



ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 28th January 2022 Via Zoom

Present: Councillors Diana Conyers (Chair and Fishbourne PC Member), Mick Lyons (Vice Chair and Havenstreet & Ashey PC member), Sue Hardy (Treasurer), Helena Hewston (Shalfleet PC), June Davison (Newchurch PC), Peter Whiteman (Chillerton & Gatcombe PC), Bob Blezzard (Havenstreet & Ashey PC), David Hardy (Lake PC), David Adams (Nettlestone & Seaview PC), Patricia Redpath (Nettlestone & Seaview PC), John Graney (Brading PC), George Cameron (Freshwater PC), Paul Fuller (Gurnard PC), (Steve Cowley (Yarmouth TC), Shirley Smart (Newport and Carisbrooke CC), Martin Kimber (Arreton PC), Chris Corey (Wootton PC), Kai Wacker (Wroxall PC), Sherlie Burridge (Niton & Whitwell PC) Simon Cooke (Ryde TC) Cameron Palin (East Cowes TC) Ian Rigaud Barrett (Rookley PC), Lora Peacey-Wilcox (Leader IW Council) (Heather Rowell (County Officer), Jill Webster (Communications Officer). Louise Hill (BBC Local Democracy Reporter)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and apologies to those who would prefer a face-to-face meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from John Hobart (Chillerton & Gatcombe PC), John Cirrone (Brighstone PC), Heather Humby (Sandown TC), John Pullen (Northwood PC), Heather Calloway (Arreton PC) and Terry Martin (Newport & Carisbrooke CC).

3. To Approve the Minutes of the meeting on 25th November 2021 (circulated to members)

The minutes were approved (BB/GC).

4. Finance

- a. To receive a report from the treasurer – Cllr Hardy.

b. To consider and agree budget for 2022/23

The report was well received along with the budget for 2022/23 which was agreed unanimously (BB/GC). The Chair thanked Cllr Hardy for all her hard work.

5. Constitution: To consider amendments to Constitution proposed by Constitutional Working Group, prior to submission to 2022 AGM in July (papers circulated to members prior to meeting).

The Chair noted some additional minor amendments that the Group had made to sections 7e, 7f and 9c and Cllr Blezzard proposed an amendment to section 4b. These amendments were accepted and it was agreed that the draft be sent to NALC for comments. The full amended document highlighting the changes will be presented to the AGM in July for final agreement.

6. Training:

a) To receive report of meeting of Training Group held on 17 December 2021 and consider recommendation regarding increase in training fees.

It was agreed to increase the cost of training sessions to non-IWALC members to £75.00 for face-to-face sessions and £50 for online sessions. The penalty fee for IWALC nonattendees will remain at £50. (BB/SC)

b) To agree the appointment of Cllr Shirley Smart (Newport & Carisbrooke CC) to the Training Group.

It was agreed unanimously to appointment Cllr Smart to join the Training Group.

7. Communications Group – To receive report of meeting of Communications Group held on 19th January 2022 and consider any recommendations therein.

Representatives were asked to ensure that either they or their clerks disseminate all information from IWALC to all their councillors. The Chair pointed out that the website has been redesigned. She expressed thanks to John Graney and Dave Hardy for their work on the website. Members were requested to feedback any thoughts they have.

8. Meetings with IW Council. To consider verbal report from Cllr Fuller

Regular monthly meetings for IWALC members will be held with the Leader of the IWC, Deputy Leader and Cllr Fuller on the second Thursday of each month, starting on the 10th March 2022. A different Cabinet Member will be invited to each meeting to provide a focus. These meetings will be open to all IWALC town and parish councillors. It was requested that questions are submitted to Cabinet members in advance. Initially the meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams from 12.30pm – 1pm, but more time can be given if needed. Current issues to consider for topics include planning and road safety.

9. February Topic Meeting: To consider and agree topic(s) and venue for Topic Meeting on 24th February 2022.

It was agreed to focus on housing, inviting John Pricket to talk about community led housing and investigate who else would be interested in joining the discussion, including some of the housing associations and the Empty Homes Officer. It was agreed to aim for a face-to-face meeting, if possible. The Chair and County Officer will explore options.

10. NALC Lobby Day (23 March 2022): To receive report from Cllr Blezzard and consider what action to take.

It was agreed that, rather than hold a special Lobby Day event, the regular meetings with MP Bob Seely will be used to discuss a range of national and local issues affecting local councils and their communities, including the focus of Lobby Day, and how we work with the MP to raise the profile of local councils and in particular, their valuable contributions to improving community wellbeing and providing services.

11. Roads Policing Unit: To consider a request by the MP, Bob Seely, that IWALC support his efforts to a dedicated Roads Policing Unit on the Island.

It was agreed to write a letter of support from IWALC, and to also write to the Police and Crime Commissioner Donna Jones and District Commander Superintendent Jim Pegler.

12. Reports from Representatives and delegates to other organisations:

The following reports and updates were received:

- NALC AGM – Congratulations were expressed to Bob Blezzard for his re-election.
- IWC Corporate Scrutiny Committee
- IWC Health and Wellbeing Board
- Age Friendly Island – The Chair and Cllr Cameron reported on a possible extension of the project.

13. Dates of Future Meetings were agreed –

- **Thursday 24th February – Topic Meeting** ○
- Thursday 31st March – Executive Meeting**

14. CONFIDENTIAL: Staffing: To consider paper prepared by Chair (paper circulated to members) and recommend accordingly.

It was unanimously agreed to adopt Option 2 with a 2 year renewable contract for Jill Webster.