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Sent: 09 September 2024 15:41
To: Kath Gruber
Subject: DALC September 2024 Newsletter

September News

DALC Day line-up taking shape

We're delighted to announce that the new mayor of the East Midlands Combined County Authority, Claire Ward, will be a speaker at our DALC Day event at Chesterfield FC's SMH Stadium on October 17th. Claire will outline her new role followed by a Q&A session. Also appearing – and ready for your questions – will be the MP for Chesterfield Toby F. Presentations from Walk Derbyshire, the Living Forest Project, the Centre for Ageing Better, and an insight into Market Town Derby incorporated into the day will be the presentation of the DALC Awards, and the DALC AGM (plus a delicious buffet lunch). [View the full line-up here!](#)

We're looking for a new board director



Experienced in the world of finance? If so, we'd love to hear from you! DALC is looking for a new Director with financial knowledge to support the organisation moving forward. Applications from councillors are welcome – just send us a brief statement outlining why you'd like to join the board, and details of relevant experience. Support from the relevant member council is also required. For further info, please contact Wendy in the office

Helping to improve community safety



As part of a major campaign on community safety, DALC is gathering case studies from parish councils to help inform a new safety webpage. If your council can help by sharing how you've made your public spaces feel safer, **a short (10-minute) survey can be completed here**. The deadline for completion is September 30th.

Check your charitable assets councils told



New guidance has been issued to help councils clarify the status of charitable assets such as recreation grounds, public gardens, historic buildings and war memorials. The advice follows “a significant number” of complaints from the public about councils failing in their duty as charity trustees, leading to costly legal action. David Holdsworth, chief executive of the Charity Commission, noted that “Often due to the passage of time or turnover of personnel, authority leaders and councillors don’t realise that they are trustees of charitable assets rather than simply owners of assets.”

The Charity Commission has published new formal guidance for councils, which can be found here, outlining the role of trustees, advice on how to manage conflicts of interest, accounts filing requirements, and the rules around disposal of charity land. There is still some lack of clarity regarding the role of parish councils which NALC is following up on with the Charity Commission.

Domain expert at September's DALC Forum



Still unsure about the ins and outs of switching to a .gov.uk domain? If so, please join our next DALC Forum which will be attended by Sandra Lowe from Parish Domains Helper Service. She'll help explain the main reasons why councils should have a .gov.uk domain, what support is available to help councils make the move, and explore the (finite!) funding options. In conjunction with the forum session, the CDDO (Central Digital & Data Office) has produced a 4-minute video explaining the subject of .gov.uk, **which can be accessed here**.

September's Forums will take place on September 18th (1pm for clerks, 2.30pm for Chairs and interested councillors). In addition to the subject of .gov.uk, there'll also be the opportunity to share experiences on resolving parking issues, and remembrance events, and on the subject of councillors' use of tablets for council business.

Link to the meetings (Zoom):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4663925358?pwd=SUNVcFcyeG5JalFsZVZGSkhXVGpyZz09>

Meeting ID: 466 392 5358

Passcode: DALC22

Update – Disciplinary and Grievance policy



NALC has updated **Legal Topic Note 22** and have withdrawn the template policies provided previously. Our HR consultant Chris Moses has provided an alternative **policy template** here. Both links can also be found in our knowledgebase bank of documents

DALC Internal Audit Service



Now is a great time to be booking your internal audit. We offer a supportive and high quality team. In autumn we review governance processes and council the opportunity to make updates to your year external audit. At the end of year, we will make arrangements and sign off on the AGAR report, a legal requirement and is designed to provide governance and accountability feedback.

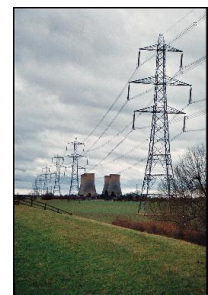
Do get in touch for a quotation or more information admin@derbyshirealc.gov.uk

DALC Day exhibitor announces new accounts



A first-time exhibitor at next month's DALC Day - Hinckley & Rugby Building Society – has announced two new deposit accounts aimed at simplifying the way councils handle their finances. Spokesperson Mel Aspden said: “These new accounts address several pain

National grid proposals for Pylons through Derby



points traditionally faced by local councils when managing their finances, and offer a secure and efficient home for surplus funds". More details on the **accounts can be found here**, or come along to DALC Day on October 17th and chat to HRBS representatives in person!

As you will probably know by now, National Grid are proposing a plan for the Derbyshire countryside. There is a non-statutory consultation in September so if you would like to make any comments please contact us. The **proposals can be viewed here**.

Round Robin - shared experiences

The latest responses to Round Robin requests are available to all members: Click on the links

Charging for use of Council Land

Alternatives to bonfire night

Featured Training

Stay updated with our upcoming courses:

Introduction to Planning – 07/10/2024 (6:00-7:30 PM)

Employment Law Update – 10/10/2024 (10:00-11:00 AM)

HR Essentials – 15/10/2024 (10:00-11:30 AM)

Safeguarding – 06/11/2024 (1:00-2:00 PM)

Code of Conduct – 13/11/2024 (6:00-7:30 PM)

Introduction to Neighbourhood Planning – 19/11/2024 (6:00-7:30PM) **Sustainability** – 28/11/2024 (6:30-7:30 PM)

First Aid – 10/12/2024 (9:00 AM-4:00 PM)

DALC Clerk and Chair Forums 18th September - see article earlier for details

Derbyshire ALC

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