

20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Find us on 🚯 💥 @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u> Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

## Contact us

## $^{igsirentsymbol{\&}}$ Please contact the office on 01673 866596

- For general enquiries including internal audit and advice, contact either Katrina Line 1 (or mobile 07422 963475) or Andrew Line 3 (or mobile 07549 019842). Flexible Monday Friday
- For general enquiries including website management service, invoices, training booking enquiries, contact Lindsey Line 2 on Monday, Tuesday, Friday
- For general enquiries including website/portal updates, e-news items, vacancies, contact Elaine Line 4 on Fridays

Please note that there may be times when the LALC office is not manned, particularly if staff are out training or attending meetings. If you can't get hold of us by phone, please contact us via one of the methods below.



www.lalc.co.uk/contactus

enquiries@lalc.co.uk

Raise a new Enquiry on the portal (login required)

If any Clerks want to join the Clerks' eGroup, or any councillors want to join the Councillor eGroup, contact <u>enquiries@lalc.co.uk</u>.

This fortnightly newsletter is provided to member councils through the clerk and chair and should be circulated to all councillors. This eNews can also be found on the <u>LALC website</u> under News (LALC News). Other important information which comes up in between eNews publication dates is also shared on the website under News (Our Blog).

## Training courses are available to book via the portal (login required)

The Training Bulletin is issued monthly, and courses are available to book via the portal. If there is any specific training which you feel would be valuable, and we don't currently offer it, please let us know and we will investigate. The Training Bulletin can be found on the LALC website <u>www.lalc.co.uk/training-2-1</u>.

Clerks – when booking training for your councillors, **please ensure that their email address is correct**. If not, they will not receive the booking confirmation or any joining instructions. If you have set up your



20<sup>th</sup> June 2025



Find us on 🚯 🗙 @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u> Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

councillors on the LALC portal, you will be able to select their correct email address from a drop-down list when booking the training.

If you update your council email and are **already** booked on training, please let us know so that we can update your booking to ensure you receive the automatic reminders.

If one of your councillors resigns, and they were booked on LALC training, **please cancel their place**, so that others can book on. Failure to do so may not only deprive other councils from attending but could result in a non-attendance charge (see below).

Please note our training cancellation policy:

- For part day courses please ensure we receive cancellations at least 48 hours in advance
- For full day events please ensure we receive cancellations at least 5 working days in advance, as we need to pre-order and pay for lunches

Due to persistent non-attendance at booked events, it is unfortunate that LALC have had to amend the way we impose our cancellation fees. All members are charged 50% of the training cost when insufficient notice is received (as above) for non-attendance at training events. No shows will be charged at 100% of the course fee. All charges are regardless of whether the council is a member of the ATS or not.

| Current vacancies                                | Position        | Closing date                   |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Fenton and Torksey Lock Parish Council           | Clerk/RFO       | No closing date                |
| North Thoresby, Grainsby & Waithe Parish Council | Clerk/RFO       | 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 |
| Coningsby Town Council                           | Admin Assistant | No closing date                |
| Brookenby Parish Council                         | Clerk/RFO       | 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 |
| Bardney Parish Council                           | Clerk/RFO       | No closing date                |
| Claypole Parish Council                          | Clerk/RFO       | 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2025    |
| Hundleby Parish Council                          | Clerk/RFO       | No closing date                |
| Donington Parish Council                         | Clerk/RFO       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025       |
| Woodhall Spa Parish Council                      | Clerk/RFO       | 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025      |
| Nettleham Parish Council                         | Clerk           | 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2025      |
| Collyweston Parish Council (Northants)           | Clerk/RFO       | 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025     |

#### Vacancy advertising

LALC can advertise your vacancy on our website and in the fortnightly eNews. This is a **free** service. If you do not have a pre-prepared advert to send us, please complete our **Vacancy Template**, which can be found in the Members Portal under Document Templates.





20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

## Find us on **(f)** X @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u>

Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

We also offer a **paid** advertising service, which ensures that your advert also appears on Lincolnshire County Council's website, Facebook, and LinkedIn (in addition to the LALC website and eNews). The current fee for this is £80 (this has increased in line with an increase in the LCC fee). Please complete the Vacancy Template (as above), ensuring that all requested information is completed, and then contact us at <u>enquiries@lalc.co.uk</u>. You will be invoiced for this service.

