



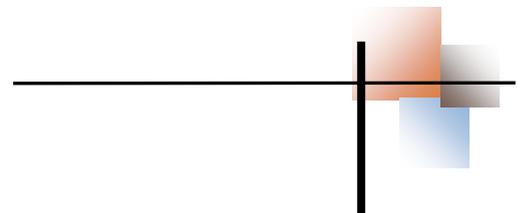
# Cheshire Association of Local Councils

## Annual Report and Annual Meeting Pack 2021

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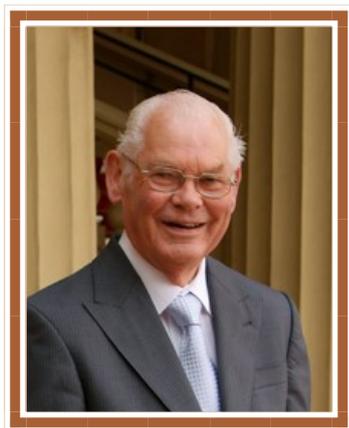
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# PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD



I am writing this on the 24th August and in my diary I have an entry for Wednesday 20 October (ChALC AGM at Middlewich). It is intended that this event will follow the traditional pattern of a hearty buffet followed by the AGM.

I mention this only because in these uncertain times as the nation copes with Covid nothing can be taken for granted. I fervently hope the meeting goes ahead as planned and I can welcome you in person.

What a year we have to report and reflect upon. Jackie Weaver becomes a national celebrity overnight as we realise and comprehend the awesome power of social media networks.

Philip Jackson who has served the Association in various capacities for over 25 years stepped down as Chairman and a member of the Board for health reasons and we thank him for his dedicated service and wish him well. He is succeeded by his Deputy, Terry O'Neill who had been serving as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

It was with deep sadness that in March we were informed of the death at the age of 80 of Robin Wendt CBE DL who after a distinguished career in both the Civil Service and Local Government culminating with him stepping into the breach and taking up the position of Chief Executive of NALC on a part-time basis in 1996 until the appointment of John Findlay in 1997. In October of 1997 at the AGM he was appointed President of the Association, a position he held for 7 years until he stepped down at the 2004 AGM. His appointment as President came during my term as Chairman and in the year following the Association becoming independent and breaking away from the Cheshire Community Council. His advice and support during those challenging years was invaluable.

We were also informed in September of the unexpected death of Stuart Hulse. Stuart has been a much respected member of Helsby Parish Council and the ChALC Board for many years having recently stood down as he retired to Appleby. Stuart was committed to his parish work but also to his family and our thoughts and condolences are with them now.

The County Office has continued through a mix of home and office based working to provide an efficient service to member Councils and many thanks to Jackie, Nicky and Sharon. I personally have been impressed by the new look weekly bulletin.

Adversity brings out the best in the British and the community spirit shown during the pandemic has been overwhelming and Town & Parish Councils have been at the heart of community projects and initiatives. You can all be proud of the role your Council has played in helping the vulnerable and needy through these difficult times,

The National Association has stepped up to mark and continues to be an influential voice speaking on behalf of Town & Parish Councils to policy makers, and many thanks to Lillian Burns the ChALC representative on the National Assembly for her dedicated commitment.

The current problems we are coping with demonstrate the need for a strong and well resourced County Association and that is what we have in Cheshire.

I look forward to meeting you at Middlewich on Wednesday 20 October.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Kerr'. The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Brian Kerr OBE  
President

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

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Wow, what a year this has been with all the Covid 19 issues the Association has had to deal with. All of our meetings having to be virtual, held remotely, and have proved difficult as most of our Town and Parish Councils will testify to.

We then had a major issue with one of our Parish Councils whose difficult meeting unexpectedly went viral and was seen around the world.

Thankfully our Chief Officer, Jackie Weaver, stepped in to help them regain control.

This achieved worldwide recognition for Jackie and several media interviews but on a more serious note it highlighted the importance of the Town and Parish Council movement and encouraged a wider interest in the role of the sector and how it enhances local communities. I even had a phone call from Sue Baxter, the Chairman of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) offering their full support.

Then at our February meeting our reigning Chairman (Philip Jackson) stood down and I was asked to take on the role. Philip has been part of our Association for over 30 year and has been Chairman on several occasions during that time. I am sure you would want to join with the Board in wishing him all the best and thanking him for his excellent work.

