



MERSEYSIDE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Minutes of the meeting held in-person and virtually on 18 August 2022.

Present

Members representing areas

Knowsley	Cllr C Rose (Halewood TC)
Sefton	Cllr G Harris (Aintree PC)
St. Helens	Cllr A Makin (Bold PC)

Officers & guests in attendance

MALC interim Secretary	Gerry Allen
LALC Membership & Engagement Officer	Debra Platt
Town Clerk, Prescot TC	Alex Spencer
Town Clerk, Whiston TC	Sandra Myers
Town Clerk, Rainford PC	Sally Powell
Chief Executive, NALC	Jonathan Owen

Members not in attendance

Knowsley	Cllr A Hesford (Halewood TC)
Sefton	Cllr J Sayers & Cllr J Desmond (Maghull TC)
St. Helens	Cllr J Barnes (Billinge PC)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr J Sayers, Cllr J Desmond, Cllr J Barnes and Cllr A Hesford.

2. Minutes

There were no previous minutes for approval.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Finance Reports

None

5. Statement on the return of MALC

Gerry Allen and Debra Platt provided an update on the discussions that had led to the return of MALC after a 2-year absence. Attendees were advised that a plan has been created to take MALC through an 'interim' phase of development designed to create the interest and achieve the increased participation of members from across Merseyside. Officer roles would therefore be appointed on an interim basis at tonight's EG Meeting ahead of a more formal AGM later in the autumn where it is hoped to have greater numbers in attendance.

Jonathan Owen from NALC expressed his thanks to all in attendance on the return of MALC. Jonathan also discussed the emerging opportunities for the small council sector including the government's 'Levelling Up' agenda.

6. Appointment of Officers

After some brief discussions the meeting appointed Cllr G Harris (Aintree PC) as Interim Chair of MALC and Cllr A Makin (Bold PC) as Vice-Chair of MALC. At this point, Cllr Harris assumed the chairing of the meeting.

Debra Platt advised the meeting on the numbers of MALC representatives able to attend the LALC Executive Meetings (3 per local authority area) and to NALC (one person). After further discussion the following Councillors agreed to represent their respective authorities at LALC.

Knowsley	Cllr C Rose (Halewood TC), 2 vacancies.
Sefton	Cllr G Harris (Aintree PC), 2 vacancies.
St. Helens	Cllr A Makin (Bold PC), 2 vacancies.

7. Area Updates

Proposed Parish Charter

Clerks from Prescott TC, Whiston TC and Halewood TC explained that they were keen to develop a charter with Knowsley MBC to facilitate better working relations and have more meaningful engagement. A Charter developed by

Sefton Council had already been circulated between clerks, who were keen to meet in September to discuss whether it was a viable option moving forward. Debra Platt indicated that Lancashire County Council had developed a charter. This had been circulated to Whiston TC.

8. Open Forum

Gerry Allen shared a proposal for MALC to contact the offices of the Liverpool City Region Metro Mayor regarding an input to a future meeting on Transport. The invitation would go to Liam Robinson who leads on Transport for the Mayor's Office. All in attendance agreed this was a popular proposal. Jonathan Owen will provide further advice and support for engagement with regional bodies and regional mayoralities.

9. Next Meeting

Set for 6.00pm on Wednesday 5th October 2022 at Prescott Town Hall (originally set for Whiston TC but subsequently changed to Prescott TC)

The meeting concluded at 6.43pm