Please note that Lincolnshire County Council require a closing date on their advert, as well as salary information (these are mandatory fields). LCC will remove your advert once the closing date has passed, so please consider the date carefully as you will have to pay again to re-advertise if your vacancy hasn't been filled by then.

We recommend all councils advertise their vacancy, job details, method of application and up to date contact details **on their own website** too.

Please let us know when the vacancy has been filled, so that we can remove it from our website/eNews. If your vacancy has not yet been filled and you are continuing to advertise, please let us know of any revised closing date. If you no longer specify a closing date, please let us know so that we can update the vacancy adverts.

The NALC Recruitment Manual (developed as part of the Civility & Respect project) is now available via the portal. Go into Knowledgebase and click on 'Recruitment Manual' in the 'Employment' menu area.

#### Sign up to the LCC Town and Parishes newsletter – email:

lcctownandparishnews@lincolnshire.gov.uk

#### **Latest News**

To see the latest NALC news (NALC login required): <u>https://www.nalc.gov.uk/news</u> To see the latest SLCC news (No SLCC login required): <u>https://www.slcc.co.uk/news-publications/</u>

#### NALC publishes the all-new digital edition of Local Councils Explained

This updated edition is more accessible and practical and is completely free to our members through our website only. Instant digital access to clear, concise explanations of how parish and town councils work, all backed up with direct links to the latest legislation. It's faster to navigate, easier to search and fits perfectly with our commitment to a digital-first future and environmental responsibility.

Local Councils Explained has been fully revised to reflect today's legal landscape, digital expectations, and best practices, making it an indispensable tool for navigating the complexities of local government. The



20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

## Find us on **(f)** X @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u>

Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

update introduces a wealth of essential content designed to support councillors, clerks, council staff and trainers in working more effectively, transparently and lawfully.

Whether you're just starting or have years of experience, this new edition provides the knowledge and tools you need to support good local governance and resilient, well-run parish and town councils.

By logging into the LALC portal you can download the new edition from within the Knowledgebase area. It is located under 'Council Procedures' and search for any of Local Councils Explained.

#### LALC Summer Conference - 16 July 2025

Booking is now open for the 2025 LALC Summer Conference - taking place at the Epic Centre at Lincolnshire Showground.

Come along for an interesting and enjoyable day: meet old friends, network, and make new friends and contacts.

The day will start with a Welcome & Introduction from our guest speaker.

There will be a varied selection of Talking Tables on different topics. These will be interactive sessions using discussion, scenarios, case studies, and shared problem solving.

See details of Talking Tables and Trade Stands below.

Delegates will have the opportunity to attend 5 of these tables during the day, selecting topics which are of specific interest to your council. If you are bringing several colleagues from the same council, you may want to share out which Talking Tables you'd like to visit, to ensure you get the most out of the topics on offer.

Cost is £45 per head plus VAT.

#### \*Breaking News\*

LALC can now confirm that the Principal Authorities will be attending the conference. They will be located in a dedicated room with talking tables and you will have the opportunity to go and meet them.

Attendees to the Conference will also be entered into a Prize Draw, with a chance to win one of two prizes of a £50 credit voucher for LALC which can be deducted from your membership subscription, Annual Training Scheme subscription or any other LALC service of the council's choice.



20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Page

Find us on **(?)** X @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u> Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils 2025 Summer Conference Come and network with like-minded councils 16July 2025 9:30 - 16:00 Website www.lalc.co.uk Epic Centre, Lincs Showground, Location LN2 2NA



20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Find us on 😝 X @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u> Do you have news to share?

<u>Get in touch</u> via our website.

LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

# **Conference Programme**

There will be thirteen Talking Tables covering different topics, with presenters who will provide an interactive session using discussion, scenarios, case studies, quizzes, demonstrations and shared problem-solving. Delegates will have the opportunity to attend five of these sessions during the day, selecting specific topics of interest. Talking Tables sessions will be strictly controlled to 50 minutes to manage movement between tables.