Francis Tunney (Utkinton Parish Council) took on the position of Vice Chairman and was instrumental in instigating an internal review of our organisation and how best we could continue to serve our member by devising a SWOT Analysis for Board Members to look at our Strengths and Weaknesses and to identify any Opportunities or Threat. A sub group of the Board are working on this and will feedback later in the year

Our relationship with both Borough Councils (Cheshire East Council and Cheshire West and Chester Council), the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) are still in good health and we have seen an increase in people attending these virtual sessions.

We recently met with the new Police and Crime Commissioner, John Dwyer, to discuss his new Police and Crime Plan and particularly the issue of making Cheshire's roads safer with the introduction of average speed cameras. Watch this space!

Training of councillors has continued on a virtual platform and we are amazed at the increase in participants and it is clear that training remains an important service that our members value.

None of this would have been achieved without the outstanding support I have received from our Officers - Jackie, Nikki and Sharon and all our Board Members.

Thank you all for your continues support of our Association.



Terry O'Neill  
Chairman

# VICE-CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



No one was more surprised than I when my colleagues on the Executive Board elected me to the post of Vice-Chair of ChALC – one that I believed to be there just in case the Chair wasn't, if you get my drift ...

I couldn't have been under a greater illusion.

2020/2021 has been quite a 'rock 'n' roll' year for ChALC and, despite the various 'lock ups and downs' a great deal of water has flown under the proverbial bridge. So, what have we done and what has been achieved?

A small working party and I were asked to review the shenanigans that became Handforthgate and to understand its impact on us and our Membership and to recommend some course(s) of action. Out of it came one need; to better understand the ways in which we fulfil our brief to our (nearly) 180 members and to become a better organisation because of the notoriety that the simple phrases 'You have no authority here, Jackie Weaver!' and 'Read the standing orders!' would bring. Even today the press, in one form or another has some mention of JW – even that bastion of 'middle England', "The Archers" asked Jackie to be on.

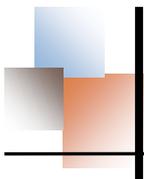
But, in all seriousness, it did give us grounds for a great deal of self-examination and out of that came some courses of action to help us get better as an organisation. It told us that we needed to 'beef up' our own 'rules' on how we interact with members and the media, that we needed to be able to deal with the exposure (I wonder how many of the other local Associations have been sought out to comment on national planning et al.) But one salutary lesson came above all – we needed to support our embattled staff to ensure they were able to cope.

It also brought forward some analysis of us as an organisation in the form of a 'SWOT' analysis that determined (according to the members of the Executive) that our biggest weakness was also our major strength – the way in which a small staff manages needed to be reviewed. The rise, and fall, of virtual meetings have brought communications and support to the fore right across our Association. The weekly briefings, the growth on 'online seminars and training' have seen many more members (and non-members) become better informed and for that I would like to place on record my thanks to Nikki, Sharon, and Jackie for simply 'being there'. But the big lesson we learned was that we, as an Executive, need to allow our staff to grow – physically and organisationally if we are to prosper into the future.

I've been involved in a great deal of 'stuff' that I never thought I would – meetings with our Primary Authorities, the Police and Crime Commissioner, helping others understand what it is we do and how they can get involved. I learned that we have a high proportion of Town and Parish Councils as Members, but we need to do more to engage with them and to encourage non-members to join our 'merry band' but above all, that we have a role to play in local government and their voice is crucial.

The past 15, or so, months have taught us a great deal about where ChALC stands and long may it continue to support you, our members.

Francis Tunney  
Vice-Chairman



# NALC REPORT - Cllr Lillian Burns

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The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) is promoting the Queen's 'Green Canopy' initiative which has been devised to celebrate her platinum jubilee year on the throne next year and, earlier this year, NALC launched a new publication on trees.

NALC has continued to hold all its meetings virtually throughout 2021 and its annual general meeting and conference, scheduled to take place a week after the ChALC AGM, is also due to be held remotely. In addition, it has been holding a series of highly successful open access remote conferences. Upcoming ones are 'Levelling up the environment through biodiversity net gain' (on October 27<sup>th</sup>), 'Making rural housing more affordable' (November 17<sup>th</sup>) and 'Future Communities' (December 2<sup>nd</sup>). Jackie Weaver, ChALC's chief executive will be one of the speakers at the 'Future Communities' event.

I have attended every remote meeting I have been entitled to attend – meetings of the full National Assembly, the Policy Committee (of which I am the vice chair), the Smaller Councils Committee and the Climate Change Task and Finish Group in addition to a couple of the on-line conferences and meetings of the Rural Services Network, reporting back on them to colleagues on the ChALC executive board.

