

Minutes of the 73rd Annual General Meeting of the Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils

Held on Zoom
Saturday 3 October 2020

Item																											
<p>1. Welcome & housekeeping.</p> <p>Northants CALC Deputy CEO, Lesley Sambrook Smith opened the meeting and welcomed delegates. There were over 120 attendees in total, with 112 registered councillors and clerks representing over eighty member councils. The meeting was chaired by Lynne Taylor, Chairman of Northants CALC.</p>																											
<p>2. Election of Honorary Officers of the Association for the year 2020/2021.</p> <p>The following honorary offers were nominated and duly elected:</p> <table border="1"><tbody><tr><td>2.1 President</td><td>Mr Jeffrey Greenwell</td></tr><tr><td>2.2 Vice Presidents</td><td>Cllr Catherine Lomax Mr Gordon Shorley Mrs Gwen Radcliffe</td></tr><tr><td>2.3 Auditor</td><td>Kate Brown Accountants</td></tr></tbody></table>	2.1 President	Mr Jeffrey Greenwell	2.2 Vice Presidents	Cllr Catherine Lomax Mr Gordon Shorley Mrs Gwen Radcliffe	2.3 Auditor	Kate Brown Accountants																					
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<p>3. To receive the recommendations of the Appointments Panel on persons to be appointed to the board of directors for 2020/21.</p> <p>The Appointments Panel recommended the following for appointment at the AGM:</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>No.</th><th>Name</th><th>Qualifying Council</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1.</td><td>Peter Allen</td><td>Towcester Town Council</td></tr><tr><td>2.</td><td>Chris Horsman</td><td>Little Stanion Parish Council</td></tr><tr><td>3.</td><td>Lynn Lavender</td><td>Litchborough Parish Council</td></tr><tr><td>4.</td><td>Richard Lewis</td><td>Rushden Town Council</td></tr><tr><td>5.</td><td>Geoff Paul</td><td>Moulton Parish Council</td></tr><tr><td>6.</td><td>Mike Scott</td><td>Great Addington Parish Council</td></tr><tr><td>7.</td><td>Lynne Taylor</td><td>Daventry Town Council</td></tr><tr><td>8.</td><td>Gill Wells</td><td>West Haddon Parish Council</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>RESOLVED: That the eight candidates be appointed en bloc as directors for the year 2020/21.</p>	No.	Name	Qualifying Council	1.	Peter Allen	Towcester Town Council	2.	Chris Horsman	Little Stanion Parish Council	3.	Lynn Lavender	Litchborough Parish Council	4.	Richard Lewis	Rushden Town Council	5.	Geoff Paul	Moulton Parish Council	6.	Mike Scott	Great Addington Parish Council	7.	Lynne Taylor	Daventry Town Council	8.	Gill Wells	West Haddon Parish Council
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<p>4. Confirmation of the minutes of the 72nd AGM held on 5 October 2019.</p> <p>The minutes were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.</p>																											

5. To receive the Annual Report for the year ending 31 March 2020 including the Annual Statement of Accounts and balance sheet for the year ending 31 March 2020.

Northants CALC Chairman, Lynne Taylor, presented the Annual Report and Accounts and commended it to the AGM.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Report & Accounts be received and noted.

6. To determine subscription levels for the year 2021/2022.

The board of directors recommends that the per council element of the Northants CALC membership fee for the year starting 1 April 2021 and ending 31 March 2022 be increased by inflation (CPIH July 2020 – 1.1%) from £161.55 to £163.33 and that the per elector element of the Northants CALC membership fee be increased by inflation (CPIH July 2020 – 1.1%) from 24.24 pence to 24.51 pence.

Larger councils (10,000 – 30,000 electorate) are charged a fixed fee for membership of Northants CALC. The board of directors recommends the fixed fee per council for the year starting 1 April 2021 and ending 31 March 2022 be increased by inflation (CPIH July 2020 – 1.1%) from £2,584.83 per council to £2,613.26 per council. The total fee payable will therefore be (£2,613.26 + NALC Affiliation fee). The equivalent fee for super councils (30,000 + electors) is increased from £4,695.57 to £4,747.22.

