

# Notts ALC Newsletter July 2024



*\*sent to Chairs and Clerks – please kindly forward to all councillors\**

AGM 2024 .....	1
Notts ALC – Training.....	3
National Association of Local Councils (NALC) .....	4
NALC access for Notts ALC Members – password change.....	5
HR updates .....	5
Domains helper service.....	5
General Election.....	5
Clerks’ assistance requested for student survey .....	5
Notts ALC – Services Directory.....	6
Job Listings .....	7
Members’ Area of the Notts ALC website – password change .....	7
Getting in touch .....	7

## AGM 2024

Preparation for our AGM on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October continues and we can now make the following **exciting announcements** regarding sponsors, session leaders and exhibitors!



Minster Chambers, Church Street, Southwell NG25 0HD  
**President: Ivor Walker Chair: Cllr Mick Baker CEO: Kaffy Rice-Oxley**  
 Email: [queries@nottsalc.com](mailto:queries@nottsalc.com) Phone: 01636 816890 Website: [www.nottsalc.com](http://www.nottsalc.com)

## Shape of the Afternoon

### 1.30pm Arrival

Refreshments and networking; exhibitor stands open

### 2pm AGM

Inc. Speaker TBA; Best Kept Village Awards (with CPRE and RCAN); Long Service Awards

### 2.45pm Break

Refreshments and networking; exhibitor stands open

### Table Training Sessions (3-4.30pm)

*You can choose 3 x 25 minute sessions to attend. If you wish that you could attend all of them... come with a colleague from Council so you can cover them all between you!*

- **Cloudy IT** – David Hall – IT for Councils
- **National Association of Local Councils** – Hazel Broatch – Civility & Respect
- **Plunkett Foundation** – Claire Spendley - Community-Owned Businesses
- **Rural Community Action Notts** – Jenny Kirkwood – Local Engagement
- **Woodland Trust** – Ben Green – Ancient Trees and Tree Planting

Table training is optional; exhibitor stands will remain open all afternoon.

### Sponsors – We are thrilled to be supported at this event by:

Major Sponsor - [CLOUDY IT](#)

With [Bridge Interiors](#), [GoCollaborate](#), [HAGS](#) (outdoor play and furniture), [LPR](#) (Land and Property Registration), [Outdoor Play](#) and [Surrey Hills Solicitors](#).

*Information about our sponsors will follow in the next newsletter!*

### Exhibitors to include:

Cloudy IT, Bridge Interiors, HAGS, Outdoor Play, Surrey Hills Solicitors, LPR, Live&Local, Woodland Trust, Plunkett Foundation

Clerks have now received all the info and forms they need to take to council over the coming weeks and months, including:

- Appointment of voting delegates for the AGM
- Nominations for President and for election to the Executive Committee
- Long Service Awards

**Don't forget to put the date in your diary and reserve your place [HERE](#).**

## Notts ALC – Training

All training currently arranged for 2024 is listed [HERE](#) and bookable now.  
Coming up:

[Parish Councillor](#), via Zoom | Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 7-9.30pm | £45pp

This popular course is targeted at newly elected or co-opted councillors but anyone in need of a 'refresher' can come along and will certainly learn something they didn't know.

[Parish Councillor](#), East Markham | Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2-4pm | £50pp

The in-person version of the one above! Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.

[Playground Safety](#), Carlton in Lindrick | Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 9-4pm | (cost see below)

A comprehensive one-day course with optional examination and certificate, aimed at councillors or staff with responsibility for playground inspections.

One Day Course £150.00 Examination (with certificate) £156.00

Certificate of Attendance (if not doing the exam) £11

### LUNCH & LEARN sessions

**Wed 10<sup>th</sup> July 12.30pm – Report Writing for both Clerks and Councillors**

*Good reports can make everyone better informed and help your meetings run more efficiently.  
Come along and learn how it's done!*

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> August 12.30pm – Successful Community Collaboration for Parish Councils

Wed 11<sup>th</sup> September 12.30pm – Streamlining Council Meetings

Wed 9<sup>th</sup> October 12.30pm – Council Structures

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> November 12.30pm – Whose job is it anyway? Roles and responsibilities within the council.

**30 minute short, sharp info sessions – book in [HERE](#).**

PLEASE NOTE: **NEW CLERKS' FINANCE** (Clerks with less than 9mo experience)

Steve Parkinson our financial advisor at the Parkinson Partnership is running this very popular course on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024** from 10am - 11.40am.

Attend this course (£30) and you can attend another Parkinson Partnership course of your choice free of charge! Book [HERE](#).