I wrote the NALC responses to several calls for evidence by parliamentary committees and to a number of consultations by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, including one on permitted development regulations, and I input to other submissions. I also drafted, on behalf of the NALC chairman, NALC's version of a Near Perfect Planning Future (NPPF) and an appeal that was sent to every member of parliament in June asking them not to vote for any planning reforms which would:

- further weaken and over simplify the planning system
- further suppress the voice of principal authority and local (town and parish) councillors endeavouring to represent their communities
- further restrict members of the public from engaging with planning
- further result in development on greenfields, Green Belt and/or important open spaces and/or ignore the climate emergency
- further favour developers over communities and the environment
- further ignore the key finding of Sir Oliver Letwin's 'Independent Review of Build Out' – that developers are only prepared to build out planning permissions at a rate which does not affect market price
- further ignore the need to support local authorities and local councils to deliver affordable homes
- further ignore the strong case for the granting of a third party right of appeal (against planning decisions) to local councils and
- further neglect the need to strengthen neighbourhood plans

This appeal was intended to influence thinking prior to the publication of the Planning Bill, which was expected to be published this autumn but which, it is understood, the new Communities Secretary, Michael Gove, has now cancelled.

I am standing for re-election to the ChALC board at its AGM on October 20<sup>th</sup>. If I am re-elected, I hope to carry on serving as Cheshire's representative on the NALC National Assembly and to continue to be a very pro-active member of the Assembly.

Lillian Burns  
National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Representative

# EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS - October 2021

## PRESIDENT

Brian Kerr OBE

## VICE PRESIDENTS

Frank Walton  
Lesley Smetham

## CHAIRMAN

Terry O'Neill

## VICE-CHAIRMAN

Francis Tunney

## ELECTED BOARD REPRESENTATIVES:

Alan Bailey  
John Cornell  
David Rowlands

Lillian Burns  
Judith Critchley  
Colin Todd

Peter Bulmer  
Stephen Jones

## CHESHIRE EAST REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Steven Edgar

## CHESHIRE WEST & CHESTER REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Mike Jones

## CHESHIRE COMMUNITY ACTION REPRESENTATIVE

John Heselwood

## SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS REPRESENTATIVE

Adam Keppel-Green

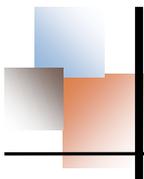
## FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

David Rowlands (**Chair**)  
Judith Critchley  
Frank Walton

Stephen Jones

## PREPARATION OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

J D H Business Services Ltd  
94a Wrexham Road  
Mold  
Flintshire  
CH7 1HG



# Annual Meeting Standing Orders

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1. The Annual Meeting shall, subject to Standing Order No 2 deal with the matters notified in the agenda circulated with the notice of the meeting, including, inter-alia, motions and amendments submitted by member councils, area meetings and by the Executive Committee of the Association.
2. Where a motion under consideration at the Annual Meeting has not been circulated to member councils for comment at least six weeks before the Annual Meeting, the Chairman of the meeting is empowered to accept amendments from the floor.
3. **MOTIONS OF URGENCY**  
Motions on matters of urgency shall be handed to the Chief Officer in writing, at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. They shall be announced by the Chairman at the commencement of business and shall be placed on the agenda if accepted as urgent by a majority of those present.
4. **DEBATE**  
No motion shall be discussed until it has been moved and seconded. Members wishing to speak for or against a motion who hand in the appropriate slip will be given preference when that motion is debated.
5. **SPEAKERS**  
All speakers shall rise, giving name and that of the Council they represent, and shall address the chair. All members shall preserve order and be seated when the Chairman rises. No member shall speak more than once on any motion until every member wishing to do so has had the opportunity of speaking; second speeches shall be made only after the permission of the Chairman has been granted. Points of order, information or explanation shall not be regarded as speeches.
6. **TIME LIMIT**  
The mover and seconder of a motion shall both be allowed FIVE MINUTES for their speeches; succeeding speakers shall be each allowed THREE MINUTES. A motion or an amendment thereto may be formally seconded, the seconder thereby reserving his right to speak later in the debate.
7. **REPRESENTATIVES**  
Each Council in membership of the County Association may be represented at the meeting by three representatives (one of whom may be the Clerk) to speak and vote. Officers of the Association, co-opted members, and persons appointed by Area Committees to serve on the Executive Committee are also entitled to attend, speak and vote. Additional representatives may speak but not vote.
8. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STATEMENTS**  
Before a right of reply is exercised, the view of the Executive Committee on the subject under discussion may be put, subject to the time limit on Standing Order No 6.
9. **RIGHT OF REPLY**  
The mover of a motion, but not of an amendment, may reply to a discussion without introducing new matter, and the discussion will then be closed.
10. **CHAIRMAN SPEAKING TO A MOTION**  
The Chairman shall have the right to sum up a discussion to clarify the issues on which delegates are to vote.

