

Lancashire Association of Local Councils

Minutes of the 430th meeting of the Executive Committee of Lancashire Association of Local Councils, held virtually on Saturday 17th June 2023

Present

Sir Robert Atkins	President
Cllr Phil Orme	Chairman
Cllr Pat Hastings	Vice chairman

Keith Martin, Eunice Houghton, Glyn Harris, Eileen Smith, Iain Hamilton, Jack Speight, Clare Rose, Dave Hawley, Alan Neal. Eunice took the minutes.

Officers and guests in attendance

LCC County Champion Cllr Paul Rigby

Jane from NTPC

Before the meeting began, the chairman announced the sad death of our training officer Val Watson's husband. The Sympathy of the Association will be conveyed to Val and the family.

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received from @ Darren Cranshaw, Jan Finch and Debra Platt

2. Minutes of the 429th meeting of 15th April were **agreed**.

Proposed Cllr Alan Neal, Seconded Cllr Pat Hastings and all agreed.

3. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Lancashire County Council update; Cllr Paul Rigby

The budget for grass cutting has been approved for this year.

Sir Robert raised the issue of the state of county's roads, which was poor in relation to a comparably sized county, Lincolnshire.

Also, the quality of recycling in Lancashire compared unfavourably with other counties.

Cllr Rigby responded that some of the problems in Lancashire stemmed from the differing terrain across the county. What suited one part, wouldn't work in another.

As to recycling, although the County runs the recycling centres, what was collected was the responsibility of the boroughs. He will ensure that recycling is back on the County agenda.

Other issues raised were the Love Clean Streets APP and the possible release of carcinogenic particles in dust from road sweeping and the enforcement of 20mph speed limits.

Cllr Rigby will take all these concerns back to county.

5. LALC F&M Update

There had been discussions on Public Rights of Way and support for the lengthman scheme.

The Association is in a sound financial position, thanks to Debra and Val.

A “roving” area secretary is to be employed to help struggling Area Committees, this was welcomed by members. Debra is working to bring the SLA with LCC into fruition.

6. LALC Services

The chairman said the Association was looking for ideas of services that the Association could offer members, in addition to those already in place. In response to the suggestion of a consultancy to support new clerks, it was said that SLCC already provide this service and a link would be provided.

7. New F&M members

It was said that new members from Merseyside were needed and perhaps MALC Could address this at their next meeting. Cllr Iain Hamilton said the Halewood had always had their own representation on the F&M, being a founder member of LALC. However, it was said that further members from Merseyside would be welcome.

8. Area Committee Reports

Wyre: The CEO of the borough council had attended a meeting, which was not well attended.

Preston: Poor attendance at meetings was a problem with them too. It had also been queried how many could attend the Executive meetings and the role of the executive had been explained to members.

South Ribble: There had not been any meetings. It was hoped the roving area secretary would see things change. Thanks were expressed to the retiring chairman.

9. Reports from Outside bodies.

No notification had been received from Public Rights of Way forum, CPRE continues to do important work and is financially sound. The foundation of the Greater Manchester Ringway, a 300 kilometre public footpath was announced. Installation of renewable energy sources is stall at the moment.

Best Kept Village has one week of judging left.

10. Regional matters

There needs to be clarification of who are Lancashire’s representatives on the Northern Group of Local Councils. Cllr Neal attend to this.

11. National matters

Cllr Neal has had no notifications since he took over as Lancashire representative. Enquiries will be made.

12. Any other urgent business.

The question of the dangers of dust from road sweeping was a cause for concern and will be raised with NALC. Cllr Rigby will also take this back to county.

At this point the Zoom connection was lost.