

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL PRISON VISITORS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held at Petty France, Westminster, London on Tuesday 13 May 2025

MINUTES

1. Chairman's welcome

Roy Hanley welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

2. Apologies for absence: Jonathan Wheatley, Lorna Stubbs, Calum Crombie, Teresa Wright, Ann Ford,

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 14 May 2024

Proposal to accept: Neil Cully

Seconded: Caroline Colman

Vote to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record – unanimous.

4. Matters arising - none

5. Chairman's report – formally presented

RH noted that with the resignation of John Kennett, the Fundraising working group will be distributed to local areas of interest.

Future projects to address:

- Constitutional review
- HMPPS/NAOPV Memorandum of Understanding
- Incorporated Association

Q. Dorothy Sterling, HMP Stafford, asked about future Chaplaincy policy. RH explained that the proposed National Framework Document would replace the PSI's.

Report noted.

6. Financial report – formally presented

Richard Hemsley, Treasurer, gave a verbal explanation of the accounts which were circulated in advance of the meeting along with an unqualified report from the Independent Auditor. RH noted that this was the second year following the cessation of HMPPS funding.

Question from the floor:

Q. What is the cost of holding the AGM in the current venue? RH replied that there was no cost for the hire of the venue; the catering was in-house and would be paid out of current funds.

Proposal to accept the accounts: David Attree, HMP Lewes
Seconded: Dorothy Sterling, HMP Stafford

Vote to accept the report: unanimous.

7. Resolutions:

David Davies, HMP Guys Marsh:

'We encourage the Committee to facilitate opportunities for members in different prisons to get to know each other in order to share information and experience. We believe this is best done on a regional basis at the AGM and through meetings by Zoom or otherwise.'

David Davies expanded on his proposal and Dorothy Sterling highlighted the importance of sharing information.

RH agreed with the proposal and said that this issue had been discussed at Executive Committee meetings, and it was agreed there should be a constructive process for regional Zoom meetings. It was work in progress. He also highlighted the important role of a Regional Secretary and encouraged members to consider applying for vacancies.

Proposal to accept the Resolution: David Davies
Seconded: Maureen Beal

Vote to accept the Resolution: Carried

8. Election of officers and members of the NAOPV Executive Committee

The Results of Nominations from Branches was formally attached to the meeting documents.

Roy Hanley, who was re-elected as Chair, thanked the members of the Executive Committee for their work and commitment throughout the year.

9. Appointment of Honorary Life Members:

Dorothy Sterling, HMP Stafford

10. Any other business:

Nigel Cooper, HMP Highdown, said that he was on his own as an OPV at the prison and felt we were a scattered organisation. He agreed with the proposal from David Davies that OPVs from prisons within the same region should get together.

11. Additional business: appointment by the NAOPV Executive Committee of the following:

NAOPV General & Membership Secretaries; NAOPV Regional Secretaries as follows:

NAOPV General Secretary – Jenny Haigh
NAOPV Membership Secretary – Margaret Henderson

NAOPV Regional Secretaries:

- NAOPV Regional Secretary for Kent, Sussex, Essex & SE London – Roy Hanley
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for Surrey, Middlesex & Greater London – Elizabeth McQuay
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for the SW & Wales – Kathy Govett
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for the North East – John Wells
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for the West Midlands & North Wales – Ian Allred
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for the East of England – Nick Holroyd
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for the Home Counties North – Ben Benest

Regional Secretary vacancies:

- NAOPV Regional Secretary for the North West
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for the East Midlands
- NAOPV Regional Secretary for Yorkshire & Humberside

Additional responsibilities:

NAOPV PR Adviser	- Roy Hanley
Website enquiries	- Mary Bruton
NAOPV National database	- Margaret Henderson
NAOPV Treasurer	- Richard Hemsley FCA (non-trustee)
NAOPV Equality & Diversity	- John Kennett
NAOPV Website & e-bulletins	- Ben Benest

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4pm.

JH/05/2025

NAOPV General Secretary