# Annual Meeting 2021 - Agenda

1. **Welcome and introduction** – *Brian Kerr OBE* - President  
  
**Guest Speaker:** *Cllr Sue Baxter* Chairman NALC  
A reflection on the last 5 years, highlights and lowlights and the challenges facing the sector moving forwards.
2. **To receive the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting** (*Pages 10-12*)
3. **Presentation of the Annual Report** – *Terry O'Neill* - Chairman
4. **Presentation of Accounts** – *David Rowlands* - Finance Chairman  
(*Pages 17 onwards*)
5. **Setting of Subscriptions for the forthcoming year**  
To consider the Executive Board recommendation that there should be no increase in the Affiliation Fee rate for 2021
6. **Appointment of Officers**  
To approve the following Executive Board nominations:  

<b>President</b>	-	<i>Brian Kerr OBE</i>
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	-	<i>Lesley Smetham</i> <i>Frank Walton</i>
7. **Appointment of Board Members** (*Pages 13-14*)  
In accordance with the Constitution, 3 Board Members are required to step down each year in rotation and an election takes place.  
  
Nominations have been received from :  
  - Cllr Lillian Burns
  - Cllr John Cornell
  - Ms Pauline English
  - Cllr Keith Gilby
  - Cllr Colin Todd
8. **To debate motions from Member Councils** (*Page 15-16*)
  - 8.1 Alsager Town Council
  - 8.2 Ollereton with Marthall Parish Council (1)
  - 8.3 Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council (2)
  - 8.3 Nantwich Town Council
  - 8.5 Neston Town Council
  - 8.6 Mickle Trafford Parish Council
9. **Closing Remarks** – *Brian Kerr OBE* - President

# Annual Meeting 2020 - Minutes

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom

**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian Kerr, Philip Jackson, Lillian Burns, Alan Bailey, Judith Critchley, Lesley Smetham, Steven Edgar, Mike Jones, Adam Keppel-Green, Colin Todd, Frank Tunney, John Cornell, David Rowlands, Terry O'Neill,

Together with 54 representatives from the following Councils: -

Acton Bridge	Allostock	Alsager	Brindley & Faddiley
Bulkeley & Ridley	Burland	Chelford	Cheshire East
Cheshire West & Chester	Chorley	Frodsham	Goostrey
Handley & District	Hartford	Hatherton & Walgherton	Helsby
High Legh	Holmes Chapel	Huntington	Knutsford
Marton	Mickle Trafford	Mobberley	Mottram St Andrew
Neston	Nether Alderley	Newbold Astbury	Northwich
Ollerton with Marthall	Peover Superior	Plumley with Toft & Bexton	Poynton with Worth
Puddington	Sandbach	Saughall & Shotwick	Somerford
Sutton	Tarvin	Utkinton & Cotebrook	Warmingham
Weaverham	Weston & Basford	Whitegate & Marton	Willaston

## APOLOGIES

John Heselwood - Cheshire Community Action	John Moore – Wistaston Parish Council
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## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The President, Brian Kerr, welcomed all to the 2020 meeting. He noted that since the last Annual Meeting held in Middlewich, no-one could have predicted the circumstances which had resulted in this virtual meeting taking place.

Amidst the heartache and grief caused by the pandemic the President has been immensely proud of the reaction of parish councils and the vast majority of citizens who have responded positively to challenges. He has also been impressed with NALC's interaction with Government and the Association.

ChALC has continued to provide a 100% service to local councils and he credited Jackie Weaver and staff in continuing the high level of support.

## APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF 24 OCTOBER 2019 ANNUAL MEETING

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and offered for approval.

***i/20 RESOLVED that the minutes be agreed unanimously .***

## PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman, Cllr Philip Jackson, noted that copies of the Report had been circulated to participants. He reported that the ChALC Team had developed and were delivering a comprehensive series of virtual training sessions this year, and the flexibility of attending these virtual sessions was proving very popular.

In addition awareness raising sessions had also been offered, on topics such as the Local Council Award Scheme and also with the CEC planning team and Network Rail team looking at proposed changes to foot crossings locally.

# Annual Meeting 2020 - Minutes

There has also been a series of virtual 'conversations' with departments at Cheshire West and Chester which were proving to be very well received and were enabling us to maintain good relations between the sectors.

