

minutes

CIPFA Midlands Council Meeting

Date 3 June 2010

Venue Wolverhampton PCT

Present

Steve Wellings	President
Sue Smith	Regional Secretary
Brian Berry	Regional Representative
Paul Hector	Council Member
Jon Crockett	Council Member
Andy Burns	Council Member
Alison Jarrett	Council Member
Sean Pearce	Council Member
Suzanne Jones	Council Member
Kelly Watson	CIPFA Student Rep & SE Area Rep
Chris Lees	Academic Rep
Drew Cullen	CIPFA

1 Apologies

Lisa Commane	Vice President
Andy Morley	Honorary Treasurer
Ben Jarrett	Deputy Regional Secretary & Website Co-ordinator
Carole Mills-Evans	Immediate Past President
Tony Kirkham	Council Member
Mark Lawrie	Council Member
Michael Kitts	Council Member
Steph Simcox	Council Member
Brian Roberts	Council Member
Carl Ford	CM Student Society President
Mark Lovell	SE Area Rep
Colin Sharpe	Website Co-ordinator
Peter Farrow	CATS Chair
Mike Burns	HFMA Rep
Alex Cenic	CIPFA

Steve Wellings thanked Jon Crockett for allowing us to hold the Council meeting in the offices of the Wolverhampton PCT.

2 Minutes of the meeting 11 March 2010

The minutes were approved as an accurate record.

- 2.1 Updates from the previous meeting –
Sue Smith to ask for major CM events to be included in Public Finance.

Drew Cullen reported on the progress of the CRM.

Sue Smith reported that the December Club had written to all retired Midlands members in order to identify their level of interest in CM and the December Club, but the response had been very disappointing.

BftR meeting – the timings for the CftR are very tight, and we need to try to build some flexibility into the programme timings, and make speakers aware that they must keep to time.

Brian Berry to send a copy of the BftR papers to Sue Smith so they can be added to the papers for this Council meeting.

Steve Wellings congratulated Andy Burns on being elected onto National Council, Andy thanked those who had voted for him.

Sue Smith had emailed all those who had identified an interest in volunteering, but had received no responses – SS to forward the list of names to the relevant Area Exec's for them to follow this up.

The Wales paper had been approved to be sent out to all Wales members and students in September. The response will be discussed at the CIPFA AGM in Birmingham in July 2011.

Alison Jarrett offered to host the June 2011 CM Council meeting at Birmingham City Council, a venue is still needed for the December 2011 meeting.

National Conference Birmingham 2011 – Drew Cullen to speak to Steve about the possibility of a reduced day rate for Midlands Council members.

Sponsorship for the Seminar & Dinner is now £4570, and the CftR in excess of £7000, some of which may be carried forward to the AGM.

Steve Wellings to speak to Lisa Commane re the 2011 Development Plan, with a view to a paper being brought to the September Council meeting. The 2011 Development Plan must take the effects of the National Development Strategy into account. The possibility of a 5 year plan to keep in line with CIPFA's pattern was discussed rather than a 3 year plan, a 5 year plan would contain indicative budgets.

3 Updates

3.1 Area Reports

Western Area – Alison Jarrett reported that the Western Area Exec had met in April and some new members had attended the meeting. The Exec had a 'tax event' planned for July, and had several other events in the pipeline. The events are mainly planned for Birmingham at the request of the speakers, but the Exec is aware that meetings need to be planned for other parts of the area. A joint CIMA event has been planned for November – Alison to speak to Julie Witts to set up a protocol for joint events as these may become a regular event.

South Eastern Area – Kelly Watson reported that the SE area executive was struggling to provide events due to lack of volunteers.

Events Team – Kelly reported on the 4 'free events' offered by Robert Street. 2 had been confirmed for June and July but need venues, and 1 is to be 'offered' to the SE Area to help 'kick start' the Area.

Kelly also reported on the National Presidents event held at PwC in May. There were over 60 delegates who gave very positive feedback. Kelly is considering asking the new National President to do an event during her Presidential year. Drew Cullen reported that the President is very keen to get out into the Regions, and encouraged Kelly to get a date in her diary asap.

The events team need to source more speakers and more venues.

Northern Area – there is no progress with the Northern Area – Steve to ask Carole for some help.

Southern Area – no report.

3.2 Student Society

The Student Society Chair was not at the meeting but Brian Berry reported that he had attended a very positive meeting with new volunteers very keen to get involved.

3.3 Website

No website report.

4 Events

4.1 Conference for the Regions

Robert Street are happy with the running order but timing is a concern. The team must do all they can to make sure everyone keeps to time. On the second day Mike Owen and Suzanne Jones will take over the slot set aside for Adrian Pulham, giving the view of the members rather than that of the Directors. Sue Smith to organise a meeting at the Hippodrome for the organising team.

4.2 Seminar and Dinner

Alison Jarrett reported that planning was proceeding well and it was hoped that the flyer would be sent out during August.

