



ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 24th June 2021

Present: Councillors Diana Conyers (Chair and Fishbourne PC Member), Mick Lyons (Vice Chair), Sue Hardy (Treasurer), David Hardy (Lake) John Graney (Brading), John Pullen (Northwood), Helena Hewston (Shalfleet), Bob Blezzard (Havenstreet and Ashe), June Davison (Newchurch), Steve Cowley (Yarmouth), Paul Fuller (Gurnard), Shirley Smart (Newport and Carisbrooke), Paul Bertie (Cowes), Alex Watts (Rookley), George Cameron (Freshwater), John Medland (Freshwater), Patricia Redpath (Nettlestone and Seaview), Michael Paler (East Cowes), Cameron Palin (East Cowes), Weronika Nowak (Fishbourne), Jenna Sabine (Ryde), John Hobart (Chillerton and Gatcombe, representing Peter Whiteman), Shirley Stables (Shalfleet) Heather Rowell (County Officer), Jill Webster (Publications Assistant), Louise Hill (IWCP).

Nominations were requested for a member to Chair the meeting. It was agreed that Diana Conyers would Chair this meeting.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from David Adams (Nettlestone and Seaview), Peter Whiteman (Gatcombe and Chillerton), Ian Riguard-Barrett (Rookley), and Alison Child (Godshill).

3. To Approve the Minutes of the meeting on 18th March 2021(circulated to members).

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record unanimously (PF/BB). It was reported that in reference to Minute 3 conversations are ongoing in respect of the Local Council Support Grant. It was noted that IWALC look forward to working with the newly elected IW Council Administration.

4. Finance – to receive a report from the Treasurer– Cllr Hardy

Sandown have re-joined IWALC and will be nominating their representatives shortly. An extra Basic Skills Training is being held due to restricted numbers for face-to-face meetings and venue capacity.

5. To Approve the Appointment of the Auditor.

It was agreed to appoint Gareth Hughes as auditor.

6. To Agree format/venue of meetings until Covid-19 Restrictions are fully lifted.

It was proposed and agreed to hold the AGM in July via Zoom, due to current uncertainty in respect of Covid-19 and the difficulty in finding a venue with sufficient capacity under the current regulations.

7. July AGM

It was proposed and agreed to invite the leader of the IW Council Cllr Lora Peacey- Wilcox to the AGM. **Action: County Officer/Chair to send an invitation.**

In view of recent events and the implications of the changes following the elections it was agreed to review the Constitution. **Action: County Officer/Chair to review and propose changes for members consideration.**

8. Resilience Workshop: To receive and discuss report of proposed workshop.

It was proposed to hold a workshop to look at the future of town and parish councils and their role in building strong communities. National Association of Local Councils (NALC) have offered their support including some possible funding from BHIB (their insurers). It was proposed that the workshop will be held in September 2021. **Action: to update NALC on the proposal and send all members the report of the workshop held in February 2021.**

9. Topic Meetings: To discuss possible topics for future meetings.

It was proposed to hold an open information forum for new representatives before the AGM. **Action: County Officer/Chair.**

It was proposed and agreed to hold a topic meeting in August to focus on planning and the draft Island Plan. **Action: County Officer/Chair to liaise with IWC.**

10. To receive any reports from delegates and representatives to outside bodies

The following reports were received (having been circulated)

- **IWC Corporate Scrutiny – Cllr Hewston**

It was proposed and agreed to write to the Leader of the Council in respect of IWALC's concerns about the perceived equal representation given to HALC at scrutiny, and that IWALC should be the only organisation representing the island's town and parish councils at scrutiny and a voting member. **Action: Chair**
The Wight Bid Levy Renewal was raised. **Action: Cllr Hewston to raise at Scrutiny.**

- **SERCAF (Southeast Regional County Association Forum) – Cllr Blezzard**

Members were reminded about the opportunity to attend fortnightly meetings with MP Bob Seely which are open to all councillors.

The Parliamentary Boundary Review was raised and it was proposed that as a principle that Town and Parish Councils should not be split between two MPs.

Electric charging points – **Action: County Officer to write to Jim Fawcett for more information about possible funding.**

11. Dates of Future Meetings were agreed -

- **Thursday 29th July AGM**
- **Dates of future meetings to be agreed at AGM.**