**Don't forget from our training page you can book not just our courses but also:**

- **Cloudy IT (digital and IT)**
- **Steve Parkinson (finance)**
- **Breakthrough (communications and GDPR)**

**Just click [HERE](#) and then on the relevant organisation.**

# National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

- 1. ACRE village hall building grants:** ACRE has recently confirmed that village hall management committees can once again apply for grants of up to £75,000 to improve village hall buildings. Groups can submit applications for grants of between £7,500 and £75,000, which can be used to cover up to 20% of capital costs associated with renovation and improvement projects. This latest window for new applications is expected to last until government funding has been exhausted. The application process is competitive, and hall committees must be able to complete the project work by the end of March 2025. Interested groups are strongly encouraged to read information and guidance about the fund available from ACRE's website before applying – see [HERE](#).
- 2. Star Council Awards:** NALC's Council of the Year award calls for outstanding work in service delivery, service impact, community engagement, partnerships, and collaborative working. It's your chance to shine! To win, you must demonstrate how you've established, maintained, and managed effective relationships with other local authorities and organisations, and show how you've ensured effective service delivery to residents. But it's not just about what you've done - it's about how you've engaged with your community and pushed boundaries to exceed expectations. Anyone can nominate, including council members and the general public, so don't hesitate to complete the nomination form today. More info [HERE](#).
- 3. Youth Engagement Summit:** 18 July 2024, 10.00 – 16.00. £65 + VAT: Does your council provide platforms where young people can voice their perspectives and contribute to decision-making processes? NALC and the SLCC will host the Youth Engagement Summit, a virtual event for local councils, councillors, clerks and council staff to explore innovative ways to engage and inspire young people. This training promises to be a transformative experience that will equip you with the tools and knowledge to unlock the full potential of youth influence in policy-making, celebrate the remarkable achievements of young councillors, be inspired by their dedication and leadership and explore how local councils can support and promote the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh Award. Ticket orders are via the SLCC website, which will require an existing or new SLCC account. Click here - [Buy Tickets](#).
- 4. Free Local Government Association virtual councillor training:**
  - a. [Personal safety for newly-elected councillors - 10 July from 2pm – 3.40pm](#)** has been specially devised for newly or recently elected councillors who are keen to improve their awareness of personal safety. The session is full of practical advice and guidance and includes advice on surgeries, canvassing, home visits and managing unexpected doorstep visitors. The promo code for this webinar is PSC120624.
  - b. [Handling online abuse and intimidation for newly-elected councillors - 23 July from 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm](#)** will provide attendees with an awareness of the steps that can be taken to manage trolls and cyber-bullies, including a gentle introduction to the legal framework around social media posts. There will be guidance on being safe online and tips on creating a positive online presence. The promo code for this session is HOA200624.
- 5. NALC briefing on general election 2024 manifestos:** Over the last two weeks, the main political parties have been launching their manifestos ahead of the general election on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024. We've [published a short briefing](#) highlighting key commitments in the main manifestos of relevance and interest to local councils.

## NALC access for Notts ALC Members – password change

Please note that from 1<sup>st</sup> July the access details for [www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk) are:

Username — nottsmember

Password — Ywe4bb94

## HR updates

Chris Moses of PD Solutions this month writes about what the political parties have said about employment issues in their manifestos and about the statutory rates of pay from April 2024. Find his briefing [HERE](#).

## Domains helper service

The Cabinet Office has secured funding to help councils set up a .gov.uk domain. This discount is £100 + VAT applied at the point of purchase by those Approved Registrars participating in the Parish Council Domains Helper Service. Funding will run until March 2025 on a first come, first served basis. If your council wants to move to a .gov.uk domain, please register your interest by completing the [short form](#). For all enquiries, please contact the Parish Council Domains Helper Service at [parish.helper@domains.gov.uk](mailto:parish.helper@domains.gov.uk).

Just under a third of Notts ALC's member councils now have a .gov.uk domain which is excellent. Six of our councils have used the Domains Helper Service to switch, with several others in the process of using the service at the moment.

## General Election

We are now in the 'pre-election period' and all councils should be aware of what this means for them. **All the info you need is [HERE](#) on our website.** This is a direct link but should you need to access it from the Members' Area, the Members' Area password is notts975.

Best of luck to anyone involved in running polling stations this week!

## Clerks' assistance requested for student survey

Linda Ranger is a Clerk taking a BA Honors Degree in Community Governance. She is currently carrying out a research project on how emotionally resilient local council clerks are, and the challenges to their resilience. She would be very grateful if clerks were able to complete an [online survey](#) by 19<sup>th</sup> July. Linda can be reached at [clerk@ststepheninbrannel-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ststepheninbrannel-pc.gov.uk) for any questions.

