

Correspondence List for meeting dated 12 February 2020

Ref	Date received	From	Subject	Note/comment
<i>Note: CDALC = County Durham Association of Local Councils NALC = National Association of Local Councils SLCC = Society of Local Council Clerks</i>				
1	23/12/2019	DCC	Notice of application to to amend entry No. 115 under Commons Registration Act. Document handed to Cllr Hunter 8/1/20.	
2	01/01/2020	SLCC	Branch newsletter: dates of 4 branch meetings this year; branch resource pack of books to borrow; promotion of new website and advice library; forthcoming training on Play Sport and Fitness, Event Management, Chairmanship Training and Councillor Training (latter two both in March/April).	
3	06/01/2020	DCC Planning	Weekly list of new applications w/e 5 January. No new applications to consider.	
4	07/01/2020	SLCC	Agenda for next branch meeting, 24 January at Seaham. Apologies sent as main agenda item is 'Going paperless' and considered not relevant for this PC.	
5	08/01/2020	CDALC	Recommended motivational open letter from NALC's Chairman to the start the new decade. 4-minute reading time, identifying NALC priorities as health and wellbeing, including loneliness, the climate emergency and engaging young people as well as encouraging ambitiousness and making sure all councils are well run and transparent for residents. Forwarded to all cllrs 9/1.	
6	08/01/2020	Cotherstone Quaker Meeting	Letter seeking permission to erect free-standing brown sign on the village green, directing people to the Meeting House.	For discussion at February meeting.
7	09/01/2020	Teesdale Action Partnership	Reminder to register to attend the next Partnership Board meeting on 22 January, Randolph Community Centre Evenwood at 5.30pm; reminder of vacancy for public representative on the Board (closing date 24 January); and invitation to follow TAP on Facebook (Teesdale Action Partnership (TAP)).	
8	10/01/2020	SLCC	News bulletin: call for help with The Ramblers' campaign 'Don't Lose Your Way' (from 1 January 2026 unrecorded rights of way will no longer be added to the definitive map (the legal record of public paths) based on historical evidence) to identify unrecorded paths using a new online mapping platform; notice that National Living Wage increases by 6.2% to £8.72ph from 1 April (for anyone over 25); and downloadable annual leave calculator for 2020-21.	
9	12/01/2020	DCC Planning	Weekly list of new applications w/e 12 January. No new applications to consider.	
10	13/01/2020	CDALC	Roadworks report w/c 11 January. Nothing new to report.	
11	14/01/2020	CDALC	Request to share information about carrying out cemetery extension — for Chilton Parish Council	
12	14/01/2020	Brain Tumour Research	Notice of Newcastle Fundraising/Support Group first meeting 29 January, Copthorne Hotel, Newcastle, 6pm to plan events and fundraising. Request to share on Facebook page.	Do we share on Facebook?
13	14/01/2020	Durham Community Action	Invitation to (free) Community Energy Workshop, 9.30-3pm, The Greenhouse, Annfield Plan, Monday 27 January - to explore the potential of motivated communities and local authorities to contribute to the energy transition, the challenges they face and what is needed to catalyse the development of community-led energy projects.	
14	16/01/2020	CDALC	Request to share any experience of the Friendly Bench initiative (a movement to tackle loneliness/social isolation and increase community cohesion through use of outdoor space to reconnect people) — for Pelton PC. Friendly Bench is a CIC which received £240k National Lottery funding in 2019 to develop the network to over 5,000 across England.	
15	16/01/2020	Durham Community Action	January News: Village Halls week 2020, 'Wonderful Villages' photo competition.	

