

AVON LOCAL COUNCILS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting held on 8th October 2016 at Midsomer Norton Town Hall

Present:

Noel Walter - Hon. Treasurer
Rhiannon Prys Owen – Bristol Rep.
Deborah White – Chief Officer

Bath & North East Somerset

Bathampton	Cllr George Ardrey	
Batheaston	Mike Townley	
Cameley	Jenny Howell	
Clutton	Cllr David Worskett	
Compton Martin	Cllr Julia Halling-Brown & Janie Griffiths	
Englishcombe	Cllr Cecile Mary	
Hinton Blewett	Cllr Liz Brimmell	
Marksbury	Cllr Neil Downdney	
Midsomer Norton	Cllr Lynda Robertson & Cllr Richard Robertson	
Peasedown St John	Cllr Kathy Thomas	
Publow & Pensford	Cllr Sue Grimes	
Shoscombe	Cllr Jackie Withers	
Stanton Drew	Cllr John Harvey	
Timsbury	Cllr Veronica Packham & Cllr David Collett	
Ubley	Cllr Wesley Hallam	
Westfield	Emily Merko	19

North Somerset

Banwell	Cllr Paul Harding	
Barrow Gurney	Cllr Geoff Coombs (CC) & Joanna Von Tonder	
Blagdon	Cllr Maggie Mooney	
Brockley	Joanna Von Tonder	
Butcombe	Cllr Dick Whittington	
Long Ashton	Cllr Charles Cave & Cllr Ivor Scoones	
Nailsea	Cllr Rod Lees (CC) & Cllr Jeremy Blatchford (CC)	
Winscombe & Sandford	Cllr Mike Williamson	
Wraxhall & Failand	Cllr David Robinson	
Wrington	Cllr David Glynn & Cllr Georgie Bigg	14

South Gloucestershire

Bitton	Cllr Virginia McNab	
Bradley Stoke	Sharon Petela	
Downend & BH	Cllr Janet Biggin	
Pucklechurch	Cllr BoB Symons (CC) & Cllr Lesley Putt	
Westerleigh	Cllr Jean Butler	
Wickwar	Cllr Martin Summers	
Yate	Cllr Mike Drew & Cllr Cheryl Kirby	9

Apologies

County Committee Members - Cllr Rosemary Naish, Cllr Judith Chubb-Whittle, Cllr. Malcolm Watson Cllr Tony Heaford.

Almondsbury Parish Council, Charlcombe Parish Council, Combe Hay Parish Council, Compton Dando Parish Council, Corston Parish Council, Dundry Parish Council, Farrington Gurney Parish Council, Kingston Seymour Parish Council, Oldbury on Severn Parish Council, Publow with Pensford Parish Council, Priston Parish Council, Thornbury Town Council, Tormarton Parish Council, Wellow Parish Council, Whitchurch Village Council, Windford Parish Council.

In the absence of Cllr Tony Crouch (President) the Chairman for the meeting was presided over by Cllr BoB Symons, ALCA Chairman.

Welcome and Introduction

Cllr Paul Myers, Mayor of Midsomer Norton Town Council welcomed everyone to Midsomer Norton, a new Council created in 2011. He gave an account of the rescue of the Town Hall from the developers and its on-going maintenance by a Community Association for the benefit of the community.

Bringing the “Local” into Democracy

Dr Jonathan Owen, Chief Executive of the National Association of Local Council gave a presentation on the opportunities and challenges facing the sector - including Double Devolution, Neighbourhood Planning, Council Tax Referendums and the work of the National Association.

Those present showed resounding support for the opposition to the government’s proposal to extend the “capping” of precepts to Local Councils.

1. Cllr Rod Lees and Cllr Liz Brimmell were appointed as Tellers.
2. The Minutes of the ALCA 42nd Annual General Meeting held on 3rd October 2015 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Richard Robertson. Seconded by Cllr Veronica Packham.
UNANIMOUS

3. The ALCA Annual Report for 2015/2016 was received.
4. Membership of the ALCA County Committee was noted as:

NORTH SOMERSET. Chairman – Cllr G. Coombs. Representatives – Cllr Rod Lees, Cllr Jeremy Blatchford and Cllr Dick Whittington. Secretariat provided by Rhiannon Prys- Owen.

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE. Chairman – Cllr. BoB Symons. NALC Representative – Cllr Mike Drew. 2 Vacancies.

BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET. Chairman – Cllr Rosemary Naish. Representatives – Cllr Judith Chubb-Whittle and Cllr Kathie Thomas.

Rhiannon Prys Owen was voted UNANIMOUSLY into the role of independent representative for the Bristol Area.

5. The ALCA Accounts for 2015/2016 were presented by Hon. Treas. Noel Walter. Of particular note was:

The predicted deficit became a profit, mainly from income from Training. □
No rise in the ALCA subscription for the coming year.

An explanation of the “adjustment” was requested. This was explained by a move from Income and Expenditure Accounting to Receipt and Payments.

Acceptance of the accounts Proposed by Joanna von Tonder Seconded by Cllr. Geoff Coombs UNANIMOUS

6. Philip J Smith ACIB Cert ITCM. Was proposed as Auditor for 2016 / 17
Proposed by Cllr Rod Lees Seconded by Cllr Virginia McNab AGREED

It was noted that the current Auditor has served 3 consecutive years and was due for review. It was noted that there was a possibility that Mr Smith could possibly be retiring in 2017-18 and thus there may be a need to find another Auditor then.

7. The ALCA Budget for 2017/2018 was presented by Hon. Treas. Noel Walter.
Proposed by Mike Townley Seconded by Cllr Ivor Scoones UNANIMOUS

8. To ELECT the 2016/2017 Honorary Officers

PRESIDENT - No nominations were received.

HONORARY TREASURER - Noel Walter was nominated for 2016 / 2017.
Proposed by Cllr Geoff Coombs Seconded by Janie Griffiths
UNANIMOUS

Cllr Geoff Coombs proposed a vote of thanks to Noel Walter for his sterling service to ALCA - agreed

9. The date for the 2016-17 Avon Local Councils Association AGM will be 7th October 2017 hosted by Bradley Stoke Town council

Recognising Success

Quality awards were noted (reps. not present): Yatton Parish Council. Churchill Parish Council. Westfield Parish Council.

Foundation award presentations were made to: Blagdon Parish Council – Cllr Maggie Mooney. Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council – Cllr Janet Biggin. Nailsea Town Council – Cllr Rod Lees.

Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) Noted (reps. not present): Lynne Rampton (Distinction). Clare Dolman. Clive Stillwell. Jodie Bailey. Ellen Kenny.

A presentation was made to: Tony Jay. Janie Griffiths.

NALC Star Councils: It was noted that the 7 Chew Valley parishes working together on a Neighbourhood Plan reached the long list.