

WORKING TOGETHER FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES

**Councillor Sue Baxter, chairman
Jonathan Owen, chief executive**

**NALC Annual Conference
30 October 2017**

TO OUR READERS,—

THE Local Government Act of 1894 may fairly be regarded as a measure of epoch-making importance, inasmuch as it introduces into the problems of social politics new factors, whose ultimate influence and tendency can as yet be only very imperfectly foreseen. The re-organisation throughout England and Wales of the public life of our rural communities on a new and frankly democratic basis is a step which must needs be regarded as one of the first moment, entailing consequences which must largely help to mould the future destinies of the country. In short, it is recognised by all who have seriously considered the question, that the Act marks the opening of a new and momentous era in the social history of England, and embodies the germs of future developments which may prove of enormous import to the welfare of the people. On the eve, therefore, of the application of a legislative enactment so complex in detail, fraught with such possibilities, both of good and evil, no apology should

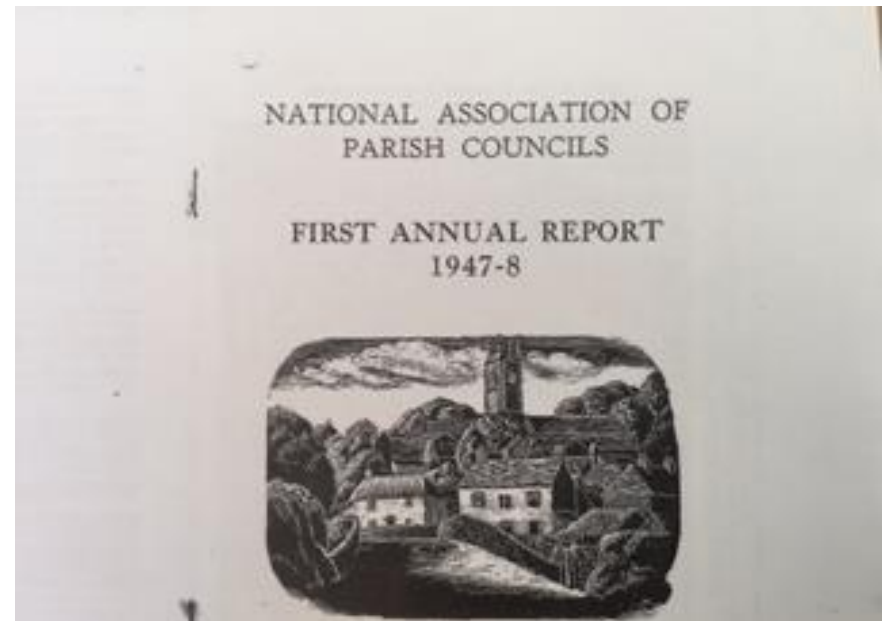
Meeting,
Councils

OUR

To en
very var
occasion
of contri
only we
branche
ment, b
with the
to be d
of the n
every as
tant sub
touched
able ass
the kind
may be
adviser
humble,
opinion

250 YEARS STRONG!

- 123 years since the birth of parish councils – constantly evolving
- 70 years of support from county associations and NALC helping local councils support their communities
- 50 years of Milton Keynes
- It's the future that counts



The first thing that comes to mind when you think of Milton Keynes, 50 years old last week, is perhaps not that the city is about giving power to communities (G2, 24 January). But it is the only urban area in England to have a complete coverage of local (parish, community and town) councils - 30 - a number of which I helped set up as leader of Milton Keynes council in the early 1990s. This hyper-local democracy has undoubtedly contributed to its social cohesion and sense of place, helping it attract families and businesses. Milton Keynes is a model for new towns the world over, one that other urban areas in England could usefully follow post-Brexit to reconnect communities with democracy.

Kevin Wilson
Leader of Woughton community council, Milton Keynes

RT HON SAJID JAVID MP
SECRETARY OF STATE DCLG

"You play a hugely important role in our democracy and local decision-making, if I look back at the Prime Minister's speech ... about Global Britain, it's something that ought to be recognised that Global Britain must be made from strong foundations and I think our parish and town councils are a key part of that."

#NALCAnnualConf17

THEMES, REFLECT CHANGING NATURE OF LOCAL COUNCILS

- Partnership working and devolution
- Health and well-being
- Housing and neighbourhood planning
- Local economic planning
- Sustainability and the environment
- Risk management (with BHIB)
- ICT security (with Vision ICT)
- Savings and investment (with CCLA)
- Councillors Commission and diversity
- Data Protection
- Flexible and diverse funding
- Building capacity in smaller councils

NALC/LGC surveys for LGA conferences 2016 and 2017

- 2016 research 70% said they wanted to deliver new services
- 12% involved in economic growth. 20% want to
- 2017 research shows double devolution on the rise
- 70% identified at least one service they'd like to run
- 14% now delivering economic growth
- 48% have taken over some form of public realm maintenance
- 24% would like to get more involved in housing and planning



LOCAL COUNCIL ROLE IN HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- NALC survey: 15% said they provided H&W services, 15% wanted to.
- West Sussex ALC survey: 64% grant funding H&W groups
- 24% providing facilities to health services
- 44% of clerks said their councils would like to do more.

