

## Agenda

18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 7.00pm - Council Offices, 52 Derby Street Ormskirk

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest
3. Councillor Alison Wilkins – LCC – Senior Public Health Practitioner (stronger & Safer Communities)
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023
5. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting not on the agenda
6. County Executive Report
7. appointment of representative to County Executive
8. Items raised by Member Councils – Suggestions for Speakers, Subjects for future meetings
9. Member Councils & Representative numbers
10. Any other Business
11. Date and Times of Future Meetings

18<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Other dates to be decided after May elections

12. Any other business
13. Date and time of next meeting

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEST LANCASHIRE  
AREA COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 23  
AT 7.00PM IN THE WLBC OFFICES  
DERBY STREET ORMSKIRK**

**Present;** Cllr; John Gordon (chair),  
Cllr; Ian Fairclough (Lathom) Mrs Irene Roberts (clerk Aughton)  
Cllr; Gareth Dowling (WLBC) Cllrs: M Roughneen, P Halliwell (Newburgh)  
Mrs E Broad (Clerk Upholland, Dalton)  
J Ashurst- LALC Secretary Support to area committees  
Cllr; Paul Rigby – LCC Parish Champion; Debra Platt ([office@lalc.org.uk](mailto:office@lalc.org.uk))  
Laura Wordon – LCC ([parishcouncils@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:parishcouncils@lancashire.gov.uk))  
Mrs I O'Donnell (Hon. Secretary)

**Apologies:** Councillors; Mrs J O'Keefe, J Gardner, G Jones, Waugh, Brian Bailey

**Declarations of Interest**

None

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

1 County Councillor Paul Rigby – LCC Parish Champion

Paul introduced himself to the members present talking about his path from farming to being a county councillor and his election to Parish Champion. He explained his job is to support the parishes and help with any problems, answer questions if he could and if not to take up further with the County Council. He explained that there had been a loss in the funding and grants given by the government in the years he had been a councillor, the figure dropping from £999 million to £740 million. He is trying to change things and to attend parish council meetings and the County Council conference and also the local area committees as today.

His good news is that he has a grant available each year which parish councils can apply for in order to carry out projects in the parishes. He explains that there are 214 parish councils in Lancashire so he has to take care to spread the grants fairly. He does however still has some cash available from 2023-2024 so he advised parishes to apply. [paul.rigby@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:paul.rigby@lancashire.gov.uk)

Paul then took questions from the parish councillors present.

2. Debra Platt – LALC – Officer – ([office@lalc.org.uk](mailto:office@lalc.org.uk)) – 01772 750900  
LALC member services & engagement officer.

Debra spoke about her work as the main contact in the LALC office where she is available to help clerks and parish councillors with any problems. Along with her colleague who deals with training opportunities. They can offer help and legal advice when required to member councils. Debra also passed to councillors some leaflets.

3. Laura Worden and her colleague Alison Wilkins –work as public health practitioners for LCC and also work closely with Councillor Paul Rigby the parish champion and also have grants available and could match fund his grants to the parish councils.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 23

The minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 23 we proposed by G Dowling and seconded by M Roughneen and held to be a true and accurate record.

5. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda

Gareth Dowling made comments on the Planning Department stating the problems had now been resolved.

6. County Executive Report

None available also as Councillor Ryley had resigned from Burscough Council a new representative needs to be appointed to replace him. Put on January 24 agenda.

7. Items raised by member councils

Suggestions for future subjects and speakers. CIL Monies –Nicola Hamilton, Planning, Police update – Andrew Snowden, Andrew Pratt. It is hoped we will have Andrew Pratt at January meeting.

8. Any other business

The secretary reminded the councillors present that WLBC Councillor Paul Hennessey – Armed forces Champion, who attended the July meeting was still anxious to hear of any veterans in the area were given his details and asked if any parish would either invite him to their meetings or give him names of any veterans who might need help. [Cllr.p.hennessey@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.p.hennessey@westlancs.gov.uk)

John Ashton - LALC- Secretarial Support Officer to Area Committees arrive at this point having been to another meeting. So as there were only a few members present a general question and answer session took place with him and those present. [aso@lalc.org.uk](mailto:aso@lalc.org.uk)

9. Date and Time of future meetings

18<sup>th</sup> January 2024. - 18 April 2024

The July and October dates to be decided after any May elections

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed Chairman.....