

Burnley & Pendle (inc. Whitworth & Altham)

Area Members Meeting **Minutes**

Date:	15 th September 2025		
Venue:	Burnley Town Hall, Manchester road, Burnley BB11 9SA		
	Executives, Chair & Secretary: Cllr Mark Jinkinson (Chair) (Worsthorne/Hurstwold PC) Cllr Greera Stevenson (LALC Secretary) Cllr Alan Neal (LALC Exec) (Whitworth TC) Parish Clerks: Olwen Riley (Dunnockshire & Clowbridge PC) Parish Cllrs.: Micheal Whitworth (Whitworth TC) Andy Bell (Colne TC) Graham Felton (Worstthorne/Hurstwold PC) Chris McEvoy (Chair) (Dunnockshire & Clowbridge PC) Guests:		
Present:	None		
Meeting started:	19.00	Meeting closed:	20.59

Minute Reference 150925/BPAM/

1. Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially new attendees

2. Apologies for absence

Mary Thomas (Clone TC)

Howard Thomas (Colne TC)

Mike Parkinson (Altham PC)

Richard Salter (Foulridge PC)

Gorden Richman

Pippa Richman

3. Approval of the minutes held on the 15th of September 2025

Approved by all, signed by Chair

4. Appointment of chair

Cllr Mark Jinkinson was Proposed by Cllr Alan Neal and Seconded by Cllr Micheal Whitworth Agreed by all

<u>Cllr Mark Jinkinson</u> was duly appointed as LALC Burnley and Pendle Area Chair

5. Appointment of Vice-Chair

Cllr Mary Thomas was Proposed by Cllr Andy Bell and Seconded by Cllr Alan Neal Agreed by all

Cllr Mary Thomas was duly appointed as LALC Burnley and Pendle Area Vice-Chair

6. Appointment of area secretary

Cllr Greera Stevenson was Proposed by Cllr Alan Neal and Seconded by Cllr Micheal Whitworth Agreed by all

Cllr Greera Stevenson was duly elected as LALC Burnley and Pendle Area Secretary

7. Appointment of LALC executive

Burnley Area –

- 1. <u>Cllr Alan Neal</u> was duly elected- Proposed by Cllr Michael Whitworth. Seconded by Cllr Mark Jinkinson. *Agreed by All*
- 2. Vacant

Pendle Area -

- 1. <u>Cllr Mary Thomas</u> was duly elected Proposed by Cllr Andy Bell. Seconded by Cllr Alan Neal. Agreed by All
- 2. <u>Cllr Howard Thomas</u> was duly elected Proposed by Cllr Andy Bell. Seconded by Cllr Alan Neal. Agreed by All
- 3. <u>Cllr Andy Bell</u> was duly elected— Proposed by Cllr Alan Neal. Seconded by Cllr Micheal Whitworth. *Agreed by All*
- 4. <u>Cllr Greera Stevenson</u> was duly elected Proposed by Cllr Alan Neal. Seconded by Cllr Mark Jinkinson. *Agreed by All*

<u>Hyndburn Area</u> –

1. Vacant

8. Reports

a) Executive members –

Cllr Alan Neal reported that an online extraordinary meeting was brought about by the AGM 2024. A concern at last years AGM was brought up by members as to who and how a person can be nominated. The meeting was to review this concern as it felt that the constitution and information about nominations was not followed correctly. Also, the eligibility for nominations is restricted to non-members only. The constitution had been amended but still left the president

and Vice-president as being non-members. This was felt to be unlawful as the association is made up of its members. These positions should be open to all members.

The extraordinary meeting decided that all positions including president and vice president should be open to all members.

Cllr Alan Neal felt that LALC & NALC is male oriented, and he has tried to encourage female members to be put forward. Cllr Alan Neal has put forward that town and parish councillors (Male or Female) should be eligible. Cllr Alan Neal would like the area committee's support. The new constitution is still under agreement by members but has been drafted by the exec committee. LALC needs to come into the 21st century, its not democratic, it was agreed at the last AGM that the members were to vote on the president and vice-president and not to be decided on in advance. The new constitution has only by seen by executive members at the time of this meeting.

