuda Government means the Town gets absorbed into Government — directly or becomes a Quango.

The Mayor continued, "St. George is a close-knit community, and the recent elections demonstrated that the people of St. George exercised their right to a vote. Residents



and Businesses currently have a voice through the electoral process, and with the recommended proposals there will be no more elections as the Government will appoint a Board.” The Town has operated independent of the Government for over 200 years.

Mayor Francis notes, “The Bermuda Government’s statement that the Corporation’s role is only infrastructure is false. We have always managed the economic, social and cultural affairs of the Town on behalf of the residents and businesses. Moreover, the operating funds the Town needs are under Bermuda Government control — wharfage, grants for the World Heritage Site and cruise ships. The team at the Corporation have worked with all these challenges, and I publicly appreciate all their hard work.

The Mayor closes, “We are passionate about our Town, the heritage, and the future. Our Town residents and businesses **are** the Corporation of St George. If St George’s heritage, economy and people are important to you, we ask you to attend this special meeting.”

ENDS

About the Corporation of St George

The Town was officially incorporated in 1797, and regular monthly meetings of the nine elected officials have occurred each month since that time.

The Town’s first Mayor was Andrew Durnford. The current Mayor is Quinell Francis, a Town resident.

The Council are Eakin McLaughlin, JP, George Dowling III, Cyniqua Anderson (the daughter of the late Phillip Anderson), Elizabeth Christopher, JP, Jamie Sapsford, Faith Bridges, Phillip Seaman, Lloyd Van Putten, JP.

