

**MINUTES OF NORTH EAST/POWYS/CEREDIGION REGIONAL FORUM**  
**Tuesday, 18 Chwefror 2014, 1:00 – 3:00**  
**Elephant and Castle, Newtown**

Item No	Agenda Item
	<p><b>Present:</b></p> <p><i>Staff:</i> Nick Taylor, Nicola Holmes, Dafydd Rhys, Cecilia Forsythe, Rhydian Williams  <i>Learner Forum Reps:</i> Jan Rogers (Newtown), Valerie Hughes (Welshpool), Claire Roberts (Wrexham), Christopher Wager (Wrexham).  <i>Branch Reps:</i>  <i>Individual Members:</i>  <i>Translator:</i> Siôn Aled Owen</p> <p><b>Appologies:</b> Nigel Davies</p>
	<p><b>Agenda</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome</li> <li>2. Election of Chairperson</li> <li>3. WEA Cymru's new democracy</li> <li>4. Provision and plans for the region</li> <li>5. Election of regional member for the Council</li> <li>6. Date of next meeting</li> <li>7. Any other business</li> <li>8.</li> </ol>
1	<p><b>WELCOME</b></p> <p>Dafydd Rhys (DR) welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked all to introduce themselves. The purpose and importance of the Regional Forums was explained. Because this was the first forum there were no previous minutes. Rhydian Williams agreed to take minutes.</p>
2	<p><b>ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON</b></p> <p>Nick Taylor (NT) was elected as chairperson.</p>
3	<p><b>WEA CYMRU's DEMOCRACY</b></p> <p>DR showed a 'power point' presentation showing the make-up of the post-merger Council and the role of the Council Members in an all-Wales organisation. This showed the number of appointed and elected members and the nomination and election process for regional members.</p> <p>Nicola Holmes (NH) asked if Council members would be reimbursed for travelling costs incurred going to meetings? DR confirmed that they would receive such costs.</p> <p>The voting cards were distributed according to the constitutional guidelines.</p>

4	<p><b>PROVISION AND PLANS FOR THE REGION</b></p> <p>Cecilia Forsythe (CF) described Powys's varied provision. They were looking for opportunities to expand learner-led learning.</p> <p>NH explained that Wrexham and Flint had a similar provision to Powys but that they also provided full qualifications - Access to HE/Pathways to Progression courses (similar to FE courses but set in the communities). These included L2-L4 Counselling Courses and TUC courses. Essential Skills are also embedded in all courses and much of the work is in Communities First areas.</p>
5	<p><b>ELECTIONAL OF REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER</b></p> <p>DR explained the duties of Council members and that the Council met at least three times annually. The electoral process was explained and who was eligible to stand. Nominations from the floor were asked for. One nomination was received - Nigel Davies (ND) by NT. It was noted that he was the manager of Communities First in the Wrexham area, had been a WEA tutor and had knowledge of community development. ND was elected to represent the North East/Powys/Ceredigion area on WEA Cymru's Council with the support of 10 votes. NH abstained because of a conflict of interest.</p>
6	<p><b>DYDDIAD Y CYFARFOD NESAF</b></p> <p>The next meeting is to be held at 1.30pm on 13 May at Caia Park Partnership, Wrexham.</p>
7	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>7.1 Regional Activities NT stated that it would be good to set up a branch structure for the region – food for thought.</p> <p>7.2 Nomination of Learner Council Representatives. Representatives from the Wrexham Learner Forum showed an interest in standing. DR advised them to email the Clerk to express their intention.</p> <p>7.3 Community Courses There was a question by a learner from Welshpool concerning course length and course fees. CF explained that course weeks have been changed.</p> <p>Jan Rogers expressed how much WEA Community Courses had benefited her and others in the local community. Learner (Welshpool) thanked for the WEA's work for the elderly and retired communities and did not want the courses to finish.</p> <p>NT thanked everybody for their contributions and closed the meeting.</p>