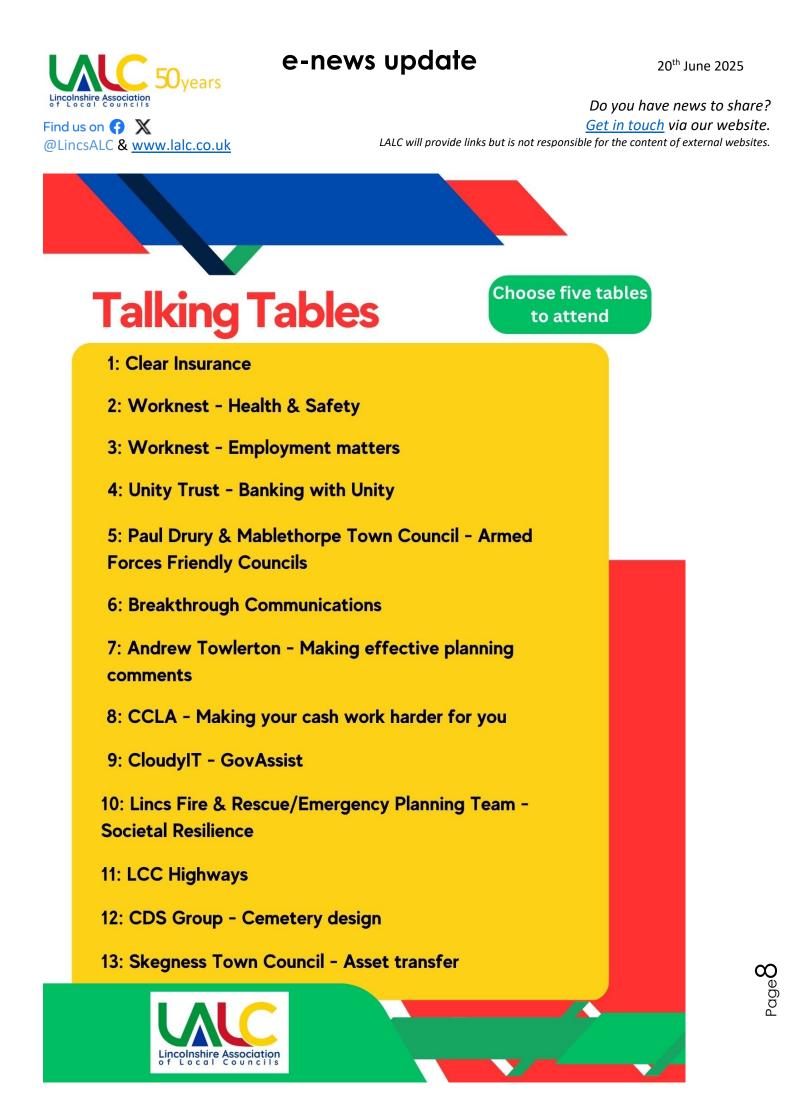




20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Find us on 😝 X @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u> Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.







20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Find us on **(f)** X @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u> Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

#### LALC at the Lincolnshire Show

Thank you to everyone who came to see us at the Lincolnshire Show this week and all the councils who supplied photos and material showcasing what parish and town councils do. Hopefully a few myths were busted and there may be a few more people out there who are considering becoming a councillor or a clerk.

More photos and a fuller update will be in the next eNews, but here's a taster:





20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

## Find us on 🚯 💥 @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u>

Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

### Reforms to bolster flood protection for communities across the country

New proposals to accelerate the construction of flood schemes and protect thousands of homes and businesses in the nation's cities and rural areas from the risks of flooding have been unveiled today (Tuesday 3 June) by Floods Minister Emma Hardy.

A simpler, transparent approach will replace the current complex and labour-intensive process of applying for funding, which disproportionately affects councils with less resources.

The proposals will make it easier for authorities, including councils, to bid for central government funding. This will benefit poorer councils who have less resource to commit to the application process.

They will also ensure money is distributed more effectively across the country – including for rural and coastal communities.

