

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Minutes of the 431th meeting of the County Executive Committee of Lancashire Association of Local Councils held virtually on 9 September 2023.

Present

Cllr P Orme

Cllr Ms P Hastings

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Members representing areas

Blackburn with Darwen

Bolton

Burnley & Pendle

Chorley; Lancaster

Preston

South Ribble

Wyre

MALC

Lancaster

Cllr Mrs E Smith

Cllr J Speight

Cllr A Neal, Cllr M Royds,
none

Cllr Ms P Hastings

Cllr K Martin, Cllr E Houghton

Cllr P Orme

Cllr C Rose, Cllr I Hamilton

Officers & guests in attendance

Membership & Engagement Officer

LCC County Campion

Debra Platt

Cllr Paul Rigby

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies from:

Cllr Jan Finch, Sir Robert Atkins, Darren Cranshaw, Val Watson.

2. Minutes not available.

3. Matters of update

4. Lancashire County Council update - Cty Cllr Rigby

Cllr Rigby updated he had received some invites to Area Committees and would be attending as many as he could along with officers Alison and Laura from the parish councils section.

Cllr Martin asked why Hedgehog warning signs were not permitted – PR said these are not permitted unless the hazard of death through accidents. PR said he would ask if temporary residents' signage might not be removed.

Cllr Speight said temporary signs should take account of HGV wing mirrors when placed close to the roadside.

Cllr Neal said they could go high on telegraph poles or light columns. PR asked if Local Councils might be willing to pay for the signs so they were not at LCC budget expense – he would take this idea to Cllr Buckley.

Cllr Martin discussed yellow developer direction signs and they seem to be put up whenever, wherever and not taken down – do they get permission and can they be fined for non removal.

Cllr Orme mentioned brown heritage signs which are faded, redundant and not maintained.

The meeting discussed local councils taking down redundant signs, receiving fine monies, parish byelaws – all noted by PR and he will give feedback.

5. LALC Finance & Management Committee meeting - verbal update

Cancelled.

6. The Future of the Local Council Support Sector - Discussion Paper by COF

The Exec meeting discussed this paper at length, subjects surrounding the contents of the paper, how ALCs are struggling, bought in services to support ALC offered services. Members supported the call of the document for a review in Spring 2024.

Agreed: Members supported the call for a Review and a summit regarding this suggested for Spring 2024. (see in item 11).

7. Officer update reports

Officers reports had been circulated prior.

Discussed Neighbourhood Plans and NALC not offering services on N'hood Plans. Locality, the body who are assisting parish councils with their plans. Members discussed SPDs and how they can't now be used in plans – this needs clarification (How Neighbourhood Plans link in and affect Local Plans) it was mentioned CPRE have good knowledge on Plans.

The risk assessment discussed by the CO sent to members who indicate they wish to stop membership – will be circulated to the Exec members.

CO is training the new Area Support Officer who started on 1st July.

On the COs report members were asked to consider a changed meeting schedule. Members discussed the proposal of less meetings and changed days for the Exec. It was muted to return to face to face meetings.

Agreed: Members broadly agreed to keeping Execs on Saturdays but alternating to 2 face to face in the summer months and 2 virtual in the winter and possibly moving the venue around the County.

8. Area Committee Reports

Preston Area Committee – 13th September.

South Ribble Area Committee - 25th September.

Burnley & Pendle Area Committee – 18th September

Wyre Area Committee – 25th October.

9. Reports from representatives on outside bodies

Cllr K Martin reported on the CPRE Greater Manchester Ringway footpath project, solar panels on industrial units campaigning, Levelling up, Bretherton starting a Neighbourhood Plan, Penwortham submitted for a Kings Award, representing at conference for Edge Hill Lancashire Network and Dark Skys project.

Cllr P Hastings reported on the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership meeting in late August and that shared posts will no longer be funded.

Cllr P Orme reported on the Best Kept Village Competition invitations going out.

10. Regional Matters - Next Northern Group meeting 29 September.

11. National Association matters

Cllr A Neal gave verbal reports on meetings he had attended on NALC and issues raised and members discussed the issues raised by the COF document at item 6.

Cllr A Neal formally moved the support for the COF report, seconded by Cllr P Hastings and Chair.

CO to look at strategies to preserve LALC.

12. Long Service Award – consider nominations

Agreed: Members agreed with the awarding of a Long Service Award to Mr Sharples in Wyre.

13. Any other urgent business

Cllr I Hamilton will go on to the Finance & Management Committee.

Chair asked members to acknowledge receipt of Exec and F&M invitations and agenda.

Cllr K Martin suggested 'calendar' invites are used.

Cllr K Martin raised concerns about Stagecoach, choosing profit routes, booking journeys of NOW card users, running diesel machines and need to move away from diesel. Cllr Hamilton informed MALC is discussing transport issues with Merseyside which is trying to overhaul the whole bus service provision. He thought re-regulating bus services, all over the country, is the way forward.

Need volunteers for the F&M committee.

14. Future meeting arrangements: Saturdays at 10 am on the following dates:

LALC Executive Committee members 2023~2024

Executive Committee meetings 10am	Finance & Management meetings 4pm
Saturday 21 January 2023	Monday 9 January 2023
Saturday 15 April 2023	Tuesday 28 March 2023
Saturday 17 June 2023	Monday 5 June 2023
Saturday 9 September 2023	Tuesday 29 August 2023
Saturday 4 November 2023 – AGM	Tuesday 30 October 2023
Saturday 20 January 2024	Monday 8 January 2024

Debra Platt
County Secretary