4.3 Soft Skills Seminar

Sue Smith reported that planning for the event was all in place, but problems and delays with the CIPFA on line booking system have meant that it couldn't be used for this event, as had been hoped. Walsall MBC have agreed to take the bookings for the event, as had happened previously for the Seminar & Dinner in 2009. Alison to send the standard wording for the cancellation policy to Sue for inclusion on the booking form. Andy Morley asked that cheques be made payable to CM, Sue to inform Walsall.

4.4 2011 AGM

Jon Moon has now been booked for the afternoon development session, Suzanne had seen him previously and said he was brilliant. There was concern that there is no train station at the Ricoh Arena, so we may have to consider providing transport from Coventry station, and we must also make people aware of where to park. Lisa to investigate public transport.

4.5 6th Form Games

Wales are very keen to be involved with this years game being held in Aberystwyth, and have agreed to run the game themselves in 2011.

5 Board for the Regions

Covered in 2.1

6 CM Council Membership

Steve ran through the co-options proposal paper in Lisa's absence. It was agreed that the proposal form needed more information – Steve to amend. It was also agreed that a small task group of Steve, Lisa, Brian (B) and Sue would look at the proposal again for consideration at the next CM Council meeting together with current co-options.

Brian (B) made several points relating to co-options and the AGM and constitution – to be discussed further by the task group. Council members supported the proposal as it meant that CM Council would be seen to be doing the 'right thing'.

Centrepage to include an article on the new co-option process, how to get onto CM Council, and how to become involved in the area executives.

CIPFA are looking at the election of council members and the length of tenure at the moment, CM will amend the constitution in light of the outcome of that paper, probably after the 2011 AGM. When this exercise is complete CM should look to share the outcome with the other Regions.

7 CIPFA Consultations

CIPFA Development Strategy

Steve had not received any updates, although there had been comments and updates nationally.

Role of the Head of Internal Audit

Comments had been received nationally through other routes.

8 Faisal Khan, Business Development Manager, CIPFA in Midlands

Faisal gave an overview of what his team does, and how Regions can get involved. He said that CIPFA are aware that they need to target Health, and that some advances had been made in the West Midlands and the South East. It is hoped that CIPFA can build on the new Presidents background in Health. Faisal explained that the qualification and costs will be reviewed during 2011/12, and asked that any suggestions or ideas be forwarded to him.

CM Council thought that Faisal's presentation was very encouraging, and were pleased to see that CIPFA are targeting certain groups.

Alison said that CIPFA 'freebies' are poor at the moment, and although everyone understood the economic factors behind this, maybe something more relevant could be found.

Drew offered some freebies from the main Conference for the 6th Form Games.

Andy Burns stressed the need for maintaining contacts with employers, and whether CIPFA could be added to recruitment websites.

Alison to contact Faisal for leaflets etc for the S&D.

9 AOB

Alison agreed to complete the regional awards nominations.

Barry Mather to be presented with a gift at the Regional Reception at the main Conference in Harrogate.

Suzanne told the meeting that Graham Ball of NTU had been awarded the Tom Sowerby award this year. Steve to write to congratulate him.

The meeting closed at 12.25pm

CM Council Meeting 3 June 2010			
Action Points			
Agreed Action	Agenda item	By whom?	By when?
Sue Smith to forward major event details to Public Finance	Item 2.1	Sue Smith	on-going
CftR team to ensure that everyone is aware of the need to keep to time	Item 2.1	CftR team	on-going
Brian (B) to forward the BftR papers to Sue for inclusion with the CM council meeting papers	Item 2.1	Brian Berry	asap
Sue to forward all volunteers details to area execs	Item 2.1	Sue Smith	asap
Drew to speak to Steve about a reduced day rate for Midlands members for the main Conference 2011	Item 2.1	Drew Cullen	asap
Steve to speak to Lisa about the 2011 Deveolpment Plan, with a view to bringing a paper to the September CM Council meeting	Item 2.1	Steve Wellings/ Lisa Commane	asap
Alison to speak to Julie Witts (CIMA) to set up a protocol for joint events	Item 3.1	Alison Jarrett	asap
Kelly to contact the new President re an event in Birmingham	Item 3.1	Kelly Watson	asap
Steve to contact Carole re the Northern Area Exec	Item 3.1	Steve Wellings	asap
Sue to orgainse a meeting at the Hippodrome	Item 4.1	Sue Smith	asap
Alison to forward the standard cancellation policy to Sue	Item 4.3	Alison Jarrett	asap
Lisa to investigate public transport to the Ricoh Arena for the 2011 AGM	Item 4.4	Lisa Commane	asap
Steve to amend the wording on the co-options proposal form	Item 6	Steve Wellings	asap
Task group to look at co-options proposal paper and current co-options	Item 6	Steve Wellings/ Lisa Commane/ Brian Berry/ Sue Smith	Meeting after September CM Council meeting
Centrepge to include an article on CM Council membership	Item 6	Sue Smith	asap
Alison to contact Faisal re leaflets etc for the S&D	Item 8	Alison Jarrett	asap
Alison to complete the regional awards nominations	Item 9	Alison Jarrett	asap
Steve to write to Graham Ball to congratulate him on being awarded the Tom Sowerby award	Item 9	Steve Wellings	asap