

Avon Local councils Association
Executive Committee Meeting **23rd September 2014**

Minutes

1. **Present:** Elizabeth Shepherd (Chairman), Ivor Scoones, Tony Heaford, Malcolm Watson, Peter Duppa Miller, Rod Lees, Rhiannon Prys-Owen and Deborah White (CS)

Apologies: Bob Symons, Noel Walter, David Bell, Tony Crouch and Hannah Saunders

2. Minutes of 24th June 2014 were agreed as correct

3. **Treasurers' report**

- a. Accounts and projections – request that large amounts in Miscellaneous to be itemised (NALC new councils' bursary?)
- b. Proposed 2015/16 fees – agreed to recommend to AGM (Proposed MW, Seconded PDM)

4. **Management Group**

- a. SG Area Group was unable to meet the deadline for their contribution to Annual Report. ES proposed that at the AGM the revision of the constitution would be tabled separately from the name change. Concern was raised about the period between 5th October and 2nd Dec if the implementation date of the constitution was not immediate
- b. To offer a static page for small parishes on the ALCA website was agreed
- c. Equalities policies – deferred to December meeting

5. **Training Working Group**

- a. Progress has been made towards setting up an Avon County Training Partnership and neighbouring CALC's are being supportive.

Information on Cilca Awards now coming direct to CS from SLCC

The plan for Clerks Training is to provide a foundation course for new starters and refresher using Cilca (and above) trained Clerks paired with an experienced Clerk / Trainer.

- b. Negotiations ongoing with Linda James to overcome problems with joint working in the recent past.
- c. Derek Kemp, NALC Finance Advisor – booked for 10th November 2014

County Secretary – Deborah White

Countysec@avon-lca.org.uk

0845 0035256

6. **Area Groups** – to report back on Community Engagement activity

a. NES – in the past:

- Parishes Liaison meetings - 3 per annum. LCs, B&NES Council, Police, NHS, AF&R and Housing Providers.

Meetings timed -

October - to influence next year's budgets

February - to understand the implications of the budgets

June - to foster relationships early in the municipal year

- 5 Parish Cluster Groups 2 meeting per annum each. B&NES and LC's
- Many PACT groups 3 or 4 per annum each. Police, B&NES, LC's and public

NES – now:

- Partners Liaison 3 per annum. B&NES, Police, AF&R, Housing Providers
- 4 Connecting Communities meeting 3 times per annum. B&NES, Police, AF&R, Housing Providers, community groups etc.,

Timed to:

October to influence budgeting

May to understand implications on budget

June to foster relationships

City of Bath – governance review

- Initiated at May 2014 B&NES meeting
- Working Group (B&NES Councillors) set up
- Objectives – to improve current “democratic deficit”
- Outcomes (by ... 2014) B&NES meeting
 - No Change
 - “Voice of Bath” committee – City of Bath Ward Members (x32), Stakeholders with no voice
- Civil Parishes
 - Bath City Council (as per 1996)
 - Several Civil Parishes
 - Many (16) Civil Parishes
- Current way forward
 - Gather further information
 - Decide which way to go after May 2015 elections

b. South Glos.

- 1 seat on the LSP
- 1 seat on the S&S Community Partnership

County Secretary – Deborah White

Countysec@avon-lca.org.uk

0845 0035256

- No seats on the Health and Public Health select Committee
- No seats on Economic and Skills Partnership
- No seat on the VCS Compact (which includes LC's)
- No seats on the Area Forum – Ward members and public

Communities Section of SGC consulting on funding reductions on 7 community engagement groups, including the T&PC Forum and Safer & Stronger Groups, but not the Area Forums

c. **North Somerset.**

The committee welcomed the new Area Group Secretary – Rhiannon Prys-Owen (Yatton PC)

- Moving to paperless planning
- 3 Planning Committees being reduced to 1
- Local Action Teams being taken over by police (3 stations closing)
- Liaison Group convened and agenda set by NS Officers
- NS Area Group meetings

d. Bristol – No news from Lockleaze – CS to follow up

7 County Secretary's Report

a. Only 4 nominations for ALCA awards received – all from SG. This was discussed

RESOLVED: to award a single award for long service to the whole sector to Cllr. Pat Hockey, SG Area Group Secretary for many years.

b. Update on PWLB applications – 3 from non- member councils

AGREED: that this issue will be taken to the SWCLCA meeting by ES

c. QPS – update from new NALC Officer Charlotte Eisenhart, re regional Standards Committees and pilots already in action

8 Conference Reports

- SWALCA 26th June. Joint decision to withdraw from SW Employers membership ES
- Report and discussion on input into NALC event. 5 Exec members participated
- NALC AGM attendance 29th October AGREED: MD & CS

9 AOB

The plans for NALC support and materials to attract new people to stand as councillors in May 2015 were discussed

County Secretary – Deborah White

Countysec@avon-lca.org.uk

0845 0035256

Support was given for MW to put himself forward for nomination to NALC smaller Councils Committee

- 10** Date and location of next meeting – **2nd December 2014**, in **North Somerset**.

DRAFT