Cllr Chris McEvoy_was not happy with the way a president and vice-president is chosen and elected. Cllr Chris McEvoy proposed that a letter be written to LALC on this matter this was seconded by Cllr Graham Felton. Cllr Chris McElvoy and Cllr Mark Jinkinson to write a letter after the new constitution has been received.

Cllr Chris McEvoy asked the meaning of the Devolution. It was explained that devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) is one and the same.

Committee asked about NALC Cllr Alan Neal explained that NALC was the national organisation and LALC was the Lancashire branch. Other ALC's are around the country making up the NALC network.

b) **Secretary** –

Clerks pay rate was discussed and the current pay scale, questions were asked around parishes that can't afford the costs. The meeting was informed that they should still pay their clerks correctly and if money is tight that councillors should take on more responsibility. So, a reduction in workload/hours is favoured over underpaying a clerk.

GDPR compliance was discussed, and the need for parishes to adhere. A discussion ensued over the type of items allowed to stay public. The meeting was advised this is not a choice but a requirement.

A discussion over whether minutes with signatures should be on websites, the meeting was advised that going forward non signed minutes should be on the website and signed minutes for the concurrent file of the council. After 5 years the files should be put into the archives.

c) **Parishes** –

The meeting asked if there was funding for parish councils' websites, Cllr Alan Neal to contact Borough to see about funding for websites on behalf of Dunnockshire & Clowbridge. Discussion on how the devolution will affect small parish councils, and if they will be expected to merge with neighbouring or larger parishes. Worries over services not being local and local contact being lost. Discussion over how many borough and LCC councillor's there will be. Cllr Andy Bell said submissions from boroughs have to be in by 28th November 2025.

Dunnockshire & Clowbridge PC

Coffee evening held to meet parish councillors

Millenium capsule that was placed under a bench in the children's play area 25 years ago was dug up. Moorland view has the capsule to do a project; they will then replace after adding more items.

They have had a full council for 2.5 years which is wonderful.

They find they are happy with the support of their borough councillor.

Whitworth TC

A new councillor has stopped responding to emails.

Speeding traffic near schools are causing problems.

They already have spids throughout the Town.

Cllr Mike Whitworth is involved the sport council.

Lengths man and PROW allowance has been removed from LC budget.

Colne TC

They have advanced spids, providing evidence to the police as to when to attend with speed cameras, this is part of the road safety partnership.

Christmas lights are going to be a big event.

Pendle trust has asked the town council to take on Uni theatre and the leisure centre. Talks within town council on affordability to maintain and worry over loss of assets if they don't acquire.

Colne market upgrade has nearly finished; the Christmas deadline will not be met but hopefully it will be easter.

Colne has a youth council that helps with problems, insights and prevention.

Worsthorne/Hurstwold PC

Neighbourhood plan ahs been amended and submitted.

Scrutiny council meets on the 24^{th of} September 2025.

Phase 1 is finished; special place notice boards are to be put up to respect the area.

Funding still being sought from the from the environment agency and Lancashire fund.

Cllr Alan Neal recommended the duchy of Lancaster fund and Dave Fishwick.

Problems over paintball guns.

Crime and antisocial behaviour working party, PSPO being looked at by the police.

9. Open forum meeting including suggestions for the next meeting

To add to next Agenda – How Devolution affects parishes

Cllr Alan Neal to assist with contacts on helping the newly formed CAB working group to take things forward.

Discussion around involving young people in parish activities – Youth Councils

Meeting closed at 20.59

10. Date and time of next meeting

17th November 2025 @ Burnley Town Hall. 7pm

Future meetings

19th January 2026

16th March 2026 18th May 2026 20th July 2026 21st September 2026 (AGM) 16th November 2026

All meeting are preliminary, dependant on room availability/quorum.

Approved and Signed by Chair:

Date:

Produced by LALC Area Secretary Greera Stevenson $19^{\rm th}$ October 2025