The board of directors recommended that Parish Meetings with less than 100 electors AND no precept are offered affiliate membership for 2021/22 free of charge.

The maximum fee that any council or parish meeting pays is capped at £1 per elector.

RESOLVED: That the board's recommendations be approved.

7. Keynote Address - Community Connectors & Health & Wellbeing

Mary-Jane Brown, Community Connector at Moulton Parish Council gave an inspirational presentation on her role and on social prescribing. The role of Community Connector was created in 2016 and it is a collaboration between Moulton Parish Council and Moulton GP Surgery. It provides services to residents of Moulton and surrounding villages using the brand-new Moulton Community Centre as a hub. MJB works closely with the Social Prescribing Link Worker (SPLW) based at Moulton Surgery and signposts residents to relevant organisations, support services, groups and classes. MJB also helps start-up groups that will contribute to health and wellbeing and she leads the Good Neighbour Scheme.

MJB described the role of the SPLWs and explained that there is one for each of the 16 Primary Care Networks (PCNs) in Northamptonshire.

The work of Moulton Parish Council and Moulton GP Surgery is making a significant difference to the quality of residents' lives, and it meant that the community was very resilient when the Coronavirus pandemic hit because so many support services were already in place.

The presentation generated a lot of questions, with subjects ranging from how the groups and classes are organised to the qualification required to be a Community Connector or SPLW, and whether or not there is much cross-district and cross county border co-ordination.

After the speech Northants CALC CEO, Danny Moody, formally launched a survey of parish and town councils on social prescribing and the role of councils in health and wellbeing. The survey will be open until the end of November and Danny Moody encouraged all councils to respond.

8. Keynote Address – The Future of Public Health in Northamptonshire

Lucy Wightman, Director of Public Health for Northamptonshire County Council gave a presentation describing how public health will be delivered in north and west Northamptonshire when the unitary councils take over statutory responsibility for the service from April 2021. The goal is to align resources between the unitary councils, the NHS and the community, including parish and town councils.

LW explained how responding to the Coronavirus pandemic has and continues to be a major challenge, but a successful partnership approach has been adopted.

A key objective of public health is to reduce health inequalities throughout the different life stages using

an approach known as “Health in all Policies” to make sure that residents thrive in every community in the county.

Speaking on the role of parish and town councils, LW said that positive health outcomes can only be achieved by addressing the factors that protect and create health and wellbeing and that many of these are at a community level. She encouraged Northants CALC to put forward proposals for how parish and town council can be more involved.

There were many questions following the presentation, but the main theme was about “hidden” inequalities, for example people living in poverty in affluent communities and individuals experiencing loneliness in apparently very active communities. With their deep community reach, identifying and addressing these hidden inequalities may be a key role for parish and town councils.

9. Presentation of Council of the Year

Danny Moody read out the commendation for the Northamptonshire Council of the Year Award, which went to Wootton Parish Council for its resilience and fighting spirit in the face of the challenges presented by the Coronavirus pandemic.

DM said that it was tempting to make the award collectively to all parish and town councils and parish meetings in Northamptonshire, which he said had done the sector proud over the past six months and had shown the value of local knowledge, local action, and community leadership.

However, Wootton Parish Council was singled out due to its progressive and passionate clerk, dedicated chairman, and active and engaged team of councillors.

The chairman of Wootton Parish Council, Cllr Noel Lodge, accepted the award and said that the council worked hard but he gave special praise to the clerk, Tina Charteress. The trophy will be given to Wootton Parish Council as soon as a suitable opportunity can be found.

10. Close.

Lynne Taylor thanked the sponsors for their generous support, especially as it had not been possible to have an exhibition area this year, the guest speakers for their inspiring presentations, and all the delegates for their attendance and participation in the Association’s very first virtual Annual Conference and AGM.

The meeting closed at 12:00 noon.

Signed: _____

Date: _____