It was also felt to be important to continue to work with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) as we keep the needs of the sector in the minds of Government. Philip invited members to review page 9 of the Annual Report where the important contribution Cllr Lillian Burns makes to policy and in particular the Planning White Paper can be seen. The Chairman offered his thanks to Lillian for all she does on our behalf.

Philip advised the meeting that the previous chairman (Stuart Hulse) had asked that his best wishes be passed to the meeting attendees.

The Chairman highlighted the update on the Motions from last year (set out at page 14 of the Annual Report) and advised that the Malpas motion, although having gained general support for the reduction in the carbon footprint, there have been no tangible results to report.

However the Neston Motion that we lobby for change in the legislation to allow for the separation of the roles of Chairman and Mayor has been supported by NALC and is incorporated in NALC policy to enable a more Executive style governance arrangement for town councils. When there is an opportunity we will hopefully see legislative change.

In closing the Chairman invited questions from the attendees and then Members were invited to note the content and to receive the Annual Report of 2019.

***ii/20 RESOLVED that the Annual Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 be accepted and duly adopted.***

## **PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS**

Cllr Terry O'Neill, Finance Committee Chairman, presented the accounts for approval. He invited participants to refer to pages 15 – 21 of the Annual Report where the accounts are set out in detail.

Cllr O'Neill noted there were positive year end outcomes with an increase in training courses income, and reductions in expenditure owing to Covid-19 restrictions.

Rental of office premises remains high at £8.5k but the ChALC Executive has an ambition to purchase their own premises, and this year we have been able to contribute £10k to the Premises Fund taking it to £55k.

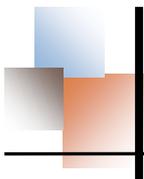
A review of the comparison graphs on page 22 of the Report shows the steady increase in Affiliation Fees and the decrease in salary costs as we aim to work smarter and take advantage of electronic working.

***iii/20 RESOLVED that the Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 be approved.***

## **SETTING OF SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2020-21**

Cllr O'Neill invited representatives to consider the Executive Board recommendation that there should be no increase in the Affiliation Fee rate for 2020.

***iv/20 Unanimously RESOLVED that there be no increase in the Affiliation Fee for the forthcoming year.***



# Annual Meeting 2020 - Minutes

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## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Chairman, Philip Jackson, invited members to support the Executive Board's recommendation that the current President and Vice-Presidents be re-elected en-bloc until the Annual Meeting 2021

***v/20 Unanimously RESOLVED that the Officers of the Association for the ensuing year be as follows:***

<b>President:</b>	Brian Kerr	
<b>Vice Presidents:</b>	Frank Walton	Lesley Smetham

## **MOTIONS FROM MEMBER COUNCILS**

The following motion was debated by those present, and it was clarified that where motions were borough specific, ChALC would as a matter of course apply them to the ChALC sub-region as appropriate.

### **Goostrey Parish Council**

*"This meeting calls upon the Cheshire Association of Local Councils to lobby Cheshire East Council, including its contractors (such as Ringway Jacobs) to improve communications with Parish Councils by responding to emails, phone calls, voicemails and letters within 15 working days. Where answers cannot be provided immediately, a valid reason and a date for a full response should be provided."*

**Proposer: Chair Ken Morris (Goostrey)**

**Seconder: Sharon Jones (Goostrey)**

Ken Morris spoke to motion and outlined the need for more effective and consistent communication with CEC officers and elected members. CEC are a major supplier of services to the parish so difficulties cause problems when there is not a follow up. Francis Tunney (Utkinton and Cotebrook) noted similar issues with CW&C. David Rowlands (Mickle Trafford and District) said issues apply across all areas and need a better response and action. Pat Kynaston (Neston) agreed that a SLA approach should be endorsed. Robert Hughes (Motram St Andrew) congratulated Ken Morris for this motion and reported a deterioration of relationship with CEC, complaining of an absence of enforcement in planning. Chris Knibbs (Hatherton and Walgherton) has at least 20 ongoing issues on record which is affecting credibility of both parish council and Highways. Gwyneth Derbyshire (Somerford) reported issue with high road speed within an expanding community and contact made with Highways 3 times to no avail. Haf Barlow (Poynton) noted that their response to the CEC Corporate Plan consultation has raised exactly this problem. The lack of response was deplored

***The motion was unanimously carried.***

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

The President, Brian Kerr, concluded the evening by noting that the meeting had been in session for 40 minutes, which may be a benefit of a virtual meeting. He thanked everyone for taking part and Jackie Weaver and staff for putting the meeting together. Looking forward 12 months to next year he was hopeful that we would be meeting 'in the flesh' in 2021.

