

Report on NALC AGM - 2011

The 65th NALC AGM was held on 19 October 2011 at The Galleon Suite, Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0DG.

The Rt Hon. the Earl of Lytton chaired the meeting.

- The Rt Hon. the Earl of Lytton was re-elected as President.
- The seven Vice Presidents as recommended by National Council were also re-elected, as was the Auditor.
- The Annual Report was approved

During the discussion on the Annual Report, considerable concern expressed over relationship between NALC/CPRE in relation to the joint project to provide information and assistance on new planning matters. In particular some county associations were reporting that the cost of events was not being fully reimbursed.

Some members also made comment that on the project's recently distributed booklet, CPRE's profile 'overpowered' NALC's leading these members to question whether this was a genuine partnership.

- The Annual Accounts were approved

There was some discussion and debate about what was included in 'Direct expenditure' which was clarified by the Chairman of the Finance Committee with the commitment to examine how to include some more detail in future.

- Subscription rate for year 2012 /13 was approved

The membership subscription rate to National Association was discussed and debated. National Council's recommendation was an increase, in line with CPI, from 5.19p per elector to 5.42p per elector (23p per 100) (4.24%)

After considerable debate and a vote of: - 49 in favour and 36 against the National Council's recommendation was accepted

- Review of Democratic Structures Working Group

Members received a report on the progress of the Review of Democratic Structures Working Group. This was noted

- Changes to constitution and Changes to Standing Orders

Changes to constitution which were minor/tidying changes to conform with proposed changes on structures etc. were discussed and debated along with similar changes to Standing Orders. – All proposed changes were carried.

- Motions by County Associations

The following three motions were carried:-

Cheshire:

“This meeting notes with satisfaction that the loan secured against the premises at 109 Great Russell Street has been fully repaid. The building is a valuable asset and therefore any future proposal to re-mortgage or sell must be authorised by a General Meeting of the National Association”.

Surrey

“The East Sussex, West Sussex and Surrey County Associations propose that Objective 2 (a) of the NALC Constitution be amended to recognise emerging non-statutory bodies such as Neighbourhood Forums. Alternatively this could be reflected in Membership Item 3 (e).”

Suffolk:

“That the village green registration application process does not take account of the views and requirements of all parts of the community; that NALC presses for a more rounded application process, whereby there is a legal mechanism in place, which would take account of the view of people who do not want an area of land to be registered as a green, as well as the views of the group who have made the application; and that NALC press Government for a review of the village green registration process to take account of all the view of local people.”

In addition one motion was defeated and four motions referred to Committee.