



MINUTES OF MEMBERS' MEETING, WEDNESDAY 09 JULY 2025
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, The Town Hall, Enniskillen

ATTENDEES

Aldermen (in person)

Ald Alan McDowell
Ald Hazel Legge

Cllr Joe Boyle

Ald Derek Hussey

Councillors (in person)

Cllr WJ Webb MBE
Cllr Victor Warrington

Cllr Fergal Donnelly
Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Roy Crawford

Aldermen & Councillors (via Teams)

Ald John Smyth
Cllr Kurtis Dickson

Cllr Glenn Barr
Cllr Gary Hynds

Cllr Errol Thompson
Cllr Trevor Wilson

APOLOGIES

Councillors

Cllr Ruairi McHugh
Cllr Gary Wilkinson
Cllr Gretta Thompson

Cllr Adam Gannon
Cllr Julie Gilmour
Cllr Alan Barr

Cllr Stephen McCann
Cllr Stephen Hollywood

1. Welcome

Ald Alan McDowell welcomed those members attending both in-person and remotely to the meeting in The Town Hall, Enniskillen.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting and additional ones were also noted from the floor.

3. Minutes of last Meeting held on 21 May 2025

The Chair took members through the minutes of the previous meeting and their approval was proposed by Cllr Terry Andrews and seconded by Cllr Errol Thompson

There were no matters arising

4. Chairman's Report

Ald Alan McDowell brought Members up to date on the progress of the Local Enterprise Champion Workshops with only one event remaining

5. Treasurers Report

Cllr Billy Webb circulated and shared on screen the up-to-date accounts and outlined the income, expenditure and closing balance as at 30 June 2025

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Ald Derek Hussey and seconded by Cllr Terry Andrews.

6. Secretary's Report

The Secretary began by congratulating those members who had assumed positions of responsibility at recent Council AGM's and wished them well for the coming year.

Cllr Boyle then went on to the outcome of the Review of the Roles & Responsibilities of Councillors noting that he had yet to meet a councillor who is content with the outcome. He advised that a small team had met with Minister Lyons on 7 July and an FoI request had also been submitted. Unfortunately 60% of the questions raised had not been answered.

As regards the meeting it was felt that the Minister was open and listened to the NAC point of view and offered further engagement.

The Chairman expressed the disappointment felt by Members who felt that their work was not valued or appreciated, noting that this review was not about remuneration but more about equality. The Minister had been advised that the NAC would report back to him following a verbal report to Members at today's meeting. Ald Hussey also reported that they had expressed concern that the NI Executive Ministers had the report from 6 February, but claim that it was provided to them on 25/26 March and the recommendations to be accepted were announced on 27 March.

A number of members raised the issue of respect above anything else, and also thanked those involved for the work undertaken on this issue.

Members were asked to speak with their Party Leaders, stating that the NAC Executive will be looking at further action and sought the views of all members who put forward a range of suggestions including strike action, work to rule, and do nothing. Correspondence will be circulated to all members regarding all considered options.

Cllr Boyle raised the subject of NILGOSC pensions and in particular the difficulty in accessing information online with NILGOSC reporting that after 10 years they were still working through it. Also, both pension schemes were still not amalgamated.

Members agreed to invite NILGOSC to a future meeting to make a presentation and answer questions from councillors.

This was proposed by Cllr Errol Thompson and seconded by Ald Derek Hussey.

The Secretary concluded by bringing members up to date with arrangements for the AGM in The Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown on 26 September. This would also include the presentation of Long Service Awards and he appealed for as many members as possible to attend.

7. Update from National Vice-Chair

Ald Derek Hussey updated members on the situation in NAC-UK as the Secretary and Treasurer – who were paid employees – were no longer elected councillors following the local government elections in May 2025, and also the large increase in Reform councillors having been elected. Ald Hussey advised that he had requested a meeting with the National Chair, Cllr Graeme Brooks for clarity on these and other issues.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.40pm

The next meeting was noted as the AGM on Friday 26 September 2025, in the Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown and the Member's Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 November in the Council Chamber at Lagan Valley Island, Lisburn