

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Minutes of the 427th meeting of the County Executive Committee of Lancashire Association of Local Councils held virtually on 18 June 2022.

Present

Cllr P Orme	Chairman
Cllr Ms P Hastings	Vice Chairman
Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Atkins	President
Mr B Anderson	Treasurer

Members representing areas

Burnley, Hyndburn & Pendle	Cllr A Neal
Chorley	Cllr D Cranshaw
Lancaster	Cllr C Peacock
Preston	Cllr Ms P Hastings
South Ribble	Cllr Mrs E Houghton, Cllr K Martin
Wyre	Cllr P Orme, Cllr B Crawford
MALC	Gerry Allen

Officers & guests in attendance

Membership & Engagement Officer	Debra Platt
Training Officer	Val Watson
LCC County Campion	Cllr Paul Rigby

1. Apologies

Blackburn with Darwen	Cllr Mrs E Smith
Lancaster	Cllr H Lewer
Wyre	Cllr J Finch

Chair introduced Gerry Allen [MALC] to the meeting and informed he is the new contact for MALC and is arranging and Inaugural meeting for MALC to be followed by an Annual Meeting.

2. Minutes of the 426th Meeting held on 9 April 2022

Agreed: Minutes were approved.

3. Matters of update

Cllr Rigby updated that the President had been correct in raising this point [who picks up work on A roads/motorway junctions] this has not moved yet so when it has, he will chase.

The President informed he had written to the Secretary of Transport and DEFRA about the state of A roads/motorway junctions the environmental effects of the litter and how they look with the excessive litter.

4. Finance reports

The Treasurer discussed and expanded points from his circulated report. The issue of Council's paying the incorrect bank account and not reading the invoices which have new bank details and address on them. There was discussion that the Internal Auditor should pick up these points. It has not been possible to close the previous bank accounts because of payments still being sent to them and he will investigate if they can be frozen.

Had dealt with a query from Galloways regarding rent payments from December and January.

Agreed: Noted the report and verbal updates.

5. Lancashire County Council update - Cty Cllr Paul Rigby, Parish Champion

Cllr Rigby updated that there were still parish grants available. It was raised with Cllr Rigby that the Charter was damaged this month with the parishes receiving the new lamp post policy in the same week as the Charter to be presented to their Councils for endorsing.

Chair reminded that the quarterly meeting with LCC and LALC has not taken place yet and chased for it to be arranged.

Cllr Martin discussed the recent problems the new lamp post policy had brought in some detail. This policy was poorly communicated and brought a lot of expense to the councils.

Bunting, flower tubs, street lighting columns, Spids and other issues were discussed, including the new Spid policy which would turn Spids into temporary items [from permanent] and would need to be removed after a short period on display, up to 6 months).

Cllr Rigby would take these points back to LCC and discuss.

Cty Cllr Rigby left

6. Update on LALC operations – Debra Platt

Officer reported that the membership collections were high and there were just a small percentage outstanding.

7. Update on Training operations – Val Watson

The report was discussed. Many Councillors, and Clerks, had been trained already and a 12 month programme is to be created. There also had been a few free events on subjects such as the Chair's Share and the Jubilee.

8. Area Committee Reports

Reports circulated from Wyre, South Ribble and Ribble Valley.

Preston Area Committee reported a meeting was coming up soon.

Lancaster Area Committee is beginning to start up.

Pendle Area Committee reported that it will meet on 20th July.

9. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Reports had been circulated regarding Road Safety Partnership and Ribble Valley UU update.

Cllr Martin will take over being the representative on the Forest of Bowland AOB Joint Advisory Committee (JAC). The Lancashire Rights of Way group – unsure if this is still going – needs to be checked.

The Executive offered thanks to Cllr Kynch for her dedicated work and excellent reports on the Forest of Bowland AOB Joint Advisory Committee (JAC).

Cllr Martin reported on CPRE work; regarding the Garstang area pollution slurry of Lancaster Canal; working with Broughton and Samlesbury councils on projects; a levelling up project on affordable housing; HS2; Neighbourhood plans; Prison at Ulnes Walton, Chorley; hedgerow projects; events; hedgehogs and more.

The President updated on some facts about the pollution in the canal and where it had come from and actions taken.

An Enterprise Zone around the Samlesbury Hotel area was raised. A plan had been lodged.

10. Regional matters

The next Northern meeting is to be 7th July.

11. National Association matters

Cllr Peacock reported it had been quiet with no meetings. He had met about the Civility & Respect project; there is a consultation regarding land use. Cllr Peacock supplied a number of links to ongoing work. See attached Appendix 1.

12. Any other urgent business

Cllr Cranshaw discussed items for the next LCC/LALC meeting. A grant scheme to develop LALC training bursaries, possibly offering to get Clerks qualified. He is producing the next newsletter and needs items to be forwarded to him.

The officer appealed for assistance to fill Area Secretary positions.

Cllr Neal updated his Council had had two resignations and would be interviewing Clerk candidates soon.

Vice Chair updated on the struggle to get a Preston Area secretary, and discussed the 'Local Heritage List Lancashire' project.

Cllr Martin updated that Penwortham clerk was retiring and they had appointed a replacement from within; the Council had had trouble with bunting being charged for and development signs. The officer reported she had asked LCC for the policy and charging for developer signs – no response yet.

13. Dates of Executive Committee meetings in 2022/3

Executive Committee meetings	Finance & Management meetings
Saturday 9 April 2022	Tuesday 28 March 2022
Saturday 18 June 2022	Monday 6 June 2022
Saturday 10 September 2022	Tuesday 30 August 2022
Saturday 12 November 2022 – AGM	Tuesday 1 November 2022
Saturday 21 January 2023	Monday 9 January 2023

11.38
Debra Platt
County Secretary

APPENDIX 1

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/civility-and-respect-project>

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/2083-nalc-calls-for-sustainable-land-use-in-a-new-lords-inquiry>

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/2106-new-county-councils-network-and-zoom-report-backs-nalc-call-for-remote-meeting-powers>

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/2127-nalc-parliamentary-briefing-on-levelling-up-and-regeneration-bill>

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/nalc-national-networks#coastal-communities>

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/nalc-national-networks#climate-emergency>

Surveys

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/2132-nalc-publishes-new-survey-on-dementia-friendly-councils>

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news/entry/2096-nalc-issues-survey-on-2022-local-elections>