



Lincolnshire County Council LCC
North Kesteven District Council NKDC

News from your local, Independent Councillor,
MARIANNE OVERTON MBE

National voice, local benefit

As newsletter readers will know, colleagues and I have worked hard nationally for better funding. "Vote Conservative, get potholes", I told the minister. £420m was put aside for potholes, and Lincolnshire has one of the largest shares, £13.7m. We need to do our utmost now to report dangerous repairs and resurfacing needed, as this year is probably our best opportunity. (On LCC website, choose "report highway fault")

Lincolnshire's share of funding for winter pressures is bringing £300,000 to improve response for people who have fallen.

These are one-off pots of money and do not assist with the overall revenue shortfall of £7.8bn/year by 2025. Nor the capital backlog of poor road conditions.

Road Safety

I am deeply saddened that we have had a serious accident on the A607 outside the Sir William Robertson Academy. My thoughts and support are with the young woman and her family. I have been in touch with the police, the school and the County Council who have promised support to the children and staff. I met today with highways and will be working with the school and the community in the longer term to improve road safety in our area.

New Road - Lincoln Eastern Bypass

Eleven months work started in November on the Heighington Road section. 16m tons of rock will be cut out for the new bypass and a 33m bridge carrying Heighington Road over the top. Diversions are shown at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/leb Meanwhile 12,000 years of heritage was uncovered, including 200,000 artefacts. Neolithic remains, a Bronze Age log-boat and a middle Saxon Christian cemetery with over 750 skeletons, the largest ever discovered in the UK. Network Archaeology has won a national award for their work. There is a neat video showing you a bird's eye journey along the route. youtu.be/eRFT3bD5aqw

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Supporting local Christmas Markets

Lincoln Christmas Market takes place in uphill Lincoln from December 6 – 9th.

Sleaford Christmas Market was the biggest ever, with over a hundred stalls, three live music stages and thousands of happy shoppers. It was organised by the Town Council, with Lincolnshire Independent Mayor, Grenville Jackson.

Navenby High Street Christmas Lights Switch-on with a BBC radio presenter and the Methodist Church full of stalls was really buzzing, put together by the Business Network. **Bassingham** and **Norton Disney** Christmas Fayres was also a great success. People are looking for presents that are individual and crafted locally. LMS **Wellingore** and **Welbourn** Primary School held successful events on Saturday. And there are more to come...

Centenary of the first Women to vote

Following our recent events in the Cliff Villages, I was honoured to represent Women in Local Government nationally, chairing a brilliant event in Leeds where men and women came from all over the UK with fascinating histories unearthed about their local hero or heroine, one of over a hundred Suffrage Pioneers rediscovered. Lincolnshire produced Margaret Wintringham, the first British Woman to take up her seat in Parliament. She set up scholarships to enable girls to be educated. A plaque was erected for her last week in Louth. We have produced an e-book outlining the amazing stories of ordinary men and women doing extraordinary things. www.suffrage-pioneers.net

I also spoke about using our heritage as a springboard for better local democracy in future, in the Speaker's House, "the finest part of the Palace of Westminster".

Exhibitions

Land, City and Sea: British Masters including Hockney and other important British Artists over the past 60 years. The Collection, Lincoln until 6th January. The Terry O Toole Theatre new programme is out. Book on 01522 883311 or terryotooletheatre.org.uk/events/

Chief Executive's Departure

I was very disappointed at the departure of Keith Ireland, after only four months. I felt he was listening, meant business and was genuinely working to improve our Council's performance.

The Conservative Leader said; "Over the last few months, it has become clear that we do not share the same approach to a number of important issues that are facing the council, and, in these circumstances, we are agreed that a parting of the ways is the best way forward for both of us". It is personal. And likely to be expensive to you and me.

Supporting Local Businesses

Right: Jenny's pop-up Christmas Shop in Welbourn, helped by Kathy, near the Church Open 11-3pm at least, Mon-Sat. Below: Welcoming the new Landlord at the George, Leadenham and Lady Morris Dancers at Sleaford Market.



