

## **Minutes of South Ribble Area Committee Meeting held on 25/9/23**

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- Present:** Nathan Woodall Much Hoole PC, David Parkes Hutton PC, Shirley Molder Longton PC), Andy Rae Penwortham TC, Keith Martin Penwortham TC, Louise White Much Hoole PC, Karen Walton Farington PC,
- LALC Officers:** John Ashurst, Debra Platt
- Visitors:** Cllr Paul Rigby LCC Parish Champion  
Jennifer Mullin and Dan Chappelow of South Ribble Borough Council
- Apologies:** Alison Wilkins LCC, Michael Green Farington PC

### **Appointment of Chairman:**

Cllr Keith Martin was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously

### **South Ribble Borough Council**

Jennifer Mullin SRBC's Director of Communities and Leisure addressed the meeting stating she would act as the link SRBC and the Area Committee members and attend future meetings with an appropriate colleague depending on the topic for discussion. Her SRBC colleague Dan Chappelow was introduced who gave a comprehensive report on the methods employed by SRBC to deal with Anti-social Behaviour with particular emphasis on the importance of reporting incidents via 101, on line or the SRBC website.. A copy of Dan's presentation will be circulated to Attendees for their information.

Jennifer Mullin concluded the SRBC report by calling for future topics to be covered at the next Area Meetings. It was agreed that she would be advised in good time for the next meeting.

### **Debra Platt, LALC Member Services and Engagement Officer.**

Information was distributed regarding the courses and training and advice available to Clerks and Councillors available to LALC members. Further information was available on the LALC website. The cost and benefits of membership was raised together with a request for an indication of the cost of membership for 2024/25 and it was agreed that this would be provided.

A request for a copy of the Parish and Town Council Charter 2022/24 was made and it was agreed that access to this would be provided to all PCs and TCs

### **Councillor Paul Rigby, LCC Parish Champion**

Cllr Rigby outlined his role as Parish Champion covering such aspects as funding availability and the possibility of PCs and TCs taking over the running of certain activities currently carried out and funded by LCC. Parishes could perhaps provide the service more cost effectively. For further information, Paul provided the following link for use by members.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/parish-and-town-councils/parish-champion/>

Cllr. Rigby was thanked for his contribution which was much appreciated.

### **Alison Wilkins LCC's Senior Public Health Practitioner, Health Equity and Welfare Partnerships**

Alison sent her apologies for being unable to attend the Meeting and agreed to attend the next Meeting .

### **Open Forum**

The Chairman urged all Parish Councils to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan as Penwortham TC. had done. Opinions were expressed regarding the costs and complexity of producing a plan including an indication of what a Parish Council can and cannot do . A request was made for a Planning Officer from SRBC to attend an Area Meeting to advise on the procedure. A link to helpful documents for consideration by Councillors would be sent out to all concerned and is reiterated here.

Understanding Neighbourhood Plans Training on LALC website; £35 members, £60 for non-members, details here: <https://bookwhen.com/lalc/e/ev-s4uf-20231005190000>

Link to LCC & Parish Charter: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/parish-and-town-councils/charter/>

Penwortham TC reported that funding was available to Parishes from SRBC to help deal with mental health issues.

Much Hoole reported that a footpath initiative had been undertaken with the help of grant aid from SRBC. The Chairman also suggested that the Ramblers Association could be contacted for further assistance with this aspect. Debra mentioned the 'Slow Ways' project.

### **Possible Topics for Future Meetings**

Planning Applications

Fire Prevention

### **Next Meeting**

Tuesday 30th January 24 with a 6.30 start at Penwortham TC Offices