



## Northumberland Association of Local Councils

**NALC Enews  
21 April 2021**

**Please forward to all Councillors  
and Staff**

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### **Emails to Member Councils**

The Chairmen and Clerks of Member Councils have been sent the following email since the last issue of the Enews.

16 April 2021 containing

- Elections in Northumberland
- Borrowing by Local Councils
- The AGAR and Covid-Related Expenditure
- Spoof Emails
- National NALC's call for evidence - Remote Meetings

NB: The subject entry may have read 21 April.

If your Council has not received a copy, or if your Chairman or Clerk has changed, please let me know.

## Briefings

The following on-line events are scheduled over the next few weeks. Please use the appropriate link for more information and booking. We would be grateful if details could be passed to new Councillors even though they do not officially come into post until 10 May.

### **General Introduction to Local Councils**

Wed, 26 May 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-general-introduction-to-local-councils-tickets-136595616165>

### **Copy of General Introduction to Local Councils**

Sat, 5 Jun 2021 09:30

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/copy-of-general-introduction-to-local-councils-tickets-136595915059>

### **Budgets, Precepts and Finance**

Tue, 22 Jun 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/budgets-precepts-and-finance-tickets-136595204935>

### **Introduction to Planning**

Wed, 30 Jun 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/introduction-to-planning-tickets-136596163803>

Mon, 5 Jul 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/being-the-chairman-of-a-smaller-parish-council-tickets-136596372427>

## Highways and Public Rights of Way

Mon, 19 Jul 2021 19:00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/highways-and-public-rights-of-way-tickets-136596593087>

## Vacancies for Clerks

[Hauxley Parish Council](#)

They are seeking a part-time clerk, details are at

[https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/33e9d323-ba61-4ace-bb01-394a2c985957/Hauxley\\_PC.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/5060a2022e1081d67bbdd9b3a/files/33e9d323-ba61-4ace-bb01-394a2c985957/Hauxley_PC.pdf)

Closing date is 7 May 2021

[Kielder PC](#)

Kielder Parish Council are seeking a new clerk. The role is approximately 4 hours a week and pays between £9.77 and £11.22 per hour depending on experience and qualifications. For more details please contact Ben Dickson-Green, the current clerk, via [kielderpc@gmail.com](mailto:kielderpc@gmail.com).

Closing date for applications is 28th April 2021.

## Digital Meetings

The High Court hearing took place today (Wednesday 21 April). As soon as we have any more details, we shall put colleagues know.

Lawyers in Local Govt. have placed the following on their website

*"Proceedings for a court declaration that virtual meetings can proceed past 6th May 2021 was heard today in the High Court before the President of the Queen's Bench Division, Dame Victoria Sharp and the Hon Mr Martin Chamberlain QC.*

*LLG, ADSO and Hertfordshire County Council instructed Counsel, Peter Oldham QC of 11KBW to make submissions and we thank The Local Government Association and the National Association of Local Councils for their participation as interested parties.*

*We now await the judgement of the court which, given the urgency of the situation, is expected earlier than might otherwise be the case."*

No indications have been given of the possible decision as yet.

## **Changes to Permitted Development Rights - Commercial to Residential**

In Autumn 2020 MHCLG consulted on changes to permitted developments to extend the rights to convert commercial property to residential use.

The legislation has now been made with some significant changes from last year's proposals. Some protection is given the ground floor use but only in conservation areas.

The article at the link gives more detail

<https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/planning/318-planning-features/46799-when-the-wind-fall-blows>

## **Procurement Thresholds**

The national NALC have published details of the revised thresholds which apply post-Brexit. It's in the Members Area so a login is needed, available from this office for Member Councils.

[and-aduit/3488-f02-21-changes-to-public-procurement-threshold-april-2021/file](#)

## VAT Reverse Charging Rules

The national NALC have produced a briefing which ONLY applies to local councils who are VAT Registered. It does NOT apply to Local Councils who only claim VAT under s33 of the VAT Act 1994 (i.e. by completing a VAT126 Form)..

It's also in the Members Area at

<https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/members-library/briefings/finance-and-aduit/3487-f01-21-vat-reverse-charging-rules-april-2021/file>

## Reopening & reimagining your community buildings

The national NALC are holding a new online event on reopening and reimagining your community buildings, taking place on 23 June 2021.

With lockdown ending, now is the perfect time to consider the role your village hall or community centre can play in revitalising your community. Find out how you can make your community-building the place to be in your neighbourhood. Learn how to encourage existing users of your community facility to return and how to market your venue to new users.

The expert panel features **Deborah Clarke**, rural evidence and village halls manager at Action with Communities in Rural England and **Andrew McKenzie**, town clerk of Dawlish Town Council. Prices for this event start from £30. The event is sponsored by BHIB Councils Insurance, Blachere Illumination and CCLA.Content

Booking is via

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reopening-and-reimagining-your-community-buildings-tickets-150074373491>



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***If you have any comments or observations, please contact  
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or  
Louise Currie, Community Initiatives Officer [louisecurrie@ca-north.org.uk](mailto:louisecurrie@ca-north.org.uk)***

***Our website is at <https://northumberlandalc.uk/>***

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