At the Marquis, Wellingore, Pauline will host the Business Network events. Friday night is gin tasting night. Tickets available in advance at £10.

Supporting our Local Economy

At North Kesteven District Council, we have been sifting through what the Council is doing to support the local economy and what more can be done. We offer free business support, help find premises, rent out 111 commercial and retail workshops, give planning advice and are launching a new website for local businesses.

We also have our own tourist attractions contributing to the £137m tourist spend. (100,000 people attended the Bomber Command last year.) We spend on regeneration, such as the 1.5m on the heart of Sleaford and £44m on commercial property.

We are also building houses for social and commercial rent. <http://www.lincshomefinder.co.uk/>

Clean Beaches

If, like me, you enjoy an occasional walk along the beach, you will be pleased to know that under EU legislation our Lincolnshire beaches are finally up to standard with every beach rated as "Excellent", by the Environment Agency after they tested 420 bathing spots. Our beaches are now cleaner than at any time since the industrial revolution. Let's keep them that way!

Christmas Waste

Christmas Tree-cycle: Volunteers are providing the service of recycling your tree, and raising funds for St Barnabus Hospice at the same time. Register your tree by January 6th, have it collected and make a donation. 01522 540300

Bin collections due 24th and 25th will be collected a day early; 26th to 28th a day late; 31st on time and January 1st-4th will be a day late.



Is this our prize-winner for decoration? (Brant Broughton)

Some Regular Events

Fridays

First Friday monthly at the Marquis, Wellingore 12.30
All Mondays: Hammond Hall, Bassingham Coffee Morning for all ages. All Fridays: Harmston Happy Hour in Village Hall 6-9pm, Beckingham Social Club and Witham St Hughs

Lunch Clubs

December 11th and Bassingham Village Lunch Club Book 01522 789935 £5 noon and Jan 8th and 22nd.
December 18th Bassingham Lunch Club Book 789236 £5 noon and January 15th and 29th
December 17th Carlton Le Moorland lunch in Norton Disney Village Hall 01522 788303 £3.50 1pm/ 21st Jan.

Music

First Wed monthly **Traditional Folk Music** (Instrumental) at the Bugle Horn, Bassingham LN5 9HQ on the first Wednesday monthly 8 – 11pm Excellent meals are available too, thanks to Pat and Caroline.
First Wed monthly **Folk at the George**, Leadenham 8pm

Excellent meals from new hosts, Ged.

Health Walks

Every Wed. Five Bells, Bassingham 10.30am
Every Fri The Venue, Navenby 10.15am

Running Witham St Hughs every Mon and Thurs 7pm

Crafts First Wed eve and Thurs pm Sarah 788901

Teas Term-time Tuesdays Witham St Hughs Vill Hall 2pm
Coleby Library and tea Second Wednesday 10.30am
Welbourn Village Hall First Thursday monthly 2-4pm
Every term time Wednesday 9 -10.45am at St Michael's Church, Bassingham.

