

## **LALC Fylde Area Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2025, 7.00pm at Kirkham Community Centre, Mill Street,  
Kirkham, PR4 2AN.

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Glyn Stead (Chair) – Little Eccleston with Larbreck Parish Council  
Cllr Pat Hastings – LALC Chair  
Cllr. Peter Collins – Chair (EWG) & Newton with Clifton Parish Council  
Debra Platt – LALC Chief Officer  
Allan Oldfield – Chief Executive, Fylde Borough Council  
Katherine McDonnell – Fylde Borough Council  
Sharon Wadsworth – Fylde Borough Council  
Kath Coleman – Fylde Area Committee Secretary  
Verena Henderson – Clerk; Singleton Parish Council  
David Kirkham – Clerk; (various) Fylde Parish Councils  
Cllr. Paul Wilkinson – Ansdell & Fairhaven Parish Council  
Cllr. Paul Hayhurst – Elswick Parish Council  
Cllr. Lucia House – Greenhalgh & Thistleton Parish Council  
Cllr. Susie Gallagher – Greenhalgh & Thistleton Parish Council  
Cllr. Richard Nulty – Greenhalgh & Thistleton Parish Council  
Cllr. Stewart Jones – Kirkham Town Council  
Cllr. Angela Hunter – Medlar with Wesham Parish Council  
Cllr. Linda Nulty – Medlar with Wesham Parish Council  
Cllr. Liz Bickerstaffe – Medlar with Wesham Parish Council  
Cllr. Daniel Hall – Ribby with Wrea Parish Council  
Cllr. Shirley Green – St Annes Town Council  
Cllr. David O'Rourke – St Annes Town Council  
Cllr. Patricia Craig – Staining Parish Council  
Cllr. Gavin Moynihan – Staining Parish Council  
Cllr. John Singleton – Staining Parish Council  
Cllr. Gordon Smith – Treales, Roseacre & Wharles Parish Council  
Cllr. Janet Graham – Weeton with Preese Parish Council  
Cllr. Sue Ashton – Westby Parish Council

Item No.	Agenda Item	Action By
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies:</b></p> <p>Cllr. Stead (Fylde Chair) welcomed all those present and introduced Allan Oldfield (Chief Executive) from Fylde Borough Council and Debra Platt (Chief Officer) &amp; Pat Hastings (Chair) from LALC.</p> <p>Cllr. Stead had received apologies from Jan Finch (Chair) and Phil Ormrod (Vice Chair) from the LALC Wyre Area Committee.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting:</b></p> <p>Due to the priority of conducting the evening's presentations first; at the end of the meeting, it was proposed by Cllr Stead and seconded by Cllr Collins; to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 and a copy was duly signed by the Chair.</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the September 2024 meeting.</p> <p>The September 2024 minutes to be emailed to LALC's office, for uploading to the LALC website.</p>	GES/KC
3.	<p><b>Devolution / Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)</b></p> <p>Allan Oldfield (Fylde Borough Council) explained that the government's stated vision was to establish alternative local government structures by 2028.</p> <p>An interim response letter had been compiled and submitted to the 'Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution', on behalf of the 15 Lancashire authorities, by the March 2025 deadline.</p> <p>November 2025 is the deadline for a full proposal to be submitted by the 15 Lancashire authorities, identifying their preferred options for consideration by the Minister.</p> <p>The government intends to hold elections in May 2027, to create the new 'shadow' authorities.</p> <p>It was explained that Town and Parish Councils should not be directly affected by the reorganisation, although it is expected that there will be stronger community arrangements after the new authorities have been created.</p> <p>Allan encouraged Town and Parish Councils to discuss the opportunities for certain functions / assets to be transferred to them from the existing Borough and County Councils.</p> <p>Allan explained that it is the intention that existing district areas should be used as the building blocks for the new structures and answered various questions from those present.</p> <p>Cllr Stead thanked Allan for attending the meeting and for an informative explanation of the timescales and procedures to establish the new local government structure.</p> <p>Cllr Stead advised that the LGR topic would also be included on the agenda for the next Fylde District Parish Liaison meeting, to be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at the Fylde Council Offices and encouraged all Fylde Councillors and Clerks to attend this meeting.</p>	

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4.	<p><b>Morgan &amp; Morecambe Wind Farms (proposed) supply routes: Fylde ‘Energy Working Group’ (EWG) Update:</b></p> <p>At Cllr Stead’s request, Cllr Collins (in his capacity as the EWG Chair) gave a brief update on the actions being taken by the EWG and recent findings, including:</p> <p>(i) Encouraging consideration of the option to use the Hillhouse site (and the existing Stanah sub-station) which could provide in the region of a £900m cost saving (versus the costs estimated for the existing supply route proposal).</p> <p>(ii) In 2008 National Grid had identified various on shore connection points. One of these was Stanah but this option has <u>not</u> been considered by Morgan and Morecambe.</p> <p>(iii) Wyre ward Councillors are currently working with their local MP; in the attempt to persuade the appropriate authorities to request that the Stanah option is considered, before any final decisions are made in respect of the Morgan &amp; Morecambe applications and the supply route.</p> <p>Cllr Stead thanked Cllr Collins for the update and advised that all Fylde Town &amp; Parish Councils are welcome to nominate a representative to join the Fylde ‘Energy Working Group’.</p>	ALL
5.	<p><b>LALC – Working Towards LGR with Town / Parish Councils:</b></p> <p>Cllr Stead introduced Debra Platt (LALC’s Chief Officer) who had been asked to attend the meeting to explain how LALC could help the Lancashire Town and Parish Councils, during the LGR process and after the reorganisation has been completed.</p> <p>Debra advised that:</p> <p>(i) LALC can provide information and support to navigate any changes, and this includes guidance on engaging with Borough or County Councils and acting as a voice for Parish and Town Councils.</p> <p>(ii) The majority of Fylde Town &amp; Parish Councils are existing members of LALC and Debra explained that NALC is currently working on documents and putting training in place to help with the transition process.</p> <p>(iii) Councils are encouraged to carry out an audit of assets in their area, that are currently owned by Borough or County Councils, with a view to assets being transferred to Town / Parish Councils, alongside the LGR process (if the councils think this would be beneficial to them).</p> <p>Debra answered various questions and advised that the forthcoming LALC conference, being held on 7<sup>th</sup> June, would be a good opportunity for Clerks &amp; Councillors to network with other council representatives.</p> <p>Cllr Stead thanked Debra for her attendance and LALC’s support.</p>	ALL

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6.	<b>Future Agenda Items:</b> Cllr Stead asked those present to consider and advise him, if they have any specific items they would like to see included on the agenda for the next meeting.	ALL
7.	<b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> The next meeting will be scheduled to take place in September (date / time / venue to be advised). Cllr Stead would like – if possible – to arrange for the meeting to be held at either a Lytham or Ansdell / Fairhaven venue, to further welcome the 2 new Parishes as members of the LALC 'Fylde Area Committee'.	Chair / KC

Signed:

Date:

Cllr Glyn Stead

Chair: Fylde Area Committee