



ISLE OF WIGHT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

County Officer

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES **DRAFT**

HELD AT 7PM ON THURSDAY 27th March 2025 at the RIVERSIDE CENTRE NEWPORT

Present: Cllr Bob Blezzard (Chair and Newchurch PC Member), Cllr Sue Hardy (Treasurer), Cllr Julie Hutchison (County Officer), Cllr Diana Conyers (Ryde and Fishbourne), Cllr John Graney (Brading TC), Cllr Mick Lyons (Havenstreet PC), Cllr Nick Stuart (Brighstone PC), Cllr Simon Cooke (Ryde TC), Cllr Johnathan Hill (Shalfleet PC), Cllr Jane Timbrell (Shalfleet PC), Cllr Trish Redpath (Nettlestone and Seaview PC), Cllr Andrew Snart (Godshill PC), Cllr Alison Child (Godshill PC), Cllr Warren Whyte (Freshwater PC), Cllr Ian Fletcher (Sandown TC), Cllr Steve Cowley (Yarmouth TC), Cllr Thomas Cowley (Yarmouth TC), Cllr Paul Fuller (Cowes TC), Cllr Penny Acton (Gurnard PC)

1. **Welcome and apologies.**

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. **Apologies had been received from:** Cllr Steve Cooper and Cllr Steph Toogood (Ventnor TC), Cllr Chris Beans (Shalfleet PC), Cllr Sally Chaucer (Calbourne PC), Cllr Leigh Jackman (Godshill PC)

2. **Minutes from the previous meeting:** One amendment had already been made at the request of Andrew Garratt regarding a spelling mistake. Cllr Paul Fuller proposed accepting the minutes. **With a show of hands it was decided to accept the minutes of the previous meeting dated 30th January 2025.**

3. **Chair:** The Chair gave his report

4. **Finance: Report from the Treasurer:** Cllr Sue Hardy, gave the Finance Report. The County Officer left the room as the pay award was discussed. It was decided that the County Officer should receive a pay award of 3%.

5. **County Officer report.**

The County Officer gave her report.

6. **NALC County Officer meeting.**

Feedback was received regarding the service that councils receive from NALC. A positive response was received regarding the level of service for legal advice from Nettlestone and Seaview, and a positive response came from Cowes Town Council also. There was dissatisfaction expressed from councillor Steve Cowley of Shalfleet regarding legal advice from NALC and of the level of service from IWALC.

7. **Protocol 16** – Cllr Diana Conyers expressed frustration that when this came up at the IWALC / Cabinet meeting that she was not able to get her microphone working. There were concerns that it may not be adopted in time. It was requested that **the County Officer sends an email to Cllr Andrew Garratt asking how far along the IWC are with adopting Protocol 16.**

8. **Representative of IWALC to go onto HIWWT.** The County Officer specified that there is an online meeting taking place on 23rd April that will require an IWALC representative to be present. **Cllr Penny Acton volunteered to be the representative for IWALC for that meeting, and to forward notes to IWALC for distribution.**

9. **Steve Cowley contact details.** Comments were invited regarding publishing contact details of councillors on Town, Parish and Community councils websites. Safety issues were raised, and **the Chair advised that it is down to individuals to decide how they wish to be contacted, it was felt that the question relating to democracy was a rhetorical question.**

10. **Steve Cowley Standing orders.** It was pointed out by the Chair that smaller Parish Councils are not obliged to have Standing orders. A request was made for **the County Officer to send an email to the Monitoring Officer noting concerns that Standing Orders are not published on some council websites.**

11. **Steve Cooper NALC Civility and Respect pledge.** It was felt by several members that their comments made were somewhat abrasive and bullying in tone. Several councillors reported that their own councils felt they had good working

relations with one another, and that the Nolan principles were enough to ensure excellent standards of behavior were achieved on their respective councils.

12. **Reports from representatives.** There were no questions from reports that have been sent to Members.

Cllr Diana Conyers expressed thanks to the Chair, Bob Blezzard, for the years of expertise and representation of IWALC to NALC, for which he received a round of applause.

Meeting ended at 7.58pm.