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LAUNCH OF THE NORFOLK ALC WELL BEING INITIATIVE FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS – 18 OCTOBER 2019

A free Mini Conference is being held in Attleborough Town Hall on 18 October at 6.30 pm. This promises to be a really exciting and thought provoking event. The main speaker is George Freeman MP – the Minister of State for the Future of Transport. Details are available [here](#) Councillors who wish to go **must** register with John Pennell, by email at john.pennell@live.co.uk. John will then confirm whether there is space or not because we cannot exceed the capacity of the venue. All requests for places so far have been met but they are coming in fast so be quick if you want to go. If you need more details please contact John by [email](#).

INVITATION TO A PARISH PATHS SEMINAR – 28 OCTOBER 2019

Are you interested in attending an upcoming parish paths seminar? The purpose is to explore practical ways in which Norfolk County Council, parish and town councils and local volunteers can work together for the benefit of public paths (primarily Public Rights of Way and promoted routes). It takes place on Monday 28 October from 2pm to 5pm at Narborough Community Centre. Although the event is first and foremost for parishes in the West Norfolk area, they'd be happy for parishes from outside the area to attend if they wish (although there will be one further event in due course in the South of Norfolk).

[Invitation to Parish Paths Seminar](#)

[Agenda for Parish Paths Seminar](#)

Booking is online: www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/parishpaths (booking deadline: 14 October 2019)

AGM INVITATION – 20 NOVEMBER 2019 (Member Councils only)

Our AGM is being held on the 20 November at County Hall. Click [here](#) for the current agenda. Councils are invited to submit motions on matters affecting Local Councils during this month. To help with our planning, please advise of your attendance [here](#).

NORFOLK ARMED FORCES COVENANT BOARD FUNDING

Would your Town or Parish Council like funding of up to £500 to commemorate World

War Two anniversaries? Town and Parish Councils in Norfolk are eligible to apply for funding for educational activities and events to support learning about World War Two; in particular, the 75th anniversaries of VE Day and VJ Day, and the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Dunkirk. The grant fund has been made available by the Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant Board and is being managed by Norfolk Community Foundation.

Click here for further information: [Norfolk Armed Forces Covenant 2020 Commemoration Fund/](#). Applications will be accepted until 31 January 2020.

INDEPENDENT REVIEW INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUDIT – CALL FOR EVIDENCE

Sir Tony Redmond is undertaking an independent review into local government audit. A [call for evidence](#) has been issued to include our sector and its experiences on how well or otherwise the transparency and audit changes introduced by the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 have bedded in. National ALC's initial positions are:

1. We want to support the continued principle of audit proportionality (i.e. a lighter-touch for smaller bodies) and of safeguards to contain excessive fees brought about by habitual (local resident) audit complainers;
2. The Code of Practice should reflect proportionality in respect of smaller authorities, especially where the authority has an annual budget/turnover below £25k and is potentially exempt (i.e. smaller and subject to the Smaller Authorities' Transparency Code);
3. The Review needs to be aware that to a smaller local council the costs of an audit investigation could cost more than the council's annual precept;
4. The 2014 Act is still very new, is largely working, and stability is needed to give the main changes from 2014 a chance to bed-in.

To provide your own views to us, please complete our short survey [here](#) by 8 November 2019. The review is due to make initial recommendations in December 2019 and a full report will be published in March 2020. Separately, NALC is additionally interested in your views on the effectiveness and consistency of current internal audit arrangements – please initially forward those thoughts to me.

ELECTORAL REVIEW – TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

The presentation provided by the Local Government Boundary Commission at County Hall this week is [here](#). A film of the presentation is also available – see last [bulletin](#).

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AWARENESS SESSIONS

Neighbourhood Plans can give communities more control over the type, location, size, pace and design of development in their area. Our workshops are aimed at Parish Councils who are considering producing a Neighbourhood Plan but need some practical support and guidance to get started from someone who has been through the process.

Many smaller Parish Councils have considered a Neighbourhood Plan but feel that they don't know where to start, or don't have the skills or funds to embark on a Plan. This session will help you to feel that it is possible for you to produce a plan, which doesn't need to be complicated or expensive, and will outline how we can help with this by a series of workshops to support you through the whole process.

Tuesday 29 October, 7pm – 9pm – Wereham Village Hall
Thursday 7 November, 7pm – 9pm – Carrowbreck House

£30 + VAT for one place or £50 + VAT for two places from the same Council

To book a session click [here](#)

OTHER TRAINING SESSIONS

Upcoming courses and events can be viewed at the links below. If you would like any courses/ locations to be added, let us know!

CHAIRMAN LEADERSHIP SKILLS – REFRESHER DAY

Wednesday 6 November 2019

£65 + VAT

9.30am – 3.30pm

Wereham Village Hall

A refresher day covering the key elements of being a local Council Chairman; leadership, legal powers and duties, public relations, managing council meetings, facilitation, ethical standards and being a good employer.

ROLE OF THE CLERK

21 & 28 November 2019

Two day intensive course

£110 + VAT

9.30am – 3.30pm

Carrowbreck House, Hellesdon

This new and improved detailed course covers your role, the role of the Council and the Councillors as well as powers and duties, standing orders, meetings, finance, information management, planning, elections, casual vacancies and co-option and much more.

BEING AN EFFECTIVE COUNCILLOR

Tuesday 28 January 2020

One day intensive course

£60 + VAT

9.30am – 3.30pm

Wereham Village Hall

Covers roles and responsibilities, getting things done for your community, procedures and law, working with your Clerk, planning, budgeting and finance.

To book a training course click [here](#)

[Click here to view the Calendar for more Events & Training](#)

To view the current Parish Clerk Vacancies in Norfolk click [here](#)



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Click [here](#) to access news from Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk
Click [here](#) to access news from Broadland District Council
Click [here](#) to access news from Great Yarmouth Borough Council
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