# Board Member Nominees

## Lillian Burns

I became an independent Parish Councillor 22 years ago and, from the outset, was active in attending area and other events arranged by the Cheshire Association of Local Councils. I was elected to the ChALC board 17 years ago and five years ago they elected me to be their representative on the National Assembly of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). I am now the Vice Chair of NALC's Policy Committee and frequently take the lead in responding to calls for evidence by parliamentary committees and government consultations. I also serve on NALC's Smaller Councils Committee and on its Climate Change Task and Finish Group and am NALC's appointed representative on the Rural Services Network (RSN).

I am a journalist by training and particularly enjoy carrying out research projects. Especially planning-related ones. In 2018, I researched and wrote, along with a colleague, the NALC report on Neighbourhood Plans (NPs): 'Where Next for Neighbourhood Planning?', featured in the publications part of the NALC website: (<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/2755-where-next-for-neighbourhood-planning/file>) and I have been involved in lobbying for a strengthening of NPs.

I have also had some experience of public relations and marketing work but, for the last 25 years, have devoted a significant amount of time to doing voluntary planning and transport policy work on behalf of a number of non-governmental organisations including the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW). I have developed a particular expertise in spatial planning, which I keep up-to-date by taking part in frequent training sessions offered by professional planning bodies and by the organisations I support and I have been able to bring this expertise to the benefit my own parish council as well as to ChALC and NALC. For instance, I wrote the NALC response to the Planning White Paper and to the 'Changes to the Current Planning System' document in 2020.

## John Cornell

Member of CHALC Exec for 5 years.

Formally Chair of Cheshire East Planning Forum (successor to Crewe & Nantwich Area Meeting) supported by CHALC, which looked at common cross boundary Planning / environmental issues experienced by those parishes comprising the hinterland of Crewe, an area currently undergoing dramatic social, economic, and environmental change.

Member of Weston & Basford Parish Council for approx. 15 years. Chair for 5 years. Currently Vice Chair, Chair of Parish Council Planning Committee, and Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The Neighbourhood Plan is currently in the advanced stages of being formally revised and updated

Retired Local Authority Chief Planning Officer and Corporate Director (Environment and Transport).

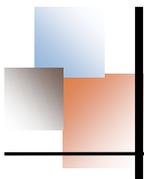
This involved extensive multi-disciplinary working and management along with interface with a wide range of stakeholders and agencies. Much of the work in my later career was related to large scale regeneration projects and was geared to delivering on the ground.

Working knowledge of how Local Government operates at every level,

Up to date knowledge of the rapidly changing Planning legislation.

I'm very conscious that environmental and planning issues constitute a high proportion of the work of many parish councils and by their very nature are sensitive and often controversial.

I'm keen to remain on the Board to share my experience and in doing so, contribute something back to the community.



# Board Member Nominees - 2021

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## **Pauline English**

I have been a Parish Clerk for more than 20 years, serving 7 parishes in the Chester area including Barrow, Capenhurst & Ledsham, Elton, Ince, Lea-by-Backford and currently Little Stanney & District and Mollington.

I worked for Cheshire County Council for 27 years in Committee Services. I have also worked for Ellesmere Port & Neston Borough Council until its demise in 2009 and Wirral Borough Council on a part-time basis for a few months.

Although I have not completed CiLCA I attended some training courses intended to support completion.

My years with Cheshire County Council were working in Committee Services which brought me into close contact with elected Members and senior officers. I put together agenda for main Committee meetings and wrote up their Minutes and Action Lists.

For the short time I was with Ellesmere Port & Neston Borough Council I supported Members mainly by putting together agenda for meetings, liaising with officers and writing Minutes.

I use the internet to find out information and to check what is happening in my local area. I use my email account regularly to send messages and documents. I am familiar with Zoom as both of my Parish Councils used it during lockdown.

## **Keith Gilby**

Parish Councillor for 2 years, Chair for 1 year, AGM Sept 2021.

Senior Business Board Member since mid 90's.

Recently a SME business joint owner, successfully grown and sold to PLC.

Currently volunteer as NHS Delivery driver.

Eye for detail and understand the art of the possible.

## **Colin Todd**

I have been a Board member for six years having previously been a member of the Crewe and Nantwich Area meeting after which I was a member and vice chair of Cheshire East Planning Forum which succeeded the Area Meetings.

I am currently vice chair of Willaston (CEC) Parish Council which I have been a member of for over 17 years. I have also served as Chairman. I was involved in the development of the Parish Plan and served as a member of the steering group. I took a leading role in the successful preparation and subsequent completion of two neighbourhood plans – one for my own Parish and the other for a neighbouring Parish, to Regulation 19 & 20 stages..

