

CUMBRIA BRANCH COMMITTEE

AGM MEETING

Held at Penrith Rugby Club

MINUTES

Date of meeting Wednesday 11th March 2026

Time 11am

Location Penrith Rugby club

Minute taker Secretary

Chair David Drinkald

Attendance

Name	Position	Present (P) Apology {A} Committee (C) Member(M)
David Drinkald W	Chair/Treasurer	P. C
David Shirley		A.C
Kate Rowley W		P. C
Adrian Mason W	Dep Secretary	P. C
Jim Irving		P.C
Jim Messenger		P.C
Ali Duffy	Vice Chair	P.C
Linda Maxwell		P.C
Kate Sutton		P.C
Raymond Gregory W		P.C
Lance Hindle		A.C
Bob Johnston		P.C
Sandy Smith		P.C
Joe Bell	Secretary	P.C
John Falvey W		A.C
	W indicates welfare officer	
Guests		
Richard Critchley President		P
Alan Lees CEO		P
David Allen Police, Crime & Fire Commissioner		P.M
Office of the Chief Officer Cumbria Constabulary		A

Robin Bell		P.M
Joe Vinell		P.M
Alan Gardener		P.M
John Peacock		P.M
William Wright		P.M
John Williams		P.M
Angela Calvert		P

1 Welcome by the chair David Drinkald

2. respect for deceased members

3. Apologies Lance Hindle, David Shirley, John Fawley

4.. Declaration of interests None Declared

5. Minutes from previous meeting 12th March 2025 – previously circulated

6. Election of Chair. No other nominations David Drinkald agreed to continue in the role elected unopposed

7. Election of secretary. - Due to current secretary standing down. (Kate Rowley who is remaining on committee} Joe Bell proposed by Jim Messenger and seconded by David Drinkald there being no other nominations elected unopposed. Kate Rowley was thanked by the Chair for her years of service and dedication to the role throughout her time as secretary. He further detailed that Kate had been made the offer of becoming a life member of the Cumbria branch which Kate had declined. Kate has agreed however to continue as editor of the Cumbria Narpo members newsletter.

8.Election of deputy secretary – Adrian Mason the current Deputy Secretary agreed to continue in the role. There being no other nominations elected unopposed.

9. Election of Vice Chair. - Due to the sad demise of current Vice chair Jim Wilson following sudden illness. Ali Duffy proposed for Vice Chair by Kate Rowley and seconded by Adrian mason. There being no other nominations elected unopposed

10.Election of treasurer. - There being no other nominations David Drinkald (Chair) agreed to continue in the role of Treasurer as well as Chair. There being no reason or objections to him holding each post was duly elected unopposed.

11. Treasurers report – report by David Drinkald – Verbal report given and accepted Accounts duly certified as correct and signed by Chair and Secretary.

12. Address by the President of the National Association of Retired Police Officers

Richard Critchley. Prior to addressing the meeting Richard personally thanked Kate Rowley for all her past work as secretary of Cumbria Narpo branch, His address included an update on Widows Pensions and on-going work with MPs and government departments and the need for branches to have in place a strategic plan covering the next three years thus enabling compliance with the companies act of 2006 explaining and justifying financial reserves held by branch. The NEC have prepared a national strategic plan and request that branches prepare their own plans to enable them to maintain financial reserves and comply with the Companies Act. Branch Strategic plans being retained by the branch only being supplied to NARPO's Auditors or HQ if requested.

13. Update by the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Retired Police Officers Alan Lees.

This included the following – the Covenant, Support after leaving the police service and transition into retirement. With Welfare being the first of the five pillars of NARPO, to further assist Branches in all matters of welfare the post of Communication and community officer has been taken up by Melisa in HQ who now provides a central dedicated support for Branch Welfare officers to assist them in their roles answering enquiries and delivering best practice. Membership of branches and how in the changing face of policing where current officers tend to serve shorter times in service leaving younger than in past years for variety of reasons and how branches can under current membership rules have the opportunity to recruit persons of good standing from not only Police civilian staff but also other organisations such as NHS, probation service and MOD and BNFL Police and their staff associations.

Alan further spoke on the need for strategic plans being in place for compliance with companies Act and also good practice in developing strategies to achieve branch objectives and how the accumulated reserves in branch will enable objectives to be achieved promoting good governance and welfare provision. With any plan being a living document having the ability to be updated during the period of the plan. And autonomous to individual branches.

14. Address by David Allen Cumbria Police, Crime and Fire Commissioner – David

who Is a member of the Cumbria Branch spoke about the role of a crime commissioner, setting of local rates precept of £14.94 and to having overseen a budget deficit of £16 million to £11 He would continue to ensure further savings are achieved whilst enabling Cumbria constabulary to continue delivering neighbourhood policing tackling criminality whilst maintain good evaluation by HMI. During current year to 2027 Community beat officers were being increased from 58 to 84, whilst adding 16 more PCSO's David Further spoke of the probability of commissioner role being disbanded by government the role being succeeded by an elected Mayor. Plus, the probable effects of a government white paper considering amalgamation of Police forces with possible

effects on rural areas within such forces, as resources are directed to issues within urban areas. Whilst antisocial behaviour was being addressed through working with local businesses as well as increased visible patrols to problem areas. Citing the success of switching off of WIFI in McDonalds premises after 6pm being effective in deterring young people congregating outside these premises. A question from the floor was asked if it would be possible for officers with their access to laptops to complete their paperwork within such premises therefore raising the profile of police presence and acting as a deterrent. David agreed this was not something that had not been considered but was possible something that could be looked into.

13. There was no address by the chief constable – apologies being received

14. **Charity Donations** Adrian mason informed the meeting of the continued success of Kendal coffee mornings with further £400. being paid to Motor neurone association and £400 to the great north air Ambulance during the past year. Due to their past venue no longer having kitchen facilities the venue of their coffee mornings now having been moved to Skelsmergh community hall the events being open to all and not just Narpo members.

15. **Cumbria Narpo lottery winners** for spring draw being £100 Tony Brown and £50 Jean Marsh

16. Any other business including questions to guests.

1240 Meeting closed

Date of next meeting 11am Wednesday 10th March 20227 at Penrith Rugby Club.