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16	17/01/2020	CDALC	Final call for nominations for Royal Garden Party 2020 - closing date 23 January.	
17	20/01/2020	CPRE	Campaign to Protect Rural England North East newsletter. 20-page PDF can be forwarded on request. Note that in its 'Durham Round-up' it states: An application for housing development at Cotherstone was withdrawn after our intervention and a statement on heritage grounds from historian Niall Hammond.' (referring to proposed development on Moor Road).	
18	20/01/2020	DCC Planning	Weekly list of new applications w/e 19 January. No new applications to consider.	
19	20/01/2020	CDALC	Invitation to Community Led Local Development programme event, Sheldon Civic Hall, 12 February. Grants programme which aims to increase employment and skills, social enterprise and social inclusion through: enhancing economic inclusion, developing growth and enterprise, stimulating enterpreurialism and enterprising spaces — either with businesses or with individuals.	
20	20/01/2020	CDALC	Details of forthcoming free introductory session to CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) mentoring. Clerk is already CiLCA qualified, but this is also open to councillors.	
21	22/01/2020	Running Imp	Sales pitch for merchandise associated with celebrating VE 75th Day (clothes, mugs, medals, bunting etc)	
22	22/01/2020	Falon-Nameplates	Details from Northumberland-based cast aluminium, bronze and wooden plaques and signage. Filed and unsubscribed.	
23	23/01/2020	CDALC	Poster from DCC's Trading Standards, to raise awareness of scams, the tactics and strategies of scammers and encouraging people to feel confident about how to report them (target audience is those in contact with more vulnerable members of society).	Suggest can use poster on noticeboard as space allows?
24	23/01/2020	CDALC	Due to popularity and oversubscription to Planning Applications training held in November, the session will be repeated on Monday 24 February, 6pm at County Hall, Durham. Includes overview of planning process, role of parish council, understanding of 'material planning considerations', advice on responding and how planning committees work. Due to closing date for bookings, email sent to all clls 24/1/20.	
25	27/01/2020	DCC Planning	Weekly list of new applications w/e 26 January. Email sent to all cllrs 27.1.20.	
26	27/01/2020	CDALC	Reminder copy of Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance for Smaller Authorities guidelines ('the rule book' of proper practices) on preparation of statutory annual accounts and governance statements, March 2019. Filed for reference.	
27	27/01/2020	CDALC	Request to share cemetery charging structure — for Chilton Parish Council	
28	27/01/2020	CDALC	NALC Chief Executive's bulletin: revisions to new Code of Audit Practice (emphasising proportionality for smaller councils) is making progress; formation of a new Rural Coalition (NALC, ACRE, NFU and CPRE) which is working on rural proofing and encouraging engagement with new MPs; Great British Spring Clean launch (20 March to 13 April); and Code of Conduct workshops held - new model code being prepared for publication in July.	
29	27/01/2020	Teesdale Action Partnership	List of key messages (Neighbourhood Budget funding proposals approved) - nothing directly affecting Cotherstone.	
30	28/01/2020	CDALC	Local Council Award Scheme National Panel - details of the scheme by which parish councils can benchmark themselves against certain criteria, for Foundation, Quality and Quality Gold awards) and call for interested and eligible clerks and councillors to volunteer to be part of the National Accreditation pilot. Closing date for expression of interest 14 February, so email forwarded to all councillors 31/1/20.	Would the PC be interested in trying to achieve the Foundation award?
31	28/01/2020	CDALC	Details of NALC Spring Conference, 17 March in London. £270.	
32	28/01/2020	Keep Britain Tidy	Call to join the Great British Spring Clean (20 March to 13 April 2020) through activity and promotion through social media.	
33	28/01/2020	CDALC	Announcement of random draw from 30 nominations for Royal Garden Party: Great Aycliffe Town Council and Seaton with Slingley PC were successful.	

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34	28/01/2020	CDALC	Grants of up to £10k (up to 50% of the cost) available to help communities organise Armed Forces Day events on 27 June 2020. Application via Armed Forces Day website, deadline 1 March.	
35	28/01/2020	CDALC	Details of public consultation events on Stroke Rehabilitation and Ward 6 Bishop Auckland General Hospital (deferred from General Election purdah period). Closest events are: Witham Hall, Thursday 6 February 10am-12noon (Stroke Rehabilitation) and Witham Hall, Saturday 8 February 10-12noon (Ward 6). Email forwarded to all cllrs 31/1/20.	
36	30/01/2020	CDALC	(Late) call for items for agenda of 6 February meeting of Local Councils Working Group (DCC and local council reps).	
37	30/01/2020	Durham Community Action	Invitation to complete a survey for Canny Communities Housing Needs (development at Canney Hill, Bishop Auckland).	
38	30/01/2020	Carnegie UK Trust	News of launch of publication of collected essays setting out how a focus on good work can improve wellbeing by boosting good jobs and improving workplace productivity, drawing together new research and insights from business, policy, trade unions and civil society. 144-page downloadable PDF.	
39	03/02/2020	DCC Planning	Weekly list of new applications w/e 2 February. No new applications to consider.	
40	04/02/2020	CDALC	Over one year on since the report of the Committee for Standards in Public Life on Local Government Ethical Standards, there has been no activity. However a brief update on the government's position is that once an imminent major cabinet reshuffle takes place, there will be a response, and that there is greater support now in the Local Government Association for effective sanctions than there has been previously.	
41	04/02/2020	CDALC	Formal notification that the public consultation on stroke rehabilitation services and Ward 6 Bishop Auckland Hospital has been stopped. Email already sent to all cllrs 29/1/20.	
42	04/02/2020	CDALC	Invitation to register for Play, Sport & Fitness Training Seminar for parish councils, 9.30-3.30, Tuesday 21 April at Glebe Centre, Murton (free of charge, including lunch, up to two representatives per council). To cover: design of play, sport and fitness areas, consultation and project management, funding and playground inspection and maintenance. Book by 15 April.	Not relevant to this PC, and only PCs are eligible (so not Play@Cotherstone)
43	04/02/2020	CDALC	(further to item 23) Poster for Scams Awareness Event, Thursday 5 March, 9.30-12.30 at Durham County Hall. Talks by Trading Standards, Durham Constabulary Cyber Crime Team and Friends Against Scams Team.	
44	04/02/2020	Ex-resident/son of current resident	Request that the Parish Council do something about the amount of dog faeces in the village (especially Moor Road, opposite Lancelands and field between railway and Fox & Hounds. Blame apportioned to local residents as not currently visitor season. Suggested a sort of Neighbourhood Dog Watch scheme to name and shame the culprits creating a 'dog dirt capital' from a once-beautiful village.	