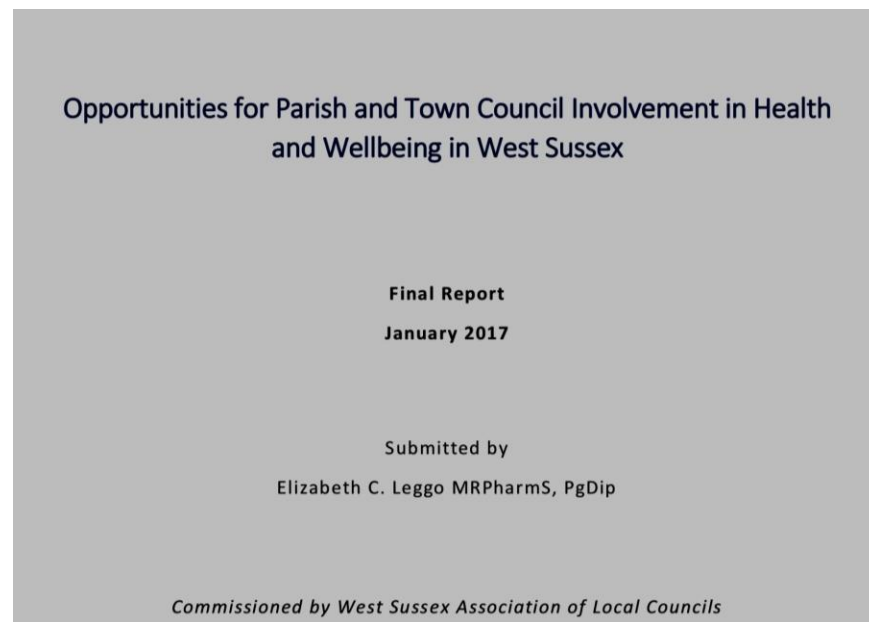


Figure 17. Annual budget for some of the services provided by Forest Row for the year 2015-16

Service	Budgeted income from subs & sales	Equipment, food & other running costs	Budgeted expenditure – salary of CSO	Budgeted expenditure – salary of other staff
Seniors Club	£550	£750	£1,220	-
Luncheon Club & Home Meal Delivery	£17,000	£12,000	£2,440	£6,900
Hearing Bus	-	-	-	-
Medical Cars	-	-	-	-
Total	£17,550	£12,750	£3,660	£6,900

The net subsidy given by Forest Row equates to under 2% of the parish population

HEALTH AND WELLBEING – OTHER EXAMPLES

West Sussex: wellbeing hub venues, friendship groups, hearing bus, dental facilities

Oswestry: health forum

Dunstable: men in sheds

Ivybridge: social prescribing

Sprowston: health fair

Whitwick and Yate: outdoor fitness centres

Defribillators

Bishop Auckland: first dementia friendly town in Durham

Yealm: dementia friendly parishes partnership

NALC: signing strategic commitment with Alzheimer's Society's Angela Rippon tomorrow!

An aerial photograph of a rugged coastline, showing a steep, rocky cliff on the left and a calm body of water on the right. A red rectangular box is positioned in the top right corner, containing the nalc logo and its full name.

nalc

National Association
of Local Councils

**A PROSPECTUS FOR ULTRA-LOCALISM:
WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT TO
HELP COMMUNITIES HELP THEMSELVES**

A PROSPECTUS FOR ULTRA-LOCALISM: HELPING COMMUNITIES HELP THEMSELVES

- Why parishes are important and what our sector can offer government to help deliver social cohesion and the services that our communities need, want and deserve
- How the Government and Parliament can work with us to support local councils and help communities to help themselves.
- But also what do we need to do to step up and ensure that we can deliver on our promises

#ultralocalism

OUR OFFER

- Provide democratic local leadership that is accountable, open and transparent and builds community cohesion and resilience
- Being fiscally responsible by engaging and communicating with residents and businesses about the precept and priorities
- Work in partnership with principal councils, businesses, local groups and others to improve quality of life and well being
- Plan for the future by protecting and enhancing local assets and services, place shaping to meet housing and other development needs

#ultralocalism

EMPOWER COMMUNITIES

Empower communities with more effective powers to tackle local issues, have a greater say over decisions that affect them and the creation of more parishes.

#ultralocalism

BUILD CAPACITY AND SUPPORT COUNCILLORS

Build the capacity of local councils through training and development, an effective regime for serving councillors and encourage more and diverse people to become councillors

#ultralocalism

MORE DEVOLUTION AND ENGAGEMENT

More devolution to local councils, strengthen relationships and engagement between councils at all levels and improve links at the sub-regional level.

#ultralocalism

FLEXIBLE AND DIVERSE FUNDING

A flexible and diverse funding framework through not extending council tax referendums, reform of non-domestic rates and increase income from other sources.

#ultralocalism

SOME THOUGHTS FOR US TO CONSIDER AND TAKE HOME OVER THE COMING DAYS

Ensure we are well run, efficient and effective, driving up standards of practice and behaviour and learning from others,

- Engage, engage, engage with our communities
- Train, train, train our councillors and clerks
- Share, share, share good practice
- Learn, learn, learn from others
- Keep talking to our principal councils
- Look for different sources of funding
- Don't be afraid, be confident
- The future is ours!

#ultralocalism

THANK YOU

w: www.nalc.gov.uk | e: nalc@nalc.gov.uk | t: 020 7637 1865