



NORTHUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

**Minutes of the meeting of the County Committee at 10am on Saturday 15th April 2023
in the Stakeford and Bomarsund Social Welfare Centre, West Gordon Terrace.
Stakeford. Northumberland**

Present in person: Cllrs: Gwen Woodman, John Potts, David Francis, Paul Vaughan, Mike Wood, Liz Dunn, Paul Dancer, Lynne Watson, Alan Sambrook.

Present online: Cllrs: Martin Dickson-Green, Graham Curry.

Also Present

Mt David Woodard -President

Mr Graeme Popay – Chief Officer [Actions marked as GP]

1: Welcome.

Vice Chair Cllr Mike Wood in the Chair. he welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Stakeford and Bomarsund Social Welfare Centre for the use of the venue.

2: Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs: Alex Wallace (Chairman) Gillian Turner, Simon Taylor, Monica Anderton, David Nicholson.

3: Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th February 2023

All agreed to accept the minute as a true record.

4: Matter Arising

Agreed to add this topic to the June Agenda - Discussion over the purpose of this committee, It was agreed to form a working group to determine which issues the Committee needed to concentrate on in the coming year.

5: Finance

A financial report was tabled showing the current position

Outcome - All agreed to accept the report.

6: Training & Mentoring

GP explained the proposed online Financial Training and costs – members agree that £30 was good value for money

Mentoring – GP was in discussion with several people who had come forward following the ENews article on Training and the call for trainers/mentors

NCC Training – GP would be meeting with the new NCC Executive Director of Place and Regeneration Simon Neilson to discuss sharing the NCC training platform used by County Cllrs.



NORTHUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

7: County Conference

GP reported that he had met with Iain Hedley, Iain was unsure if NCC could commit to a Saturday – discussion were ongoing and GP would report back at the next meeting. Members were in favour of a full day and would support a nominal charge.

8: National issues

David Francis gave a verbal report on national key issues

9: Issues raised by Committee members

Policing – the reduction in PCSO's was discussed. Cllr Paul Vaughan reported that he had been in correspondence with The Crime Commissioner on the matter but in his view he had not received a satisfactory reply. Cllr Liz Dunn reported that Ashington would lose four PCSO's but gain a minimum of four Officers. PCSO's would be offered new jobs within the force.

Cllr Paul Vaughan suggested that we invite the Crime Commissioner to a future meeting – this would be discussed with the Chair.

10: Topics of Future meetings

Several topics were suggested including: Electoral Review to be added to the next meeting's agenda.

11: Any Other Urgent Business

Noted that there would be a NCC Standards Committee meeting on 21st April Members noted the appointment of the following three Parish Council representatives following the recruitment and interview process:- Cllrs Chris Barratt; David Bewley; Alan Varley

13: Future Meeting of the Committee

Saturday 17th June 2023 starting at 10.00 am in County Hall, Morpeth Northumberland NE65 8PR

Meeting Closed at 12:00 noon