

## **ALCC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 14 DECEMBER 2018**

### **BY MEANS OF COMPUTER CONFERENCING**

1. PRESENT Linda Hedley, General Secretary; Lionel Thatcher, Chairman; Gwilym Rippon, Vice Chairman, Paula Heath, Debra Platt, Michael Lennon and Laura Jarrett.
2. APOLOGIES were received from Lesley Sung , Lis Moore and Ian Smith.
3. MINUTES of the 10 October 2018 Committee Meeting were agreed.
4. MEMBERSHIP TRENDS The Chairman said that so far as he is aware membership remains around the 1600 mark, though he thought a few more people may have joined recently. Gwilym said that he had promoted ALCC at meetings in Wales and he was sure that a number of new members have joined.

The necessary increase in membership subscription was again discussed but it was agreed that £40 per annum was still good value. Michael suggested introducing a sliding scale, based upon salary, this having been suggested at the Staffs Branch meeting, and it was agreed that this would be worth investigating once ALCC is in a stronger financial position and once we have the administrative capability to deal with it. Meanwhile our subscription of 77p per week compares well with others.

#### 5. REPORT ON MEETING WITH NALC/OVW

Linda outlined the discussions which had taken place and mentioned the reluctance of NALC to treat ALCC as being separate from SLCC. It is imperative that ALCC can achieve its own identity and this can only be done by moving away from SLCC and undertaking our own affairs. Paula suggested that one problem was ALCC having a committee which comprised people in paid positions with SLCC, but Gwilym pointed out that those positions were simply advisory roles and were not involved in the management or direction of SLCC.

The meeting with NALC/OVC had been worthwhile nevertheless and covered a lot of topics, though nothing in any depth. The question of Job Profiles was not touched upon and it was hoped that Paula and Linda will be able to resume work on those in the New Year.

There was a lively discussion on the new salary scales with Paula stating that she had been made aware of the scale points months ago, whereas everyone else had only recently found out about them. It seems that some CALCS had the information and had disseminated it but it had taken NALC until a few weeks ago to consult ALCC.

#### 6. FUTURE RELATIONS WITH SLCC

This followed on from the meeting with NALC. Linda has written to Rob Smith asking to meet and discuss these matters in January and a date is awaited. Gwilym said that he would like to be involved as the Welsh representative.

7. SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS FOLLOWING LEDBURY

Lionel said that he had written to Unison asking to meet regarding this, in the hope of getting their support to one day persuade government to change the law and give Clerks the same rights as any other worker.

Gwilym referred to the reported meeting between Rob Smith, David Preston and others and an MP to discuss bullying in this sector. He appreciated it was probably David Preston who had organised the meeting, but was disappointed that no-one had thought to involve ALCC. The Chairman will write to Rob Smith.

8. GENERAL SECRETARY. Linda had no other points to make but assured everyone that she was going to start things moving after Christmas with a view to obtaining better recognition for ALCC. Gwilym said that a meeting with the Ombudsman in Wales would be a good starting point and Linda will make contact with him.

9 FINANCIAL REPORT Unfortunately Lis could not be with us today

The Chairman will obtain the report from Lis and circulate it.

- 10 ESO PAYMENTS It was thought that the principle of paying half the fee for subsequent visits to a Council was wrong and this will be deferred until we are in possession of the financial statements.

- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EXPENSES The Chairman said that he thought this had originated from his suggestion that members might be prepared to physically meet occasionally at their own cost rather than have a 'remote' meeting, but Paula said that she was told from the outset that no expenses would be paid. Members agreed that it was wrong to not only expect people to give up their time for nothing

but also to pay their own way. Again, this will be looked at once the accounts are to hand.

12 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The AGM will be held at the Practitioners' Conference at Kenilworth on 14 February 2019 at 5pm.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. There was none and the Chairman thanked all for their time and wished them a Happy Christmas. He said he hoped we would have another meeting before the AGM.