

CUMBRIA ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS LTD

BOARD MEETING

The meeting of the CALC Ltd Board Meeting on 23rd October 2024 was held remotely via Microsoft teams.

Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of CALC Ltd Board Meeting held on 23rd October 2024 at 7.00pm

Present:

Mary Bradley
Sue Castle-Clarke
Andy Coles
Jonathan Davies
Michael Higginbotham
Will Huck
Andrew Povey
Doug Sim
David Wilson

In attendance: Sonia Hutchinson Company Secretary and Rachael Kelly, parish Development Officer

1. Appointment of Positions

a) Election of the Chair of the CALC Board

It was agreed following a nomination and vote that Mary Bradley will continue as Chair.

b) Election of two Vice Chairs for the CALC Board, one for Cumberland geographical area and one for Westmorland and Furness geographical area.

Following receipt of nominations and voting, the Vice Chair positions were agreed: -

David Wilson for Cumberland geographical area
Andrew Povey for Westmorland and Furness geographical area

2. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Bryan Craig, Ged McGrath, Andy Pratt and Nick Perie.

3. Declarations of interests – to declare personal or prejudicial interests in any items on the October 2024 agenda.

No declarations were received.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 7th August 2024 (appendix 2).

Mary Bradley went through the draft minutes and informed the board that both her and Andrew Povey will be attending the NALC AGM on the 7th November. Mary also informed the board that the Cumberland Building Safe and Stronger Communities document has now been received back from Cumberland Council. Concerns were raised about the regularity of meetings with Westmorland and Furness Council Officers, which Sonia Hutchinson will address.

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th August 2024 were then approved with an amendment to the time period for the filling of the two Cumberland vacancies.

5. Finance

- a) To sign off the end of year accounts as at 31st March 2024

Sonia Hutchinson explained that the end of year accounts for the latter 6 months of the year from 1st October 2023 to 31st March 2024 has to be approved by the CALC Board before it is filed with Companies House.

The end of year accounts were signed by Mary Bradley on behalf of the CALC Board.

- b) To approve new signatories

The following Directors agreed to be signatories for the bank accounts

Andy Coles

Andrew Povey

This is in addition to existing signatories, Sue Castle-Clarke, Bryan Craig and Sonia Hutchinson. Jane Tea will be removed as she has resigned as a Director.

6. Rotation of CALC Board members and agreement on Locality Board / Community Panel Representatives (appendix 4)

- a) To agree, in accordance with section 19.6 of the articles of association, the order by which Directors will step down over the next 3 years.

Mary Bradley explained that the preferred option is for one area from each branch will step down each year and that the areas will be selected by random taking area names out of a hat. Concerns were raised about removing a whole area at a time as there is then no continuity for that geographical area on the CALC Board. Mary explained that to do it in an individual Board Director basis could result in numerous elections being held each year but if two areas are selected one from Cumberland and one from

Westmorland and Furness than that will only result in two elections each year. It was agreed to go with the preferred option of one geographical area for Cumberland and one for Westmorland and Furness stepping down each year following a draw to determine which order they will step down in.

It was also agreed that the draw would be conducted by Ged McGrath the Treasurer. Concerns were then also raised by Sue and Jonathan regarding Eden area and the fact that those Directors have just gone through an election and were appointed by the parish councils in Eden. Mary said that the articles indicated a poll and therefore that is what needs to happen.

To confirm the Locality Board and Community Panel Representatives.

Mary Bradley briefly explained that Westmorland and Furness council had requested continuity with regards to the CALC representatives that sit on the Locality Boards this means that: -

Sue Castle-Clarke will sit on Eden
Will Huck will sit on South Lakeland and
Nick Perie will sit on Furness.

Although Directors are not invited to sit on the Cumberland Community Panels, they have all been allocated an area so that they can attend the panel meetings and network meetings for their area. Mary suggested at the next Cumberland Branch meeting that the Branch considers how they can become more involved especially if panels agree to allow public participation in the future.

The question was asked about whether or not it is of value to the CALC membership to have someone sitting on the locality Boards, it was felt that although it was early days it did provide the representative with an opportunity to raise concerns that may have been brought to them by a parish council.

Mary Bradley went on to add that it was her intention to speak to all Directors on a one to one basis so that everyone has an understanding of collective responsibility and when decisions are made by the CALC Board they are owned by the board and taken forward by the Board.

7. Next Meeting Date

To agree the dates for the board meetings for 2024/2025.

It was agreed to continue meeting on a Wednesday but not the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be on the 4th December 2024.