



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
North and Mid Wales Association
Bod Erw, St Asaph
Thursday 27th April 2017

Present:

Susan Plumb (President)
Matthew Evans (Secretary)

Anna Friend, Clare Flint, Lorraine Arrowsmith, Islwyn Lewis-Jones, Andrew Lewis, Richard Mallon, Robert Hemsley

Guest Speaker: Anne-Marie Read, Senior

Apologies:

Barbara Peters Flynn, Marshall Morris, Jeanette Round, Ann Ireland, Del Huckridge, Vicki Hankin, Carolyn Dawson, Llyr Ap Glyn, Catrin Jones, Bleddyn Jones, David Subacchi, David Owens

The President Susan Plumb extended a warm welcome those in Attendance and also to the Guest Speaker – Anne Marie Read

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the last AGM. The minutes were proposed by Islwyn Lewis Jones and seconded by Richard Mallon.

The agenda was changed slightly, so the guest speaker provided an update to members which was then followed by the matters on the AGM

Address by the guest speaker – Anne Marie Read DWP

Anne Marie provided an overview of a number of topical items from the Department of Work and Pensions including – Fraud & Error Scheme, Right Benefit, Wurti, PDP & updates on Fraud Process.

A copy of the presentation is provided below.



IRRv mid. north
wales.pptx

A number of questions were asked from the floor.

The President, Susan Plumb thanked Anne-Marie behalf of those in attendance for her presentation and those in attendance responded with customary acclaim.

Minutes of Previous AGM & Matters Arising

There were no issues raised and these were proposed by Richard Mallon and Seconded by Islwyn Lewis Jones

Presidents Report

I have really enjoyed my first year as President and it has absolutely flown by. We have had some excellent speakers at our association meetings discussing topical subjects, Hemal Mistry and John Lee from Horsfields on insolvency, Liz Thomas on the business rates revaluation and Ibrahim Hasan on the forthcoming changes to the data protection act. Despite more and more demands on our time and our ever increasing workload, it is reassuring to see such support for the association at our meetings. We cannot forget that the meetings are also a good way to network with other authorities and share good practice.

We have also had some fantastic new additions to the Executive more recently, Anna, Clare and Vicky. We are always looking for enthusiastic new members to join the Executive.

The greatest highlights for me in my first year were attending the national conference as President with Carwyn in his role as Vice President. Also the success of the Wales conference, helped by the superb sponsorship from Jacobs which gave an opportunity for each authority in Wales to have two free places to attend. Jacobs have very kindly offered to sponsor the conference again this year and I hope it will continue to be a huge success. We also have the 20th anniversary of the IRRV golf competition in July to look forward to.

I would like to thank Matthew and Islwyn for the support they have given me in my role, in addition to Carwyn and the Executive. Also many thanks to Richard Mallon for the excellent new newsletters promoting the association.

I look forward to my second year and hope we can continue to have topical speakers to attract good attendance at meetings, so the association is proactive and flourishing when I hand over to Carwyn next year.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Matthew for his work as Secretary and his time on the Executive and additionally to Islwyn who is also not seeking re-election to the Executive. Their hard work and commitment for many years is much appreciated by myself and the Executive.

Secretary's Report

Following the last executive meeting, the secretary had advised the executive that he would not be seeking to continue in the role of Secretary and Treasurer & the executive committee from the AGM onwards due to involvement in a number of other projects and increasing work demands.

The Secretary indicated that the number of meetings held during the year was good and these were well attended and was pleased that someone had come forward that they were prepared to be Secretary & Treasurer from the AGM onwards.

The Secretary indicated that he felt it was important to ensure as many authorities attended meetings.

Treasurers Report and Accounts

The Treasurer Matthew Evans presented the Accounts, copies of which were circulated at the meeting, the accounts reported a profit of £4755.51 which was mainly due to the sponsorship received in respect of the Wales Conference.

These were proposed by Islwyn Lewis Jones and seconded by Richard Mallon that the accounts were approved. Matthew thanked Phil Round for Auditing the Accounts.

Education and Training Officer's Report

Richard Mallon provided a report of activity during the past 12 months and this indicated that following the last AGM, it was suggested that topics to cover were Bankruptcy and Liquidation, NDR Revaluation and Data Protection. There were 3 meetings held during the year- September, November and December and excellent presentations were provided by Horsfields, Liz Thomas & Ibrahim Hasan.

Ideally would look at holding similar meetings this year so invited suggestions for speaker topics, Richard also indicated that the newsletter he has produced on a number of occasions has been placed on the website to raise awareness of association activities.

Election of Officers

There were a number of roles which are undertaken by officers, namely:

Secretary –
Webmaster – Carwyn Jones
Treasurer –
Education Officer – Richard Mallon
Auditor – Phil Round

The above officers have indicated that they are willing to continue in their existing roles, It was also indicated by the Secretary that Bleddyn Jones, whilst unable to attend this meeting has indicated he is prepared to undertake the roles of Secretary and Treasurer this was then proposed by Richard Mallon and seconded by Susan Plumb.

Election of Members of the Executive Committee

At the last executive meeting the secretary indicated that Bleddyn Jones from Gwynedd had indicated that there was a member of staff in Gwynedd who wished to be co-opted onto the executive Committee – Andrew Lewis

The secretary had indicated that Jeanette Round had indicated that she no longer wished to be a member of the executive Committee.

Islwyn Lewis Jones stated that given his ongoing misgivings at the Executive Committee's continued inclination towards commercialisation, he would not be seeking re-election.

He said that he had not taken the decision lightly and that it was with much sadness that he was standing down from the Executive much earlier than he had originally planned.

The following members were re-elected onto the executive committee – Carwyn Jones, Richard Mallon, Susan Plumb, David Subacchi, David Owens, Vicki Hankin, Claire Flint, Anna Friend, Andrew Lewis, Bleddyn Jones, this was proposed by Richard Mallon and seconded by Susan Plumb.

Any other business

Islwyn Lewis Jones confirmed that the Conference agenda would be issued shortly, however we were awaiting final confirmation from a couple of speakers.

Close of Meeting

There being no further matters the meeting was closed.