

Stephen Rickitt

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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

NALC Enews
22 August 2017

Return to work

I am now back in the office after my holiday and working through emails. If there is an outstanding item which is urgent, please let me know.

Member Emails

The Chairmen and Clerks have been sent a number of emails since the previous Enews.

- Links for information on training for clerks - 15 August
- Community Building - Event in Durham - 15 August
- Applications for funding from the Transparency Fund - 16 August
- Citizenship & Civic Engagement - 17 August

If your Council has not received any of these, please don't hesitate to contact me.

AGM - Saturday 7 October 2017

All Member Councils were sent an email on 17 August 2017 giving preliminary details of the AGM and seeking any items for the agenda & nominations.

The AGM is to be held on at 10.00 am on Saturday 7 October 2017 at the Pegswood Community Hub, Longhirst Road, Pegswood NE61 6XF.

The main speaker is Jonathan Owen, the Chief Executive of the national NALC, who will lead a discussion entitled

Where Next for Localism?

- *The challenges facing the sector*
- *The changing role of parishes*
- *Are we fit for the future?*

The formal agenda and report will be electronically distributed in early September.

Training

There are two courses in September:

Monday 11 September at 7.00 pm in Bardon Mill - Introduction to Local Councils.

Please book through

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-local-councils-west-northumberland-tickets-32623629153>

Wednesday 13 September at 7.00 pm in Powburn - Introduction to Local Councils

Please book through

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-local-councils-north-northumberland-tickets-32623816714>

Public Library Provision

The LGA have produced a 48 page guide

"Written for all councillors who have an interest in supporting the development of public library services, this guide will take you through the how and why of transformation in your area. Whether you are a portfolio holder with responsibility for libraries and wider cultural services, or a ward councillor who has campaigned tirelessly to keep a local library open in a period of cost-cutting and rationalisation, it will set out ways in which you can ensure your library service excels and meets the needs of your communities"

It is available via <https://www.local.gov.uk/delivering-local-solutions-public-library-services>

Reuse of Grave Spaces

Those involved in cemetery and graveyard management may find this article of interest on the Law & Religion UK Blog

<http://www.lawandreligionuk.com/2017/08/09/reuse-of-graves-further-considerations/>

AON Insurance

The national NALC's CX has provided the following update

- As those of you with insurance policies with Aon will already know, Aon have decided to cease its involvement in the local council market in line with changes to its UK strategy. NALC has had a long-term agreement with Aon for several decades which has benefitted NALC and the wider sector. Aon have been in full discussion with us about these changes and have terminated their agreement with us. Whilst disappointing, this process has been conducted in a professional and amicable way.
- Aon have made arrangements to provide affected councils with a renewal invitation from BHIB Ltd, another insurance broker. Aon has indicated that "BHIB is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA registration number 116675). BHIB is a leading independent commercial insurance broker that prides itself on its professionalism and Chartered status. Servicing local and national clients in all aspects of general insurance, BHIB delivers specialist insurance broking services to a variety of businesses and membership organisations, with specific focus on providing solutions and exceptional client service."
- We are in positive discussions with BHIB to reach an agreement with them and have visited their main office in Leicester and I will keep you posted on developments.

Planning and Environmental Update August 2017

The Law Society have produced an update available at <https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/news/stories/planning-and-environmental-legislation-update-august-2017/>

Ordnance Survey Data - Green Space

A Government initiative to make it easier for people to locate and access greenspaces has launched today, with the release of a new database and interactive digital map identifying accessible recreational and leisure greenspace in Great Britain.

Delivered by Ordnance Survey (OS), the free map contains data from OS and other sources, and can be used instantly through the popular leisure mapping app and online service, OS Maps.

This comprehensive map of Great Britain's greenspaces is also available as an open dataset, called OS Open Greenspace, for communities, businesses and developers to create products and services that will encourage healthier and 'greener' lifestyles.

Since the Greenspace map was reaffirmed as a commitment in 2015, OS has worked in collaboration with a large number of Non-Government Organisations and Government partners to compile the OS Open Greenspace dataset and digital map.

Accurately depicted within the dataset is the location and extent of recreational and leisure features and, for larger sites, their access points. Example features included in the data is every public park in Great Britain, every play space, playing field, golf course, public garden, bowling green, allotment and more.



***If you have any comments or observations, please contact
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or

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