

SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Held at The Edgar Hall, Somerton at 11:30 am on Saturday 26th September 2015.

PRESENT: Cllr Jean Allgrove (President), Cllr Dave Mitton (Chairman) and 71 individuals representing 61 Member Councils:

In attendance: Justin Robinson (County Executive Officer) and Sam Winter (County Information Officer).

The President, Cllr Jean Allgrove, was in the chair and welcomed members to the Meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from 39 member councils and 1 member of the County Committee.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th September 2014, were approved as a correct record and signed accordingly.

Cllr Allgrove noted that, with reference to item 6, although Cllr Allgrove was the delegate to the NALC National Council at the time of the meeting Cllr Whetlor later took over the role.

3. REVISED SALC CONSTITUTION

An outline of the changes to the constitution was given to illustrate how the new constitution updates and simplifies the old version.

Concern was raised in relation to the proposed revised method for electing the chairman of the association.

It was proposed and resolved to accept the constitution subject to further consideration of the method for the election of the chairman of the association.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President:

It was proposed and agreed that Cllr Jean Allgrove be re-elected President.

Chairman:

It was proposed and agreed that Cllr Dave Mitton be re-elected as Chairman.

Vice Chairman:

It was proposed and agreed that Cllr Jenny Lawrence be elected as Vice Chairman.

5. **APPOINTMENT OF REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS**

It was formally agreed to re-appoint Apsleys of Tiverton as Reporting Accountants for the next financial year.

It was noted that the future appointment of Apsleys will be reviewed according to the number of years they have acted in the role.

6. **ELECTION OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE, AND ONE DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE, TO THE COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

It was agreed that Cllr Loretta Whetlor (Watchet TC) be elected as the association's representative to the NALC National Council, with Dave Mitton (West Buckland PC) as deputy representative.

7. **ELECTION OF THREE REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

It was agreed that Loretta Whetlor (Watchet TC), Dave Mitton (West Buckland PC) and Justin Robinson (CEO) be elected as the association's representatives at the Annual General Meeting of NALC.

9. **ELECTION OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SOMERSET PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION**

It was agreed that Jenny Lawrence (Ashcott PC) will continue in the position as the association's representative.

10 **PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2015**

Cllr Mitton (Chairman) presented the Annual Report. Cllr Mitton gave thanks to Somerton Town Council for the welcome it gave the association in the move to the Edgar Hall. Cllr Mitton also thanked Simon Emary and John Farley for their time and hard work given serving on the Management Committee.

Cllr Mitton noted that the association ordinarily expects to lose money at this quadrennial point, but has this year made money due to the extensive training schedule.

Cllr Mitton acknowledged the significant contribution of the South West Regional Conference as a strong voice on the NALC National Council, enabling the south west to have considerable influence on national policy.

Justin Robinson presented the accounts and explained that the total affiliation fee income was higher due to there being an increased number of councils in membership than at any time previously. Justin described how the move to Somerton has resulted in a reduction in

core running costs. The high surplus in year 4 means that there is future scope to freeze affiliation fees in 2016/17.

It was proposed and agreed to adopt the annual report and accounts.

10 **FUTURE STRUCTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Justin Robinson outlined the option that the association moves from an unincorporated to incorporated association; a company limited by guarantee. Justin explained that other ALCs have moved to this structure because it means less liability falls on the membership.

Concerns were expressed that such a move would require further constitutional changes.

Following a vote it was agreed that the concept would be agreed in principle, subject to the County Committee taking the matter back to the membership after carrying out research and, if deemed appropriate, drafting a memorandum of understanding and articles of association.

The Meeting closed at 12:55pm

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President September 2016.