

Notes of ALCA's AGM held Saturday 4th October in the Bradley "Jubilee Centre" at 10.30am

Attended by Cllr V Pecchia and the Clerk

1 Ken Browse – NALC Chairman

Addressed the Meeting with updates on NALC programmes and progress....

- a There are at present 900 + Neighbourhood Plans in progress with 29 already approved;
- b Three new Parish Councils have been formed – one the first since 1936 in London;
- c There is a revamped NALC Website – due to be commissioned in 2 weeks time;
- d All PCs should have access to the Legislation on "Planning Development Control" so trying to include on the new website, with Planning Workshops to explain the policies;
- e Need to step up Training courses – particularly with the elections next year creating new Councillors.
It was noted that most Parish Councils retain a good number of existing Councillors at elections;
- f The government's aims to devolve more powers down to PCs only means more work for "stretched" clerks.
It is unrealistic that Authorities expect much collaborative discussions to devolve new powers.
- g There is expected to be a new scheme for "Quality Parish Councils". Only 8% are rated as 'Quality Councils' at this time.
Again it is recognised that the application costs are not generating any returns, so why the expense?...
- h The new 6th August legislation about public recordings, recording etc. does NOT permit any subsequent editing;
- j The government is planning more monies for the rural areas and NALC is trying to determine how these monies will get passed on – instead of being swallowed up for urban projects.

2 ALCA Report - Cllr E Shepherd

Written report issued by email, to which was added grateful thanks to the new County Secretary.

3 ALCA Accounts – Cllr N Walter.

- k Report already issued by email showing a surplus this year of some £7000+
- l Proposed that subscriptions remain at present levels for ALCA members. But NALC is to increase its subscription level by an extra 0.1p per elector (About +2.10 for Batheaston)
- m The proposed Budget for next year suggests a potential loss of £1000 – which will be offset if additional training sessions are held.

4 ALCA Constitution

- n Proposed rewording was agreed by the Meeting, to take effect immediately from 4th October 2014.
There was discussion on changing the name to "West of England Local Councils Association" (WELCA) but proposal rejected until the next AGM.

5 Election of Honorary Officers

Cllr Tony Crouch retained his president office.

6 Date of Next AGM Meeting

Will be established at the next Executive committee set for 2nd December 2014.

These notes do NOT record the considerable amount of discussions, dissensions etc which carried the Meeting over from 10.30am to 12.30pm.