



MERSEYSIDE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Minutes of the meeting held in-person and virtually on 5 October 2022.

Present

Members representing areas

Knowsley	Cllr M Burke (Prescot TC)
Sefton	Cllr G Harris (Aintree PC)

Officers & guests in attendance

MALC Interim Secretary (and Town Clerk, Halewood TC)	Gerry Allen (Gerry Allen)
Town Clerk, Prescot TC	Alex Spencer
Town Clerk, Whiston TC	Sandra Myers

Members not in attendance

Knowsley	Cllr A Hesford & Cllr C Rose (Halewood TC) Cllr J. A Parker (Whiston TC)
Sefton	Cllr J Sayers & Cllr J Desmond (Maghull TC)
St. Helens	Cllr J Barnes (Billinge PC) Cllr A Makin (Bold PC)

10. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr J Sayers, Cllr J Desmond, Cllr J Barnes, Cllr C Rose, Cllr J. A Parker and Cllr A Makin. Also, S Powell (Clerk at Rainford PC).

11. Minutes

The previous minutes from 18th August were approved and to be signed by the Chair.

12. Matters Arising

G. Allen updated on correspondence with the office of the City Region Mayoral Lead for Transport.

13. Proposed Standing Orders for MALC

The draft 'Model Standing Orders' from LALC were discussed by those in attendance. It was agreed to adopt the standing orders on an interim basis through to a more formal agreement to be agreed at the Annual Meeting of MALC to be scheduled for May or June 2023.

G. Allen advised attendees that they should consider the issue of the honorarium to be paid to the Area Secretary as outlined at Point 6 of the Standing Orders. The payment for 2022/23 to be tabled at the next meeting, with all future amounts to be set at Annual Meetings of MALC.

14. Overview of Area Committees

G. Allen advised that the paper of 'Area Committees' was shared for the attention of members and clerks to note the context of MALC in the wider Lancashire Association.

15. Area Updates

Proposed Parish Charter

Clerks from Prescot TC, Whiston TC and Halewood TC updated on the recent progress to adopt a 'Parish Charter' between the small councils of Knowsley and Knowsley MBC.

Collective Approaches to Gas/Electricity renewals

Cllr Mark Burke asked MALC to consider the merits of councils in MALC adopting a collective approach to renewing or changing energy providers. After some debate, it was agreed that G. Allen would raise the issue with Debra Platt and seek advice as to whether this approach had been considered elsewhere in Lancashire.

16. Open Forum

G. Allen updated attendees on recent training he had received via MALC. The training centred on Neighbourhood Plans and the Climate Crisis but was particularly resonant in terms of the discussions about fracking.

17. Next Meeting(s)

Attendees agreed with the recommendation of the Area Secretary, and the following dates, times and venues were agreed for MALC Meetings.

Weds. 7 December	6.00pm	Whiston Town Hall
Weds. 1 February 2023	6.00pm	Prescot Town Hall
Weds. 29 March 2023	6.00pm	Arncliffe Centre, Halewood
tbc	6.00pm (Annual Meeting)	tbc

It was agreed that MALC needs several hybrid meetings to both boost its attendance and affirm its purpose. From the Annual Meeting in 2023 it is likely that four meetings per year would be established in May/June, September, December and March.

18. Any Other Business

None.

The meeting concluded at 7.01pm