I am Chairman of the southern area Police Cluster Group and also manage and coordinate the neighbourhood Speedwatch Group. I have also participated in certain elements of the development of the Cheshire East Local Plan, specifically issues relating to the Green Gap.

I have spent many years in various leadership and management roles and prior to retirement was an Operations Manager for a multi-national organisation. The position also involved managing a team of support personnel. My job role included carrying out research and analysis, planning, organising and controlling the work of multiple internal departments as well as engaging with and negotiating with external organisations. The job also involved carrying out various types of investigations including disciplinary relating to internal personnel as well as investigating criminal activities – for example, counterfeit and smuggling, with external organisations. The role required a high degree of Team Working and the developing sound commercial relationships and effective networking with internal and external stakeholders. In order to successfully carry out my job, it was a necessary requirement to be proficient in using modern technology, have effective communication skills, the ability to process information, prioritising workloads, problem solving and having the ability to make decisions quickly and effectively. Throughout my tenure on the ChALC Board, my skill set and experience have, I believe, been used to make an effective contribution to the Board and membership and I would welcome the opportunity to continue to serve on the Board.

# Member Council Motions - 2021

## Alager Town Council

This meeting calls upon the Cheshire Association of Local Council to request that ChALC lobby the Local Government Association and any other body they feel appropriate to strengthen the sanctions available to a Monitoring Officer for councillors who break the Code of Conduct.

## Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council (1)

This meeting calls upon the Cheshire Association of Local Councils to lobby Cheshire East Council to ask them to allow the use of imagery when appearing before Planning Committees.

The planning officer is afforded the time to show photographs and plans of any site, to better inform the councillors of the background to any application, however the same visual potential is not available of those objecting to the application. Councils are allowed just 5 minutes to present their objections to a proposed development and must do this verbally. The vast majority of objections to applications rely on maps, plans, geography, and photography, but to be expected to do this purely by oral testimony is archaic and doesn't allow councillors in the planning committee to become fully informed.

## Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council (2)

This meeting calls upon the Cheshire Association of Local Councils to press Government for a change in legislation to prohibit the registration of new planning applications in respect of property which is subject to Planning Enforcement action (with the exception of applications to be submitted on the instruction of Planning Enforcement officers to address existing matters).

Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council, together with local residents, have, over a number of years, become totally frustrated by the apparent lack of effective planning enforcement action taken by the Local Authority. In many cases, individuals subject to enforcement action continue to seek further planning permission, which is often granted.

Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council propose that planning policy be changed so that applicants must resolve outstanding issues before submitting further applications. This policy would encourage applicants to comply with .....

## **Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council (2) (*Continued*)**

..... enforcement requirements in order to submit new applications and help the Planning Authority resolve matters more quickly given the applicants desire to submit a new application.

Furthermore, the proposed change would provide a legislative basis upon which local communities can be protected from uncontrolled, unauthorised development.

## **Nantwich Town Council**

This meeting calls upon the Cheshire Association of Local Councils to investigate issues associated with Double Taxation affecting many town and parish councils identifying and collating examples from around the Borough as evidence, and to consider mechanisms to address the issues. With evidence obtained call upon Cheshire East Council to address the problem.

## **Neston Town Council**

This meeting calls upon the principal authorities in Cheshire to standardise the age requirement to apply for a concessionary bus pass from normal retirement age to 60.

## **Mickle Trafford and District Parish Council**

Given the proliferation of road signs obscured by hedge growth in summer and slush in winter, this meeting asks the Executive Board to try to negotiate with the Principal Authorities to enable and fund local councils to keep them visible.

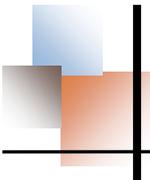
## Cheshire Association of Local Councils

### Annual Accounts

2020/2021

These accounts have been prepared in accordance  
with the information and explanations received.

JDH Business Services Limited



# INCOME

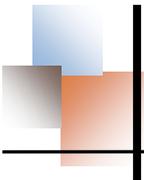
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<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Affiliation Fees	93,644	96,141
Sales of Literature		
Reviews	479	547
Handbook and Sundries	<u>1,162</u>	<u>38</u>
	1,641	585
Bank Interest Received		
National Savings Bank & Other	860	780
Other Income:		
Annual Meeting	200	0
Courses	18,725	17,020
Grants	0	1,080
Miscellaneous	411	340
Audlem TC		2,250
Crewe TC	6,924	10,021
SLA	34,215	34,215
	<u>156,619</u>	<u>162,431</u>

