

## 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 Downtney
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

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### **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 Willianson
Wraxhall & Failand	Cllr David Robinson
Wrington	Cllr David Glynn & Cllr Georgie Bigg

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### **South Gloucestershire**

Bitton	Cllr Virginia McNab
Bradley Stoke	Sharon Petela
Downend & Bromley Heath	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

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Deborah White – County Secretary  
avoncalc@gmail.com  
Tel: 07496 514035

## **Apologies**

Cllr Rosemary Naish (CC)  
Cllr Judith Chubb-Whittle (CC)  
Cllr Annette Parsons  
Cllr Dawn Drury  
Cllr Jeanette Stephenson  
Cllr Malcolm Watson  
Cllr Tony Heaford (CC)  
Almondsbury Parish Council  
Charlcombe Parish Council  
Combe Hay Parish Council  
Corston Parish Council  
Dundry Parish Council  
Farrington Gurney Parish Council  
Kingston Seymour Parish Council  
Oldbury on Severn Parish Council  
Priston Parish Council  
Thornbury Parish Council  
Tormarton Parish Council  
Wellow Parish Council  
Whitchruch Town Council  
Windford Parish Council

In the absence of Cllr Tony Crouch (President) the Chairman for the meeting was 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.

The presentation is available [HERE](#)

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 42<sup>nd</sup> 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**

- a. PRESIDENT - No nominations were received.
- b. 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 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017 hosted by Bradley Stoke Town council

**10 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.

**Presentations were 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.