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Northumberland Association of Local Councils

NALC Enews 25 February 2020

Emails to Member Councils

The Chairmen and Clerks of Member Councils have been sent the following emails since the last issue of the Enews.

25 February 2020

This Update contains the following items

- Common errors when completing the AGAR
- Toilet Tax Survey
- Changing Lives - Homeless Response Project
- The national NALC's Legal Update February 2020

If your Council has not received a copy, or if your Chairman or Clerk has changed, please let me know.

Ashington Town Council

VE & VJ Days

In addition to changing the Bank Holiday to Friday 8 May 2020, the Govt. has now relaxed the permitted opening hours to mark the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day on 15 August.
Details are
at https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2020-02-24/HCWS118

Open Spaces and Assets of Community Value

There is an interesting legal article at the link below which looks at the issues surrounding attempts to register open space as an ACV, usually to frustrate development.
https://www.localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/property/313-property-features/42851-open-spaces-and-the-acv-regime

Community Shares

The Community Shares Unit are launching the first in-depth study of the community shares market since 2014.

Today hundreds of communities across the country have used community shares to save local shops and pubs, finance renewable energy schemes, transform community facilities, support local food growing, fund new football clubs, restore heritage buildings and much more.

The number of community share offers has doubled to over 500 offers since the 2014 study, with over £150m raised from over 100,000 members.

The survey is available at
https://quest.iffresearch.com/mrIWeb/mrIWeb.dll?I.Project=j10349&id=&id=

The Unit's website contains more details of the concept of Community Shares and is at the link below
http://communityshares.org.uk/

1: The safety of Mobile Phone masts is often raised in relation to proposed new masts. The following item from the BBC considers the emissions from 5G masts.
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-51613580

2: The Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission's report – Living with beauty - is available via
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/living-with-beauty-report-of-the-building-better-building-beautiful-commission

3: The Transport Planning Society have circulated the following links via the national NALC

- · TPS Transport Planning Day https://tps.org.uk/tp-day-2020-announced
- Transport for New Homes new developments http://www.transportfornewhomes.org.uk/the-project/checklist-for-new-housing-developments/
- · CIHT Better https://www.ciht.org.uk/news/ciht-produces-new-advice-on-creating-better-places/
- · Royal College of Art https://www.rca.ac.uk/research-innovation/research-centres/intelligent-mobility-design-centre/mobility-future-rural-communities/
- · Community Transport Association https://ctauk.org/

Solid Fuel

Colleagues may have seen the reports in the media on DEFRA's intention to phase out certain types of solid fuel. The formal statement is at
https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2020-02-24/HCWS117

Clock changes

A House of Lords Select Committee has issued a report on the issues surrounding moving the hours backwards or forwards each year. This may well be a post-Brexit issue for Govt.

It is at

Standards

The Committee for Standards in Public Life have commissioned a report on the English standards landscape to mark its 25th anniversary.
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/public-standards-in-england-25-years-since-the-creation-of-cspl

If you have any comments or observations, please contact
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