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**Jersey countryside protected by innovative use of law**

A meadow in St Peter's Valley has had its future safeguarded by the National Trust for Jersey.

Law firm Carey Olsen has used the little known 'National Trust for Jersey Law 1984' to find a way for property and landowners in Jersey to enter into an agreement with the Trust protecting their land from future development.

In the first transaction of its kind, a Jersey landowner has agreed a covenant with the Trust restricting any and all future building or construction work on a meadow which forms part of their property. The trees, hedgerows and other plants are also placed under the covenant and cannot be cut back or cut down without the express permission of the Trust.

The unique aspect of this transaction is that the National Trust for Jersey do not own any land adjacent to the meadow or in the surrounding area over which the covenant applies.

The covenant has enabled the landowner to ensure that in future – even if the land is subsequently sold or passed on to a next of kin – no development of the land will be permitted without the support of the Trust.

Charles Alluto, Secretary of the National Trust for Jersey said: "We are very excited that this first restrictive covenant has been put in place to permanently safeguard this small but very significant meadow in St Peter's Valley. These simple protection agreements provide an easy and practical way of securing the future of Jersey's countryside, and we truly hope that other people will take up the mantle and follow suit."

Chris Philpott, property partner at Carey Olsen said: "This has been a groundbreaking property transaction for the Trust. It is extremely rewarding for our firm that our research identified this forgotten Law and we are confident that this will be the first of many such contracts passed between local land owners and the National Trust for Jersey to protect the future of our countryside."

The restrictive covenants can be agreed for open spaces of countryside, gardens, buildings, or features of buildings of an historic nature. More information on how this law can be applied is available from the property team at Carey Olsen.

Issued by Chris Chilton, Orchard PR, Tel. 01481 240600

NOTES TO EDITORS:

**About Carey Olsen:** Carey Olsen is the largest law firm in the Channel Islands and acts for a number of institutional clients in large, multi-jurisdictional transactions, as well as for governments and corporates, professional firms and high-net-worth individuals. With more than 130 lawyers Carey Olsen offers a full range of legal services, including corporate and commercial, funds, banking and finance, trusts and fiduciary, commercial and residential property, employment, restructuring, litigation and dispute resolution. Carey Olsen's position as a top tier provider of legal services is recognised by Chambers UK, Legal 500 and other independent market commentators and reflected by the quality of the transactions and cases they advise on. **Carey Olsen is the Chambers Europe Offshore Law Firm of the Year 2008, Acquisition Finance Offshore Law Firm of the Year 2008 and is the highest ranking Channel Islands law firm in The Lawyer Awards 2008.**

[www.careyolsen.com](http://www.careyolsen.com)

**About the National Trust for Jersey:** The National Trust for Jersey is an independent and charitable organisation dedicated to preserving and safeguarding sites of historic, aesthetic and natural interest for the benefit of the island. Established in 1936 the Trust is now the island's largest private land owner caring for over 130 sites.

[www.nationaltrustjersey.org.je](http://www.nationaltrustjersey.org.je)