

ESSEX CLERKS' ASSOCIATION UPDATE – SEPTEMBER 2020

WELCOME BACK!! Hopefully the new academic year will enable us all to move slowly and surely back to pre-pandemic times: the important thing is that we keep safe whilst working to support our schools and Governing Bodies / Trusts, for the benefit of our communities. "GOOD LUCK" as you continue with your important work for your school(s) into the future.

As you know, we're here to help, guide and support you in your important – yet difficult and lonely - role, so please don't hesitate to contact one of the Executive Committee members below if you need help or advice.

1. ECA Executive Committee

We have recently said a fond "farewell" to our Vice-Chair John Hunter – one of our founding Clerks – on his retirement, after many years' dedicated service to the Association. Marion Myers has taken over as Treasurer, so the Executive Committee is now as follows:

Chair:	Tina Weavers	chair@essexclerks.org
Treasurer:	Marion Myers	treasurer@essexclerks.org
Minutes Secretary:	Sue Leek	secretary@essexclerks.org
Communications:	Angela Fuller	communications@essexclerks.org
Membership Secretary:	Peter Bates	membership@essexclerks.org
Committee:	Chris Orme	
Committee:	Wendy Newton	
Website:	Tina and Angela	

We are still keen for additional clerks to join our Committee. It is a voluntary role and definitely not onerous: enthusiasm and a desire to help other Clerks is all you need! Whilst clerking experience is helpful, 'new' clerks would also be welcome. We are particularly keen to recruit from the Unitary Authorities of Southend and Thurrock, and / or from Primary settings. Please get in touch with our Secretary, Sue Leek on secretary@essexclerks.org if you are able and willing to join us.

2. Clerks' Information Updates

We are holding our first Clerks' Information Update for the new academic year – and our first "virtual" Clerks' Information Update by Zoom - on **TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2020 at 5.00 p.m.** As always, **every** Clerk is welcome to attend. Please register your interest **prior to the meeting** with our Secretary, Sue Leek at secretary@essexclerks.org. If necessary we may arrange a second "virtual" meeting to cater for numbers.

Future Clerks' Information Updates will be held as follows:

Spring 2021: Tuesday 12 January 2021 at 5.00 p.m.

Summer 2021: Tuesday 20 April 2021 at 5.00 p.m. *This will also be the ECA's Annual General Meeting.*

At the moment we will be continuing with our "virtual" meetings for the foreseeable future, but we will let you know, of course, once we are able to arrange an actual "physical" meeting once again – when we will provide the refreshments!.

We hope you will join us at these meetings, which are completely FREE to you as a Clerk: simply “reply” or register your interest with our Secretary, Sue Leek at secretary@essexclerks.org.

3. Annual Clerks' Conference

Our Annual Conference has now been scheduled for **TUESDAY 11 MAY 2021** at the JobServe Community Stadium (formerly Weston Homes), Colchester. Further details to follow, but **reserve your place NOW!** - bookings@essexclerks.org

4. Governance during the Coronavirus Pandemic



See our important advice and guidance about the organisation of meetings of Trusts, Governing Bodies and Committees that was set out in our April 2020 Newsletter, a copy of which is also on the ECA website - www.essexclerks.org

5. Essex Clerks' Association

We are grateful to those schools that subscribe to ECA to enable us to provide support to all Clerks throughout the geographical area of Essex. If you would like to support the work of the Association please let our Treasurer, Marion Myers, know on treasurer@essexclerks.org: the current subscription is just £15 p.a., with the membership year from 1 April. School Business Managers have been sent a proforma invoice for 2020/2021, but another one is attached if you would like to ensure your school(s) supports the work of the Association.

If you know of a Clerk in geographical Essex (including Southend and Thurrock) who would like to be added to our distribution list; if your details have changed; or if you no longer wish to receive our messages [or if you are lucky enough to receive them more than once!], please let our Membership Secretary (Peter Bates) know on membership@essexclerks.org. Thanks!

***Don't forget that you can find the latest governance news, plus many useful documents on the ECA website: www.essexclerks.org
Keep checking – and STAY SAFE!!***

Peter Bates
Membership Secretary
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