

# West NEWS Roundup

Week Ending 09.10.20

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## ChALC Focus

### \*\*\*\* UPDATED VIRTUAL TRAINING SESSIONS \*\*\*

Please see the attached list for details of all the latest training sessions available

To book your place(s) on any training session please contact Nikki Hewitt –  
[NikkiHewitt@chalc.org.uk](mailto:NikkiHewitt@chalc.org.uk)

## National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Focus

### **NALC online events: Rebuilding Communities**

Throughout the next 18-months, NALC's new online event series will bring together national influencers, policymakers and decision-makers, along with people from across the local (parish and town) council sector to share the latest ideas and inspiration on how we can build back stronger and more resilient communities for the future.

Topics include strategic planning; youth engagement; and rebuilding sustainable communities. Plus, there is a three-day event dedicated to health and wellbeing with speakers from NHS England; Ageing Better; Mind; Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm; and the Epilepsy Society.

Prices for events listed here: **NALC member: £30 — Non-member: £40**

Get more information and book your place now, at [www.nalc.gov.uk/rebuildingcommunities](http://www.nalc.gov.uk/rebuildingcommunities)

### **NALC Response to the Changes to the Current Planning System**

Copy of response document attached with this bulletin for information

## **Notice of Local Electricity Bill Parliamentary debate - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October**

NALC has been contacted by Steve Shaw at Power for People <https://powerforpeople.org.uk/> to confirm that a Parliamentary Adjournment Debate has been secured for the Local Electricity Bill for a week on Wednesday (21/10) by Ben Lake, MP (Plaid Cymru). Power for People have drafted the Local Electricity Bill and are campaigning for it to be made law. This would give community-scale renewable energy a massive boost by empowering communities to sell their energy directly to local people.

The debate is seen as a fantastic opportunity to raise the Bill's Parliamentary profile, and to get more MPs supporting it and put pressure on the government as the Energy Minister must attend and respond. NALC is asking us to encourage all member councils in our area to write to their MP's over the next week, asking them to support the Bill and attend the debate.

## **Elections Campaign May 2021**

NALC has been collecting evidence for the next bout of elections in May 2021 and are now preparing campaign materials and resources for one part of their campaign, which will revolve around 'community champion' councillors that are specifically interested in: -

- Housing
- Climate change
- Health and wellbeing
- Local transport
- Youth

NALC would like to know if any of our councillors have undertaken impressive projects around these themes. If you have please contact [sharonangus-crawshaw@chalc.org.uk](mailto:sharonangus-crawshaw@chalc.org.uk) for further details about sharing information, which needs to be back at NALC by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

## **Other**

### **Rural Services Network – Rural Funding Digest October 2020**

A monthly bulletin facilitated by the Rural Services Network highlighting a selection of current funding opportunities – see attached.

### **CW&C Natural Burial Project – Spirit Woods**

The Climate Team at CW&C has potential grant funding and the project is looking for a piece of land in the Chester area to develop as a natural burial ground in which there will be no headstones and in which people can be buried without leaving any mark on the landscape. This may be attractive to parishes considering an expansion or replacement of existing provisions. For further details see attached flyer or please contact Simon Wilson [sd\\_wilson@outlook.com](mailto:sd_wilson@outlook.com) or 07525 298954

### **Live Well Cheshire West update**

They have been contacted this week by the Active Waterways Cheshire project who have teamed up with Sport England to extend the project to Cheshire residents who live near our canals and rivers and who may have been inactive as a result of the coronavirus lockdown. Live Well are supporting them and further details about the programme can be found on the website, see <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/about-us/where-we-work/north-west/active-waterways-cheshire>

For more information on things to do check out the Things to do section of Live Well which you can find here <https://livewell.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/Categories/3320>

## **CWLEP Annual Review**

A copy of their latest Annual review has been published on the website – see

[http://www.871candwep.co.uk/content/uploads/2020/09/AnnualReview2020-finalissue\\_v01.pdf](http://www.871candwep.co.uk/content/uploads/2020/09/AnnualReview2020-finalissue_v01.pdf)

## **Cheshire West & Chester Focus**

### **12 member briefings attached**

**1571 - Test and Trace Payment Support Scheme:** To provide members with details of the Test and Trace Support Scheme.

**1572 - Ward data on COVID-19 infections:** Data on COVID-19 infections for wards in Cheshire West and Chester will be published on the Council's website.

**1573 - Discussions underway on further measures to reduce the increase in COVID-19 cases in Cheshire West and Chester:** Cheshire West and Chester Council and its partners have request extended measures from central Government to reduce the recent rapid increase in COVID-19 cases.

**1574 - Housing land supply summary (2019-2020):** The purpose of this briefing note is to update members on the monitoring of the delivery of the Local Plan housing requirement, and publication of the Housing Land Supply Summary (2019-2020).

**1575 - City Walls update:** An update on various repair projects taking place on the City Walls in Chester.

**1576 - National Joint Council (NJC) pay award:** Following discussions and negotiations with the trade unions, the pay award of 2.75 per cent has now been agreed for employees on NJC terms and conditions of employment and this will be back dated to 1 April 2020.

**1577 - A briefing regarding MacIntyre Care:** To update members surrounding key developments in their ward(s).

**1578 - Construction of Chester city-centre drainage tunnel:** Starting from 16 November 2020 for approximately 12 months, there will be a clockwise one-way route for most of the inner ring road in order to allow for essential infrastructure works to install a new city centre drainage tunnel through Chester. The media release is scheduled for 7 October.

**1580 – COVID-19 Outbreak Board Q&A Session:** This briefing seeks to update Members on a COVID-19 Outbreak Board Questions and Answers Session on Wednesday, 7 October.

**1581 – COVID-19 - Update on national statistics and local implications:** This briefing seeks to update Members on local implications and ongoing plans following the revised COVID-19 statistics recently published.

**1582 – Local testing site:** Winsford and Northwich see testing sites open this week.

**1583 - Ofsted to resume regulatory duties regarding Children's Services:** In April 2020 Ofsted temporarily suspended regulatory duties in light of the pandemic. They have now announced their interim approach to visiting Children's Services as from September 2020.

## **VACANCIES**

Further details available [here](#) on the ChALC website

**Crewe Town Council  
HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER  
£27,905 - £30,507 (SCP 24 – 27), Fixed Term 2 Year Contract**

For more information and a job application pack contact Lindsay Lewis by email [Lindsay.lewis@crewetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Lindsay.lewis@crewetowncouncil.gov.uk)

**Closing date is Friday 30th October at 5pm  
Interviews to be held on 13th November**

**Utkinton & Cotebrook Parish Council  
Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer  
6 hours per week  
Closing Date: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020**