# EXPENDITURE

## EXPENDITURE

	2020	2021
Affiliation Fees to National Association	23,376	23,785
Salary Cost (inc NI etc)	66,744	68,557
Postage	327	10
Telephone	1,410	1,456
Printing, Stationery and Photocopier	1,500	1,126
Donations	15	0
Accountancy fee	991	984
Annual Meeting Expenses	716	0
Courses	11,477	5,936
IT	3,146	1,771
Travel & Meeting Expenses:		
Meeting Expenses	515	19
General travel Exp	3,784	453
Chairman/Vice-Chairman allowance	550	550
Premises Rental	8,496	8,496
Insurance	360	364
Miscellaneous	734	1,526
Purchase of Literature		
Reviews	374	374
Handbooks and Supplies	1,229	0
Northern Group Admin Fund	176	0
Audlem TC		2,259
Crewe TC	6,174	8,797
Equipment repairs, renewals & minor items	0	0
Depreciation - office equipment	1,340	1,769
	<u>133,434</u>	<u>128,233</u>
Surplus for the year	23,185	34,199



# SUMMARY OF INC AND EXP ACCOUNT

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## Northern Group - Restricted Fund

Income	0
Expenditure	<u>0</u>
Surplus/Deficit	<u>0</u>

## Designated Fund - Equipment

Income	0
Expenditure	<u>1,758</u>
Surplus/Deficit	<u>-1,758</u>

## Designated Fund - Premises

Income	0
Expenditure	<u>0</u>
Surplus/Deficit	<u>0</u>

## General Reserve

Income	162,431
Expenditure	<u>126,475</u>
Surplus/Deficit	<u>35,957</u>

# BALANCE SHEET as at 31st MARCH 2021

	31/03/2020		31/03/2021	
	£	£	£	£
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>				
Office Equipment				
Cost	3,011		3,013	
Additions in year	1,342		1,758	
Depreciation	<u>1,340</u>		<u>1,769</u>	
		3,013		3,002
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>				
Debtors and Prepayments	953		5,288	
Cash at Bank and in Transit				
Current Account	91,169		120,426	
National Savings Account	108,375		109,156	
County Training Partnership Account	17,878		18,256	
Cash in transit	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
	218,376		253,126	
<u>LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>				
Receipts in Advance	455		5	
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	<u>1,174</u>		<u>2,164</u>	
	1,629		2,169	
CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>216,747</u>		<u>250,957</u>
		<b><u>219,760</u></b>		<b><u>253,958</u></b>

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2021

## General Reserve

Balance as at 1 April	129,965	140,551
Transfer to Equipment designated fund	-5,000	0
Transfer to Premises designated fund	-10,000	-20,000
Transfer to Northern Group restricted fund	-60	0
Transfer from Equipment designated fund	2,285	0
Transfer from Premises designated fund	0	0
Transfer from Northern Group restricted fund	0	0
Surplus for the year	23,361	35,957
	<u>140,551</u>	<u>156,508</u>

## Designated Fund

### **Equipment**

Balance as at 1 April	18,519	21,234
Contribution to fund during year	5,000	0
Transfer to general reserve	-2,285	0
Surplus for the year	0	-1,758
	<u>21,234</u>	<u>19,476</u>

### **Premises**

Balance as at 1 April	45,084	55,084
Contribution to fund during year	10,000	20,000
Transfer to general reserve	0	0
Surplus for the year	0	0
	<u>55,084</u>	<u>75,084</u>

## Restricted Funds

### **Fund held on behalf of World Rural Women's Day**

Balance as at 1 April	2,649	2,649
Transfer to General Reserve	0	0
Transfer from General Reserve	0	0
Surplus for the year	0	0
	<u>2,649</u>	<u>2,649</u>

### **Fund held on behalf of the Northern Group**

Balance as at 1 April	357	241
Cheshire Association Funding Transfer	60	0
Surplus for the year	-176	0
	<u>241</u>	<u>241</u>

Totals

219,760

253,958

# NOTES TO BALANCE SHEET

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£

## Creditors

19/20 Accountancy fee	650
19/20 Payroll fee	334
Courses	<u>1180</u>
	<u>2164</u>

## Prepayment

Conferences/courses	0
Rent	<u>708</u>
	<u>708</u>

## Receipt in Advance

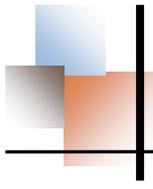
20/21 Courses	0
Credit notes	<u>5</u>
	<u>5</u>

## Debtors

Courses	4580
	<u>4580</u>

## Depreciation

Method of depreciation is straight line over 4 years



# NOTES

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A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.