And faster applications will help speed up delivery of vital schemes – crucial to boosting the country's preparedness for extreme weather events.

The consultation, now open, also considers how communities can make better use of property flood resilience measures, such as flood doors or smart air bricks. These items help prevent water from entering a property or reduce the amount of floodwater that enters during significant flooding.

Read more: <u>https://tinyurl.com/3sh3sme8</u> DEFRA Consultation (closes 29 July): <u>https://tinyurl.com/3zewzybt</u>

#### **SAAP review of Proper Practices**

The Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel (SAPPP) has initiated a review of proper practices, which are the standards for governance and accounting that smaller authorities must adhere to. SAPPP, along with the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments (SAAA), has engaged the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) to carry out this review. CIPFA has already undertaken an exercise to understand how the current Practitioners' Guide could be improved.

SAPPP, supported by CIPFA, will now prepare a sector-wide consultation on the issues, which will open in the autumn.

Read more: <u>https://tinyurl.com/3kvbe4k7</u>

age



20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

age -

## Find us on 🚯 💥 @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u>

Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

## SLCC and NALC disappointment at the Government's Decision to Axe Funding for Neighbourhood Planning

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's (MHCLG) has decided to stop funding for the neighbourhood planning support programme. This decision is seen as a significant setback for localism and the highly successful neighbourhood planning initiative, which saw parish and town councils at the heart of the 2,400 communities, with more than 1,000 plans approved at referendum.

SLCC are currently engaging with NALC, Locality (the membership organisation commissioned by MHCLG to deliver the support programme), and other organisations involved in supporting neighbourhood planning. Further information will be provided as it becomes available, and parties will continue making representations to the government.

SLCC is supporting NALC in seeking clarification about the broader future of Neighbourhood Planning initiatives and about funding to local planning authorities to support their duty to take Neighbourhood Plans to referenda.

## Local Government Reorganisation: Policy and Programme Updates

The government has updated its webpage containing a collection of news updates and supporting documents relating to the government's ambitious programme of local government reorganisation in England.

Their latest update includes a section with information relating to local government reorganisation areas.

Access the information: https://tinyurl.com/mr365r2d

#### White Ribbon UK's Right to Respect Campaign

With the introduction of the Worker Protection Act 2023, employers in the UK now have a legal duty to take proactive steps to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace. It's no longer enough to react after an incident, prevention must be prioritised.

Recent findings from the TUC (2023) show that three in five women have experienced sexual harassment, bullying, or verbal abuse at work, which is completely unacceptable.

Find out more about the Campaign:

https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/news/2025/5/7/white-ribbon-uk-launches-june-campaign-right-torespectnbspnbsp



20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Find us on **(f)** X @LincsALC & <u>www.lalc.co.uk</u> Do you have news to share? <u>Get in touch</u> via our website. LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

#### Healthwatch Lincolnshire: Health and social care survey for serving personnel

In association with the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, this survey will identify barriers and gaps in healthcare and recommend improvements to make sure everyone gets the care they need. The survey wants to hear from all serving personnel but is especially keen to hear from the military's hidden voices, such as:

- People with disabilities
- LGBTQ+ communities
- People from ethnic minorities
- Carers

Access the survey: https://tinyurl.com/mtjrhbee

#### Elsewhere in the country: Parish council bullying probe cost more than £60k

An investigation into claims of bullying, assault and unlawful use of public funds in a rural village cost a local authority more than £60,000.

Durham County Council launched a probe after members of Romaldkirk Parish Council were accused of being "dismissive and disrespectful" to others.

The dispute ignited over long-running land disagreements, with residents exchanging "toxic and threatening" WhatsApp messages. Four parish councillors were ordered to take conduct training after several complaints against them were upheld.

One resident, summing up the dispute, said: "I say to all my friends and family, if you think Emmerdale is something, move to Romaldkirk."

Police also looked into complaints of assault among members but closed their investigations.

Durham County Council, which was run by a coalition at the time, spent a total of £62,989 on internal and external costs, the Local Democracy Reporting Service said.

Read more: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5y2wpp2en7o">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5y2wpp2en7o</a>