## Notts ALC – Services Directory

Don't forget we have businesses that advertise with us who work within our sector – you can find them in our [SERVICES DIRECTORY](#). We have listings from companies in the fields of Building Preservation, IT, Creative, Employment Advice, Insurance, Legal, Outdoor Equipment and Street Furniture. **In the newsletter this month, we feature:**

### HAGS Limited Clockhouse Nurseries

01784 489100 W: [www.hags.co.uk](http://www.hags.co.uk) E: [sales@hags.co.uk](mailto:sales@hags.co.uk)

HAGS is a global company with products in play, sports and outdoor recreation designed for all ages. We listen to the needs of all the stakeholders involved in the project and find the perfect balance for you. We can either work with you as an equipment supplier that is installed by others, or we can deliver a design and build project. We will help your budget go as far as possible by using the appropriate equipment from our vast range for the project, together with the right mix of surfacing, pathways, landscaping and installation. Our mission is to fight boredom and inactivity by designing and installing exciting play areas and outdoor gyms that are accessible to everyone, at anytime!

### Outdoor Play UK

01803 814523 W: [www.outdoorplayuk.co.uk](http://www.outdoorplayuk.co.uk) E: [paul@outdoorplayuk.co.uk](mailto:paul@outdoorplayuk.co.uk)

At Outdoor Play UK we work with Local Authorities and Community Groups to maximise the public spaces that they manage and care for. Whilst providing a full range of traditional playground equipment using laminated timber we specialise in providing playful, sensory, imaginative and educational products to enhance the wider recreational space, conservation areas, orchards and garden settings, walkways and woodland spaces. We understand that communities want to be able to fully utilise and enjoy the immediate natural spaces around them; providing for all family and community needs goes beyond the traditional playground offering.

### Playinnovation

Tel: (0203) 4095303 W: [www.playinnovation.co.uk](http://www.playinnovation.co.uk) E: [sales@playinnovation.co.uk](mailto:sales@playinnovation.co.uk)

All Social Media: @playinnnovation

Playinnovation specialise in getting people active through the creation of patented, unique and exciting family inclusive activity areas. Collaborators and partners range from NIKE to the Football Foundation, and memberships include the API (Association of Play Industries) and SAPCA. We make a difference to people's lives, promote key life skills and positive outcomes whilst having fun, without the use of electronics!

### Streetscape (Products & Services) Ltd

Tel: 01757 706607 W: [www.streetscape-products.co.uk](http://www.streetscape-products.co.uk) E: [doug@streetscape-products.co.uk](mailto:doug@streetscape-products.co.uk)

Streetscape Products and Services manufacture, supply & install Playground Equipment, Outdoor Fitness, Calisthenics Fitness Units, Outdoor Furniture, Multi-use Games Areas, and Table Tennis Tables together with all associated groundworks and safety surfacing. We are a family run company based in Selby, North Yorkshire, and offer FREE Site Surveys, FREE Funding advice, together with FREE Designs & Quotations services for all budgets. We have a vast knowledge and experience in the Playground & Sport Industries and Douglas Belfield, Sales Director (who covers Nottinghamshire) has over 25 years` experience.

## Job Listings

When jobs are sent to us for (free) advertising we put them on our website ([Jobs](#)) and on our Facebook page. We do have a national shortage of clerks so if you see any jobs local to you that someone in your area might apply for, please do advertise them.

To ask us to advertise a **job or locum position** please use the **online forms** on the members' area [HERE](#) (password = notts975).

### Jobs listed at the moment are at:

- Burton Joyce PC
- Eakring PC
- Egmanton PM
- Everton PC

## Members' Area of the Notts ALC website – password change

If you go to [nottsalc.com](http://nottsalc.com) and click on the **Members' Area**, either from the homepage or using the menu at the top of the page, you will be asked to give a password for the 'Guest Area'.

**The password is (from 1<sup>st</sup> July):                      notts975**

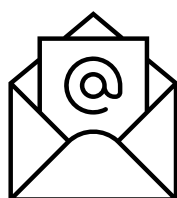
Every few months we will change this password via this newsletter.

From the password-protected page you can **click on the links** to access items including the job and locum advert request forms, copies of the newsletter, FAQs and HR updates.

## Getting in touch

*Email is the best way to reach us.*

*Please note that in the interests of fairness, phone calls and voice messages cannot take precedence over emails; queries are dealt with in the order they are received.*



You can get in touch via:

[queries@nottsalc.com](mailto:queries@nottsalc.com) – for queries/advice

[ceo@nottsalc.com](mailto:ceo@nottsalc.com) – for Kaffy, CEO

[admin@nottsalc.com](mailto:admin@nottsalc.com) – for Julie (finance, admin)

[training@nottsalc.com](mailto:training@nottsalc.com) – for Sue (training)

With best wishes,

Notts ALC