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**Society of Local Authority Chief Executives
and Senior Managers
Northern Ireland Branch**

BRANCH MINUTES

Venue **NILGA Offices
Unit 5B Castlereagh Business Park
478 Castlereagh Road
Belfast**

Date & Time **Friday 9 April 2010 at 10.00am**





POSITION	PRESENT	APOLOGY
<i>CHAIR</i>	<i>David McCammick</i>	
<i>SECRETARY</i>	<i>Liam Hannaway</i>	
<i>VICE CHAIR</i>		<i>Ashley Boreland</i>
<i>TREASURER</i>		<i>Valerie Watts</i>
<i>VICE SECRETARY</i>	<i>Liam Flanigan</i>	
<i>AUDITOR</i>	<i>John Briggs</i>	
<i>PAST CHAIR</i>	<i>Trevor Polley</i>	
	<i>Tom McCall</i>	<i>Mick McGuckin MBE</i>
	<i>John Dempsey</i>	<i>Michael Docherty</i>
	<i>Brendan Hegarty</i>	<i>Eddie Curtis</i>
	<i>Robert Gilmore OBE</i>	<i>Adrian Kerr MBE</i>
	<i>Heather Moorhead</i>	<i>John McGrillen</i>
	<i>Richard Lewis</i>	<i>John Quinn</i>
	<i>Alan Burke</i>	
	<i>Geraldine McGahey</i>	
	<i>Jacqui Dixon</i>	<i>Eamon McCotter</i>
	<i>Danny McSorley</i>	<i>Gerry Millar</i>
	<i>Nora Winder</i>	<i>Alan Cardwell</i>
	<i>Kevin Heaney</i>	<i>Roger Wilson</i>
	<i>Philip Faithfull</i>	<i>Peter McNaney</i>
	<i>Edward Patterson</i>	
	<i>Anne Donaghy</i>	
	<i>John Dumigan</i>	

IN ATTENDANCE		
<i>DOE</i>	<i>John Price</i>	
<i>SOLACE Policy Officer</i>	<i>Christine Horner</i>	

1. APOLOGIES

- 1.1** As above.
The Chairman welcomed Jacqui Dixon, John Dumigan and Brendan Hegarty to the Branch Meeting.

2 RPA

2.1 Update on Legislative Timetable

John Price gave an update on the current position, the Minister has met with his colleagues and there is a further meeting with all four parties on 12th April to discuss options, however it is doubtful if a paper will be before the Executive by the 15th. The next Executive meeting is on 29th April. There has been some discussion on elongating the process until 2015. The Minister noted it is still the intention to transfer responsibilities outlined in the Housing Bill from DSD to local government.

2.1.1 Members discussed the issues if the process is elongated of:

- severance for councillors
- morale of the sector in general,
- monies already committed within the process
- the boundaries
- the lifting of vacancy control as a matter of urgency

It was noted that the paper to the Minister must give him confidence that the sector can deliver on it..

2.1.2 Update on LGRJF (Secretariat)

No update

2.2 SLB Update

Discussed above

2.2.1 RTCG Update – None

2.2.2 PDP A – No Update

2.2.3 PDP B – No Update

2.2.4 PDP C – No Update

3. Presentations / Discussions

3.1 Proposed presentation by Carecall

It was agreed to host a presentation by carecall at the next available branch meeting.

3.2

4. MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of branch meeting on Friday 5 March 2010

CH to arrange presentation date with Carecall



The minutes of the branch meeting on Friday 5 March 2010 were proposed to be approved, subject to correcting Ashley Boreland on the attendance list, by Geraldine McGahey and seconded by David McCammick.

CH to note

4.2 Matters Arising – Action Sheet
No matters arising

Minutes of Executive Meeting on Friday 19 March 2010

4.3 The minutes of the Executive meeting on Friday 19 March 2010 were agreed as a true record by Trevor Polley and seconded by David McCammick.

4.4 Matters Arising Action Sheet

It was noted that the Belfast response to the Draft Regeneration and Housing Bill will be available from Belfast mid next week.

CH to follow up on the response with Belfast and NILGA

5. CHAIRMAN’S BUSINESS

5.1 Proposed Portfolio Holders

The Chairman presented the proposed portfolios to Branch members, Alan Burke agreed to add his name to the Agriculture and Rural Development area, Geraldine McGahey agreed to add her name to the Social Policy, Policing area. The E.O. will contact John Dumigan and Jacqui Dixon to ascertain their areas of preference and to replace Norman Dunn on the list.

CH to follow up portfolio holders

5.2 Business Plan Evaluation and 2010 – 2011 Business Plan

Trevor Polley proposed the Business Plan be adopted as a working document with small changes to reflect the contribution of Solace Enterprises, Geraldine McGahey seconded this proposal.

CH to amend Business Plan and post on web site

6. PRIORITY ISSUES

6.1 Collaboration and Efficiencies draft SLB Paper

Members discussed Annex B and agreed to delete the highlighted area.

Annex C rates convergence was discussed and agreed.

6.1.1 Annex D – Danny McSorley gave a full summary of the content of the paper and members discussed it at length. Many members made comments, on the excellent work that was put into the paper over the holiday period. Changes to strengthen the paper were discussed in detail and agreed.

D McS to make amendments and have paper ready for Tuesday morning latest

6.1.2 Members discussed and agreed wording in SLB Actions on the Draft SLB paper. It was agreed that Danny McSorley will make the amendments and after review by the Elected members this afternoon and receipt of their comments the paper will be ready for



Monday afternoon.

- 7. NILGA**
- 7.1 The joint meeting between Solace and NILGA Executive will now take place on Friday 14th May 2010.
- 8. CORPORATE PARTNERS**
- 8.1 The invitation has issued from PWC to the event on 20th May 2010.
- 9. SOLACE CONFERENCES & EVENTS**
- 9.1 The joint event with CEX Forum will take place on Thursday 29 April in the Linen Green Dungannon 'Creating Cohesive Communities' Liam Hannaway encouraged members to send their staff along to the event.
- 10. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**
- 10.1 Consultation on Preparing a new road safety strategy for Northern Ireland 2010 – 2020.
Noted
- 10.2 Proposals to amend exemptions to the Statutory Charge as defined in the Legal Aid (General) Regulations (NI)1965 and other NI Miscellaneous amendments.
Noted
- 10.3 Consultation on the Social fund Reform Debt Credit and Low Income Households
Noted
- 10.4 Letter dated 25 March 2010 advising of the appointment of the new Latvian Consul in NI.
Noted
- 11. Correspondence for Action**
- 11.1 None
- 12. Communication Slot**
- The Chairman noted that this is Heather Moorhead's last day both with the branch and as CEX of NILGA. He wished her well in her new post and thanked her for the contribution over the last few years. Heather responded by thanking members for their assistance and friendship over the years.
- 13. AOB**
- 13.1 Letter Dated 31st March 2010 from Rural Development Council on Rural GIS Service – Evidence for Effective Decision Making
Noted
- 14. DATE OF NEXT BRANCH MEETING**
Friday, 7 May 2010
Strabane District Council
47 Derry Road

CH to note date of meeting



Strabane

