

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNING BODIES
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2022 at 6 P.M.
BY TEAMS (VIRTUAL)

PRESENT:

Amy Altoft
Lee Pritchard
Angela Dunkerley
(Chair)
Hilary Beverley
Ellouise Fillingham-
Howarth
Gill Payne
Barbara Spencer
Densie West
Heather Steven
Peter Raspin
Zoe Turner
Eleanor Wasley
Claire Mallia
Michael Puczylo
Darrin Cronshaw
Kevin Allen
Jackie Rae
Carol Lindley
Kerry Dunn
Maureen Collett
Geanina Ifrim

There were no apologies.

Angela Dunkerley (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Having been circulated in advance of the meeting these were approved.
This was proposed by Eleanor W and seconded by Hilary B.

2. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

3. **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

This had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Angela thanked all Governors for their hard work with schools. Angela emphasised the importance to effective governance of a positive and appropriate working

relationship between governors and Head Teachers. It was noted that unfortunately the number of local Associations is dropping in the country generally. However, in North Lincolnshire the NLAGB continues to thrive and, although independent of the Local Authority, has a good working relationship with them so that Governors have all the help and support that they need. If specific issues arise the Association works with the Local Authority to try and resolve them. The Local Authority support us by sending out the Association's paperwork to Governors and Angela expressed thanks for this to Amy and Pam. Our Association is affiliated to the NGA and their support is also invaluable. Most schools and academies are affiliated to us.

Rob Smith kindly keeps the Association website up to date.

There are currently 9 members on the Executive and we are represented on the Schools Forum, Education Standards Board and the Governor Advisory Group. We also keep an eye on national events.

Angela expressed her thanks to all those who sit on the NLAGB executive committee for their time and commitment.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

An account summary had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The balance is currently £3,453.81. £75 had been paid to the NGA for affiliation fees and £25 for the auditor's fee. Mrs. West proposed that affiliation fees should not be charged to schools for 2023/24 as we have a healthy balance and although the NGA are proposing to increase their fees, we are advised that this increase will hopefully be minimal. However, if a school now wished to affiliate to NLAGB, they would be charged a fee initially. If members attended conferences etc. the Association would pay their expenses. It was unanimously agreed not to increase fees this year.

Question

What were funds previously spent on?

Response

Mileage for travel, conference fees (Birmingham), rail fares to conferences. Two members represent the Association on the national SEND forum and their expenses are also paid e.g. rail fares. Previously the NGA fees were £159 pa which was based on the number of schools affiliated to the Association, but this is now a standard fee.

The Association is currently in the early stages of working in partnership with the authority to consider arranging a conference in the summer for Governors. If anyone has any thoughts on issues the conference should look at, please send a message through the clerking service or through our website. A question was raised as to how many schools would pay for a conference in the light of school budgets. This will definitely be taken into

consideration when discussing options for the event and how it will be funded.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

All the members and officers had agreed to stand again. There were no objections or new nominations and therefore all were re-elected. An invitation was extended to anyone who wished to join us to contact Angela or the Association through the website. Angela stated that conversations would have to be had concerning succession planning and future plans for the NLAGB.

There are four governor places on the School Forum but its constitution sets out specific governor categories. At the moment there is a need for a Primary Academy Governor. If anyone is at all interested in finding out more about this valuable and interesting role, please contact the Association.

6. CONSTITUTION

The constitution has been reviewed and a slightly amended version had been circulated in advance of the AGM. The previously adopted constitution was felt to be still relevant but under Section 4.4 it stated that election of the Committee would be by ballot. It was agreed that the proposal to amend this to state that the committee should be elected by those present at the AGM be accepted. This was proposed by Hilary B and seconded by Peter R. This was unanimously agreed by those present.

7. MEMBERSHIP OF NGA

It was unanimously agreed to continue affiliating to NGA and therefore to pay the annual subscriptions.

8. GUEST SPEAKERS

Lee Pritchard gave a really informative presentation outlining the services and support provided by Thrive, a service which the authority has funded for all schools this year. This focuses on training adults to work with children to address mental health issues, developing practical strategies and activities. The aim is to help staff to achieve optimal social and emotional development and help our young people develop confidence and resilience. There were suggestions on the questions that governors might want to ask about this in their schools.

A lively and enthusiastic presentation was then given by Amy Altoft on the positive work that the authority is doing to support all schools with the Recruitment and Retention of Governors.

Thanks were expressed to both Lee and Amy for their presentations which were well received by those attending.

9. DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS

A discussion followed as to whether small village schools will survive? It was felt that everyone needed to work together to find solutions to this ongoing concern.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. DATE OF NEXT AGM

Wednesday 15th November, 2023.

Denise West thanked Angela, Amy and Lee for their work in making this meeting a success.