



Find us on @LincsALC
www.lalc.co.uk

Do you have news to share?
[Get in touch](#) with John Kilcoyne via our website.
LALC will provide links but is not responsible for the content of external websites.

Contact us through the [website](#) please.

AGM 6th October, [Bentley Hotel](#), sponsored by [CCLA](#)

Details of presentations and speakers are still being finalised. Booking will be available from August when we will ask you to confirm choices of workshop. The cost will be £27.50 plus VAT per participant including lunch. In the meantime, this is the provisional timetable:

- 9.00-9.45:** Arrival, Registration, Refreshments & Trade Stands
- 9.45-10.15** [CCLA](#) – Introduction & Speaker
- 10.15-11.15:** Workshops (1)
- 11.15-11.30:** Break/Trade Stands
- 11.30-12.30:** Workshop 2
- 12.30-2.00:** Lunch, Trade Stands & Networking
- 2.00-3.00** AGM
- 3.00-4.00:** Question & Answer Session.
- 4.15-4.30:** Close the day

Surveys

- [Feedback](#) for any training course arranged through us.
- [General Power of Competence](#)
- [Neighbourhood Plans](#)
- [Clerk qualifications](#)
- [Local Council Award Scheme](#)

Vacancies

We're happy to place adverts for [council job vacancies](#) on our website for free. Please send your information via the [website contact form](#).

		Closing date
Wyberton Parish Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Clerk/ RFO • Hall administrator 	23rd July
North Kelsey Parish Council	Clerk and Proper Officer/ RFO	27th July
Heighington Parish Council	Caretaker, cleaner	30 th July
North Hykeham Town Council	Temporary Assistant Clerk	None given



Find us on @LincsALC
www.lalc.co.uk

Do you have news to share?

[Get in touch](#) with John Kilcoyne via our website.

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

Internal audit is **not** about just checking your accounts. It **is** about making sure **you** do all this and more:

- ✓ Your council has complied with your financial regulations with all payments supported by invoices.
- ✓ You have kept appropriate accounting records and periodic bank reconciliations throughout the year.
- ✓ You have assessed the significant risks to achieving your objectives and made sure that arrangements to manage these including insurance were adequate.
- ✓ Your precept requirement resulted from an adequate budgeting process, progress against the budget is regularly monitored and reserves are appropriate.
- ✓ All your expenditure was approved.
- ✓ Your expected income was fully received based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked.
- ✓ Your petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved.
- ✓ VAT was appropriately accounted for with all income and expenditure.
- ✓ Salaries and allowances were paid in line with approvals with PAYE, NI and pension properly applied.
- ✓ Your asset and investment registers were complete and properly maintained including loans to or by your council.
- ✓ Your accounting statements were prepared correctly, agreed to the cashbook with an adequate audit trail.
- ✓ Your debtors and creditors were properly recorded.
- ✓ If your council met the criteria, you correctly made the declaration to certify yourself as exempt.
- ✓ You publish the correct information on a website and complies with the relevant Transparency Code.
- ✓ You provided correctly for the period for the exercise of public rights.
- ✓ You complied with the publication requirements for the previous year's AGAR.

If you offer additional services, your auditor should check that you meet your responsibilities. These services may include among others allotments, burials, markets, community buildings and charity trusteeships.

Your council is responsible for making sure that your internal auditor will check and advise on all these statements. See the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance Practitioners' Guide for more details, available to download from our [website](#). We recommend that your internal auditor should be involved throughout the year for at least two audit events, and certainly should not have their first engagement with you at year end. If you are not sure about any of the items listed above, look at the courses offered by Parkinson Partnership on page 18 of LALC News 176.

Our internal audit offer will ensure that auditors appointed through LALC carry out these checks correctly. Auditors will be expected to attend training sessions and report back to the council and to LALC using standard templates.

[Public interest reports](#) have been issued against several Lincolnshire councils and parish meetings in recent years. The matters raised are expected to be addressed promptly. There is a financial cost and the council or parish meeting will not be able to certify itself exempt from a limited assurance review for the following year.

2019-2020	Aubourn and Haddington Parish Council	Dunston Parish Council	Quadring Parish Council
	Welbourn Parish Council	Grantham Charter Trustees	
2018-2019	Scotter Parish Council	Keelby Parish Council	
2017-2018	Scotter Parish Council		
2016-2017	Heapham Parish Meeting	Brookenby Parish Council	
2015-2016	Little Ponton and Stroxtton Parish Council		



Find us on @LincsALC
www.lalc.co.uk

Do you have news to share?

Get in touch with John Kilcoyne via our website.

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

Internal Auditor Workshop

An Internal Auditor recruitment workshop is planned for 3rd August at Dunholme Old School. This is aimed primarily at Qualified Clerks or those with council internal audit experience who wish to conduct internal audits on behalf of the association. Please inform Katrina, John or Lindsey of your interest to attend asap. We are planning to launch an Internal Audit Service to our member councils from 1 September 2021 – more information will be forthcoming of what the offer will entail.

Training

Details of training from September onwards is in LALC News 176 which you should have received this week.

Remember, [online training](#) is still available throughout the summer. Sign up for courses offered by LALC and Nimble to learn at a time that suits you.

