

# Mini eUpdate from Northants CALC

To Member Councils in Northamptonshire:

[Please read and circulate to all councillors]

## Training & Development

Training is **an expected element of good councillorship** and Continuous Professional Development (CPD) is a requirement for all officers. Therefore, all clerks and councillors should be accessing at least one training and development session each year. We have just introduced some changes to our online portal to make it even easier for clerks to book themselves and their councillors onto events and courses, where the delegate can be selected from a drop-down list instead of having to be typed in each time. Clerks can also view bookings, make cancellations, and see their council's training history. The changes were detailed in the Training Bulletin sent by email to all clerks from Marie Reilly yesterday, 25 July 2024.

## SLCC Northants Branch

On Monday I was delighted to attend the AGM of the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) – Northamptonshire Branch. It was an opportunity to say goodbye to retiring chair **Linda Carter** who has clerked at Brackley, Corby, Harpole, and Stowe IX Churches over the years and is now off to enjoy a well-earned retirement in the West Country. Elected as the new chair was **Felicity Ryan**, Clerk to Corby Town Council. The County Association and the SLCC Branch work closely together and follow the national guidelines where we recommend to our member councils that their clerks are members of the SLCC, and the SLCC clerks recommend to their councils that they are members of Northants CALC. After the AGM formalities I gave a presentation to all the clerks present entitled "*How AI will affect your job (and your life!)*", which stimulated some interesting discussion afterwards!

## Place-Shaping & Devolution

We had an excellent meeting last Thursday of our Northamptonshire Larger Councils Partnership (NLCP), comprising of the thirty largest parish and town councils, which between them represent nearly 80% of the county's population. The event focused on the important and growing role that all parish and town councils play in place-shaping and delivering services at the most local level. Over the next decade we predict that some assets and services that are currently under the remit of the unitary councils will be transferred to parish and town councils, but it requires what Tony Blake, our guest speaker, described as "fruitful dialogue". A report of the meeting is available to all at <https://www.northantscalc.com/events/nlcp>. I have also sent the report to the unitary councils and look forward to discussing it with them in the coming weeks.

## Local Council Vacancies

Burton Latimer is a town with 7,481 electors just south of the A14, three miles southeast of Kettering. **Burton Latimer Town Council** has a vacancy for a Clerk/RFO working full time on a fixed term contract to September 2025. The council is open to considering job shares and other flexibilities to ensure that the right person is engaged. The precept for 2024/25 is £187,740. There are 12 councillors. This is an exciting opportunity to help make a real difference. The deadline for applications is **6 August 2024**.

**Newnham Parish Council** has a vacancy for a Clerk/RFO working 30 - 40 hours per month. There are 8 seats and 472 electors. The precept is £34,722. The deadline for applications is **29 July 2024**.

**Blakesley Parish Council** has a vacancy for a Clerk/RFO working 10 hours per week. Blakesley is a small but active village in South Northamptonshire approximately 5 miles northwest of Towcester. There are 390 electors and a seven-seat council. The precept for 2024/25 is £35,822. The deadline for applications is **9 August 2024**.

And finally, three Clerk/RFO vacancies close today: **Irchester Parish Council** (15 hours per week), **Pytchley Parish Council** (30 hours per month), and **East Haddon Parish Council** (30 hours per month).

For full details of all the above vacancies please see <https://www.northantscalc.com/council-vacancies>.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Best regards,

Danny.

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