



ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

County Officer:

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IWALC EXECUTIVE MEETING 25th JANUARY 2024 MINUTES

Present;

Anne Bamford (Chair)

Steve Cooper (Deputy Chair)

Cllr Sue Hardy (Treasurer)

Cllr John Graney (Brading)

Cllr June Davison (Newchurch)

Cllr Simon Cooke (Ryde)

Cllr Helena Hewston (Shalfleet)

Cllr Shirley Stables (Shalfleet)

Cllr Vivian Roberts (Arreton)

Cllr Mick Lyons (Havenstreet)

Cllr Steve Cowley (Yarmouth)

Cllr Paul Fuller (Gurnard)

Cllr Nick Stuart (Brighstone)

Cllr Michael Smith (Newport and

Carisbrooke)

Cllr Andrew Garratt (Newport and

Carisbrooke)

Cllr Emma Cox (Freshwater)

1. Welcome from the Chair and Apologies

Welcome from the Chair Cllr Anne Bamford.

Thanks were given to Heather Rowell for the years of service to IWALC, and she was presented with a thank you card and flowers.

Apologies received;

Cllr Bob Blezzard, Cllr Patricia Redpath, Cllr Diana Conyers, Cllr Ian Fletcher and Cllr Liz White

2. To agree the minutes from Executive meeting held on 30th November

Correction made by Cllr Vivian Roberts and note made concerning the date of the next Topic meeting. Cllr Paul Fuller proposed and Cllr Steve Cowley seconded the proposal. Unanimously agreed to accept the minutes as a true record.

3. Report from the Chair Cllr Anne Bamford

The Chair gave her monthly report.

4. Finance report from Sue Hardy

Sue reported that she had not received any responses from the Finance report sent to all executives. Sue had paper copies of all invoices to go to Town, Parish and Community councils for councillors to take on the evening, and stated that she would be sending digital copies to all Town, Parish and Community council clerks. Sue was thanked by the Chair for her work.

5. Staffing proposal from Anne Bamford

Cllr Anne Bamford raised the sad departure of Heather Rowell and that Julie Hutchison has been Acting County Officer since January. Anne feels it important to support and train Julie in the new role to offer ILCA and CILCA. Anne gave a brief history of the role. June Davidson also confirmed that the role does not have to be carried out by a trained clerk. Emma Cox questioned the amount of hours and Steve Cowley asked about Julie's experience. Paul Fuller commented that he was happy that Julie has experience of working at the Isle of Wight Council, and at Town and Parish level also. Steve Cooper advised that legally, the position does not have to go out to advertisement.

The proposal was put forward that Julie Hutchison be appointed to the role of County Officer of IWALC by Paul Fuller, this was seconded by Simon Cooke and unanimously agreed. New job description to be forwarded to all Executives.

6. Cllr John Graney: Discussion request from Brading Traffic Working Party on whether, and if so, how, IWALC should approach Isle of Wight Council to express concerns and potentially influence traffic issues.

After discussion Paul Fuller mentioned the Highways Safety and Improvement register and suggested that IWALC should go back to Island Roads and ask for a copy of this Register, that this information be relayed onto Town, Parish and Community Councils for councillors of respective councils to decide among them which are the most urgent works need to be carried out.

7. Cllr Helena Hewson – Request that IWALC sends a letter of censure to the Monitoring Officer regarding the lack of support for the Town and Parish Councils on the Isle of Wight with particular reference to the conduct of councillors exhibiting aggressive behaviours

Points raised from around the room regarding difficult behaviours and how this is not conducive in carrying forward Council business.

It was proposed by Cllr Emma Cox to create a groundswell in calling for action to be taken. for all IWALC members to sign a letter, requesting that NALC carry forward demands to Governments to impose sanctions on councillors not conforming to the Nolan principles.

8. Cllr Diana Conyers: clarification that MP meetings with Island councillors are not organised by IWALC

Cllr Conyers was not present, however this was discussed and explained that the invitation from Bob Seely mentions IWALC in his email. Executives discussed how meetings with Bob Seely are appreciated, but want an email to be sent to Bob Seely requesting that IWALC are not inserted into this regular invitation. Meetings with Bob Seely are organised by his own office and are open to all town and parish councillors to attend, these are not organised by IWALC.

9. IWALC Logo suggestion from Julie Hutchison.

Feedback was given that many councils like having the Isle of Wight image on the logo, that it felt more friendly. Digital rendering of the logo was raised, that it can appear pixelated. Blue and green colours may not be so good for visually impaired people, and the request was made to include Town, Parish and Community councils. John Graney also produced some new logos.

It was agreed that Julie would go back to the drawing board, to freshen up the current logo taking into consideration feedback that was given.

10. Special thanks was given to Cllr Diana Conyers for the enjoyable IWBRUG report that was provided.

Next meetings will be held:

29th February Topic meeting
28th March - next Executive meeting.