Places are still available on the following sessions, all included in the Annual Training Scheme

Councillor remote refresher workshops	Boston, ELDC, SHDC	Zoom, Tuesday 20 th July, 7-9pm	Parish Online CCLA
	NKDC, SKDC, WLDC	Zoom, Tuesday 27 th July 7-9pm	Clear Utility Solutions LALC internal audit
Play areas/ risk	Washingborough Community Centre Wednesday 21 st July, 10am-4pm. Additional cost for lunch		Kompan BHIB Insurance
Emergency Planning	County Emergency Centre, South Park Avenue, Lincoln. Wednesday 4 th August, 10am-12pm		

SLCC

Community Governance offers a range of qualifications which are all distance learning with residential study days. The qualification looks at the way in which people and organisations work together and independently, making decisions for the benefit of a local community. Study for a qualification awarded by De Montfort University (DMU), ranked Gold under the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF):

- Certificate of Higher Education (Level 4)
- Foundation Degree (Level 5)
- Honours Degree (Level 6)

Registration for 2022 is [now open](#).

CloudyIT

Free virtual summit on Thursday 29 July at 10am, focusing on Hybrid Meetings and Broadcasting Council Meetings: [A Guide to Broadcasting Council Meetings Mini Summit - Cloudy IT](#)



Find us on @LincsALC
www.lalc.co.uk

Do you have news to share?

[Get in touch](#) with John Kilcoyne via our website.

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

This hour-long session will contain live demonstrations from Buckingham and Bracknell Town Councils to show you the physical setup and capabilities of the technology.

The summit will be recorded and sent out to everyone that signs up to the event afterwards. Feel free to sign up to the event, even if you are unable to make it on the day.



- 13/07/2021: Ecclesiastical Launches Phase 2 of Movement for Good Awards
- 12/07/2021: Barclays' 100x100 UK COVID-19 Community Relief Programme Re-Opens
- 09/07/2021: £10 million Catch-Up Funding to Support Pupils Maths and English Skills
- 09/07/2021: Baring Foundation's Announces New Fund to Support Legal Action to Tackle Racial Injustice in CJS



Prime Minister's statement on step 4 of the roadmap

The Prime Minister [confirmed](#) on 12 July that Step 4 of the [Roadmap](#) will proceed as planned on 19 July. This means most legal limits on social contact will be removed. There will also no longer be limits on gatherings inside and outside and on social distancing. However, as cases continue to rise the government is urging caution and personal responsibility. The Government will undertake a review in September to assess the country's preparedness for autumn and winter, which will consider whether to continue or strengthen public and business guidance. A new section on Step 4 guidance post 19 July has been added to our [dedicated Coronavirus webpage](#).

National Assembly summary:

- Councillors discussed ongoing work to promote civility and respect in public life
- Elections to committees and for officeholders will be held later in the year using a web platform.
- Councillors supported the proposed development of NALC's strategic direction.
- The Finance and Scrutiny Committee supported a 1% increase in affiliation fees for 2022/23.
- NALC membership now covers an electorate of 15.5 million people; 1700 attendees at this year's programme of online events; around 300,000 documents have been downloaded.

Community Ownership Fund

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has published the [prospectus](#) for its £150 million Community Ownership Fund to enable community groups to bid for up to £250,000 matched funding to help them buy or takeover local community assets. There will be 8 bidding rounds over the next four years, beginning 30th July. Local authorities, including local (parish and town) councils, will not be able to bid but can play a role in working with eligible community groups. Information webinars on [20 July](#) and [23 July](#). Councils should keep NALC informed about their role including signposting information and supporting community groups at policycomms@nalc.gov.uk

All-Party Parliamentary Group on local democracy



Find us on   @LincsALC
www.lalc.co.uk

Do you have news to share?

[Get in touch](#) with John Kilcoyne via our website.

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

On 19 July the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on local democracy, to which NALC provides the secretariat, held an online roundtable on levelling up. Here's just a flavour of discussions:

- Levelling up should be more than a slogan.
- Data should not be averaged in a way that means hidden pockets of deprivation are missed out.
- Make sure other regions outside of the North are not overlooked.
- Ensure funding is passed down from principal councils to local councils.
- Level up local democracy through the creation of local councils everywhere.
- Local councils to have more of a say and influence over how funding is spent in their area.
- Greater recognition that local councils know their areas best.

[Prime Minister's speech on levelling up](#)

In her [response](#), our chair, Cllr Sue Baxter, called for further devolution to go beyond regions and counties and build on the existing and accountable leadership provided by local councils, who with the right tools and support have the potential to do much more.

[High streets](#)

The government have published [The Build Back Better High Streets Strategy](#) which sets out the long-term plan to support the evolution of high streets into thriving places to work, visit and live.

Grimsey Review Team published their [Against All Odds](#) report. A key message from the research is both central and local government must change their emphasis from regenerating town centres and high streets through infrastructure investment with a 'build, build, build' focus to one that's more balanced, and needs to prioritise people, partnerships and communities.

[Project manager to Civility and Respect project](#)

We're currently recruiting a project manager. Full details [here](#). Closing date is 2 August.

[Local Nature Recovery Strategies](#)

Defra has published a [report](#) outlining the main findings from the five Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) pilots, August 2020 until May 2021. LNRSs are set to become a legal requirement through the Environment Bill.

[Migration of UK telephone services survey](#)

MHCLG and the Department for Digital Culture, Media and Sport are collecting information on the level of council awareness and preparation for the migration of UK telephone services from the legacy public switched telephone network (PSTN) to a broadband-based internet protocol network. To help the government identify where councils may need support with their preparations they are asking councils to complete a short [survey](#) by 15 August. Any questions relating to the survey can be directed to RedControl@communities.gov.uk.

[Reminder:](#)

Inaugural online meeting of the NALC National Network: Young Councillors 26 July 12pm 11:15pm

If you'd like to attend please email policycomms@nalc.gov.uk