Some December Events

- 7th Long Shot Evening of Entertainment at the Hammond Hall £10 from Greens or Lyn Baker 7.30pm
- 7th Floral Workshop incl. lunch and materials £45 Navenby Lane Farm, Book 07816 637 161 9.30-noon
- 7th Chocolate Bingo Welbourn Village Hall 7pm
- 7th Christmas Bingo Harmston Memorial Hall 7pm
- 8th Ages Past, Bassingham Choir at St Michaels 7.30pm
- 8th Pop up Shop All Saints Harmston 10am -1pm
- 8th Higgleby Piggledy Band Leadenham Vill Ha. 8-11.30pm
- 8th Ages Past, Christmas carols and readings with Bassingham Choir at St Michael and all angels, Bassingham 7.30pm
- 9th Hungate Singers at All Saints, Harmston 3pm
- 9th Children's Christmas Show Harmston Book 720213 3pm
- 12th Coffee Morning and library Coleby 10.30am
- 12th Senior Citizens Carols, St Peter's Navenby 2pm
- 12-14th Hairspray Sir William Robertson School 7pm
- 14th Garden Group in the Tower, Hammond Hall 7.30pm
- 15th Crafts at Christmas, St Michael's Church, Bassingham 10am-4pm
- 15th and 16th Jack in the Beanstalk, Wellingore Memorial Hall 2pm and 7.30pm
- 16th Carol Service St Andrews, Boothby Graffoe 3pm
- 16th All Saints, Wellingore Carol Service 4pm
- 16th Welbourn Christmas Carol Service St Chads 6pm
- 16th Carols round the Tree, Church St, Carlton Le Moorland with mulled wine and mince pies 6pm
- 18th Family Carols at All Saints, Coleby 6.30pm
- 19th Young Farmers Carols All Saints, Harmston 7.30pm
- 20th Peace at Christmas, Quaker Meeting House, Brant Broughton 45mins of stillness and quiet reflections interwoven with Christmas readings 7.30pm
- 21st All Saints, Coleby Carol Service 6.30pm
- 21st Carols by Candlelight at the Methodist Church, Navenby 7pm
- 25th Happy Christmas!
- 26th Boxing Day Walk, Welbourn Primary School 10.30am

Some January Events

5th Coffee Morning, St Michael's Church, Bassingham
5th Coffee Morning, Navenby Methodist Church Hall, 10am
7th Bassingham Village Playing Field Charity
8th Business Network in the Marquis, Wellingore 6pm
9th Wellingore U3A Institute of advanced motoring 10am
12th Books and Butties, Wellingore Mem' Ha. 10-noon.
14th Garden Group in the Tower, Hammond Hall 7.30pm
16th Coleby Library and Coffee Morning 10.30am
19th Coffee Morning, St Peters, Navenby at 70 High Street
hosted by June Munday 10.30am
23rd-26th Act Two Panto Treasure Island, Bassingham
School Hall £9, matinee concessions £6.
26th Coffee Morning Navenby Methodist Church Ha. 10.30
26th Burns Night, Memorial Hall, Harmston Tickets £20
from Carol 722588 or Alan 723411 7 for 7.30pm

Some Useful Information

Highways, Transport and Travel

Good newsletter from lincscountycouncil@gmail.com
New site www.accesslincoln.co.uk shows all the options,
or ask accesslincoln@lincolnbig.co.uk 01522 581906
Call Connect 8.30am - 7pm Weekdays and to 5pm
Saturdays 0345 234 33 44 or 01522 553143
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/callconnect/35955.article
Dial a ride 01522 544983 Disabled door to door
Car-sharing www.lincshare.co.uk
Trains www.thetrainline.com
Local Plan www.central-lincs.org.uk 01529 308084
Mobile Library 01522 782010 or www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

Planning on line

See and comment on applications to get your voice heard.
Search "planning on line north Kesteven"

Village websites

Withamstaple.com; yourbassingham.co.uk
www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton
www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/ Navenby
and Wellingore business
www.harmston.info www.navenby.net
dunstondossier.org.uk nocton.blogspot.co.uk
parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk
Most villages have sites on the County Council web like
this, including Welbourn, Leadenham and Coleby.
Branston <http://www.tucann.co.uk/the-sheepwash-times>
Branston Library 01522 880426
www.mrssmithscottage.com

County Events- Good web page here

Search Lincolnshire County Council out and about or use
<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/news/county->

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Independent Councillors



We held an excellent Local Government Association conference for Independent Councillors in November, with some superbly inspiring speakers. Brexit, economy, housing and the value of being Independent in our current political world. Interested? Please get in touch.

***Wishing you health and every happiness
over Christmas and the New Year.***

Season's Greetings



Thank you all for your support and for all you do for our communities. Let me know if I can help further.

Kind Regards,

Marianne

Councillor Marianne Overton MBE

*Independent Councillor for Branston and Navenby on
Lincolnshire County Council and for the Cliff Villages
on North Kesteven District Council
Leader of the Lincolnshire Independents
Vice Chairman of the Local Government Association*



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