



Artificial Intelligence (AI) and parish and town councils

76th Annual Conference – 7 October 2023

The Dawn of AI



- It's actually nothing new
 - 1947 – Alan Turing proposed “a machine that can learn from experience”
 - 1951 – First “learning” program
 - 1955 – Term “AI” coined by John McCarthy
 - 1964 – First Chatbot invented
 - 1997 – DeepBlue - World Chess Grandmaster
 - 2008 – “Hey Siri!”
 - 2020 – ChatGPT3
 - 2023 – ChatGPT4/Bard/Bing/Dall-E/ ++++++

The Dawn of AI



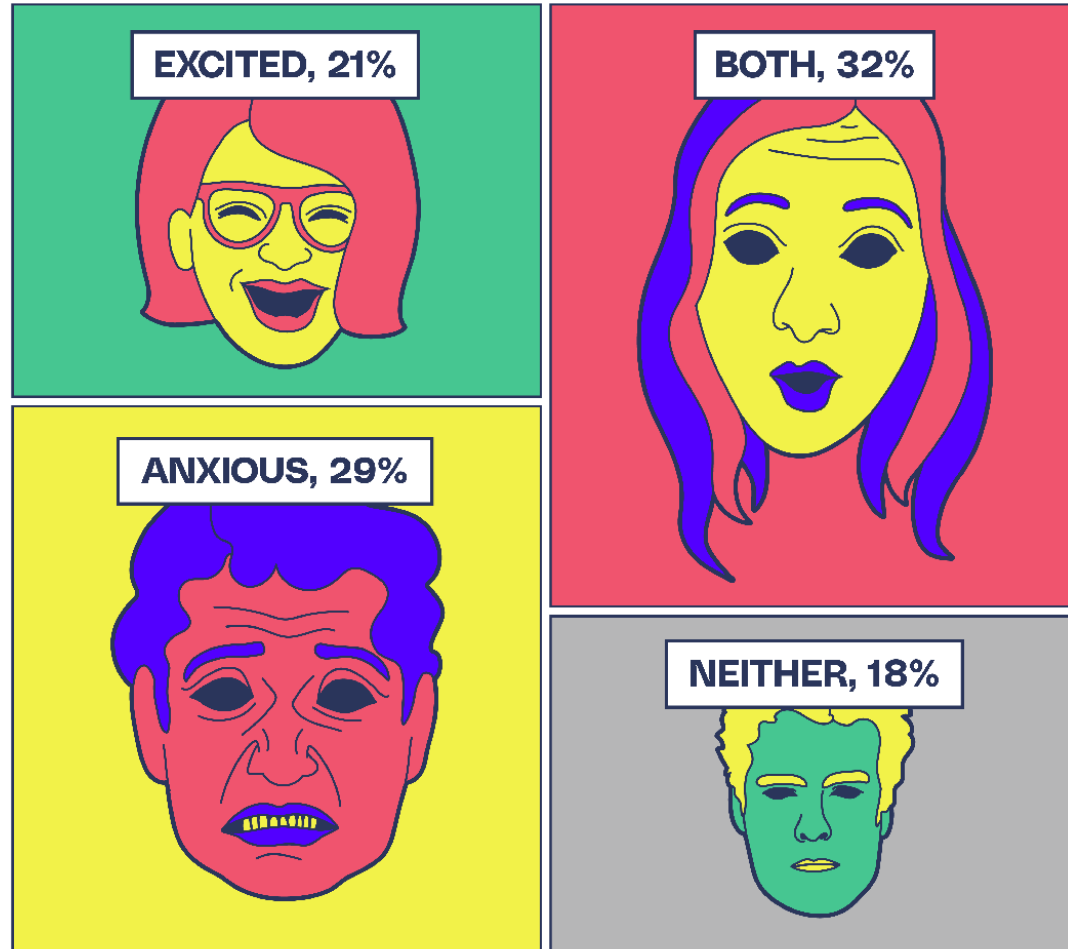
The Dawn of AI



The Dawn of AI



The Impact of AI on Society



Risks of AI



- Social upheaval
- Job displacement
- Misinformation/disinformation
- Power to the people
- Influence on elections
- Widening inequalities

AI and Parish & Town Councils



- AI won't replace clerks. Clerks using AI will replace clerks.
- AI won't replace councillors.
- Councils not using AI now are missing opportunities.
- Councils of all sizes can benefit.
- Councils of all sizes will be impacted.

AI and Parish & Town Councils



- What practical things are available, now?
 - Text generation
 - Image generation
 - Social media generation
 - Meeting tools – minutes, transcripts, summaries
 - Community engagement
 - Microsoft Co-pilot (full roll-out Nov '23)
 - Hello Lamp Post

AI and Parish & Town Councils



- Hello Lamp Post - www.hlp.city
- A digital community conversation project in Swanley
- Supported by Swanley Town Council & Sevenoaks District Council
- Start a conversation with an everyday object such as a fence, lamp post or public building
- Collect feedback in real time
- Automate services
- Improve public satisfaction
- 24/7 community engagement

HELLO

LAMP POST

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No such word as
can't

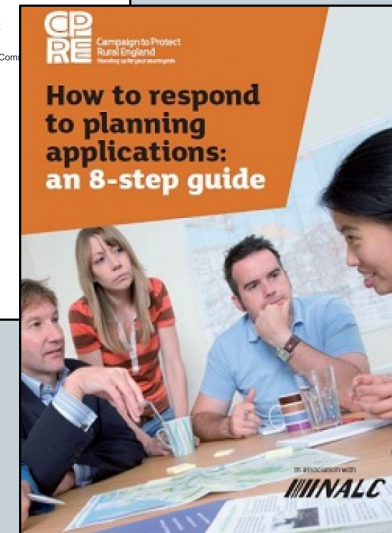
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- Think of something today!



AI and Parish & Town Councils



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Give it a go...
“Imagine if you
could...”

AI and Parish & Town Councils



- Northants CALC has convened an AI Task Group to:
 - Consider the risks to parish and town councils
 - Identify the opportunities
 - Identify and disseminate good practice
 - Work with the unitary councils on AI
 - Feed into any similar national initiatives

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<https://bard.google.com>

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“Generate three images of 100 parish councillors at an annual conference” – *Shutterstock AI Image Generator*





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