



Spring News from Marianne Overton MBE

Lincolnshire County Council
and North Kesteven District
Council

Wishing you all the very best!

This is my personal newsletter to let you know what I am doing on your behalf and to keep in touch with you. Let me know if I can help you.



Solar on Roofs, not farmland!

Residents have been deeply upset by proposals to change the nature of our countryside with industrial steel,

silicon and glass, industrialising an area greater than the size of Lincoln. A 32 acre field less than a mile from Navenby is planned to house a huge substation, connecting to vast Lithium battery storage units.

Thank you for your brilliant support to date. Covering thousands of acres of our farmland for 60 years with soon-outdated solar industry, while 630,000 acres of commercial roofs lie vacant, is just daft. The money comes from our pockets in a life-time of raised electricity bills on long-term contracts to profit foreign or global companies, leaving no capacity for new and better options.

We are up against a huge machine and need every bit of help we can get! We have succeeded on other seemingly very difficult applications before, and we need to do it again. If this was really about renewables, the Government would require all new build to be energy efficient, all commercial roofs to have solar and a bigger drive for insulation so we can use less. Industry should be on industrial land, wind offshore and solar on roofs, car parks, railways etc.

The **Cliff Villages Solar Action Group (CVSAG)** is meeting fortnightly with a very impressive team. Our public meeting had a full hall with around 300 people in the main hall at Navenby and a big turn-out at Leadenham and Welbourn this week. Thank you very much indeed for signing the petition, writing letters and donating to enable professional support. Can you help a little? www.cvsag.org



The petitions are being submitted to both County Council and District Councils and we are gathering a thousand letters for Ed Miliband. I also have a parliamentary meeting on March 10th and am working through my national channels as well, and the National Solar Alliance.



New Mayor for Lincolnshire

Elections on May 1st for your Lincolnshire County Councillors will go ahead. At the same time, you will vote for a single new Mayor for the whole of Greater Lincolnshire, that is 1.1m people spread over 7,000 square kilometers. The Mayor and small group of party political councillors get to be a "strategic Authority" making decisions on planning, housing, transport, skills, the economy and tackling climate change. These are currently done by our District and County Councils. If you thought our District was hard to influence, then how about something ten times bigger!

In some other areas, the District and Counties are already dissolved and a new layer, a principle authority created instead. Thus it remains two tier, but the areas covered are a great deal bigger and decision-making that much more remote. The new councils are expected to manage half a million people, so two for the whole of Greater Lincolnshire. Where this has occurred, Councillors have such large areas to manage that they lose their connection with the public and we lose democracy, reflected in poorer turnouts and lack of accountability.

I am working flat out on this nationally, with a huge amount of discussion at all levels.



Local services need local decisions.



Money for Local Services

Nationally with the Local Government Association, where I am Vice Chairman, we have been making the case for better funding for local services. We laid out the extra pressures which came to £4.6bn over two years and the Government responded with half of it, leaving a gap.

This week, the Government agreed how much of our tax that they were devolving back to Lincolnshire for local services. **Lincolnshire County Council** is expected to raise tax by 2.99%, less than the 5% allowed and taking £10m or less from reserves. Proposals are [here](#). Lincolnshire had a little more than expected from Government this year.

North Kesteven is expected to rise by 2.76% or £4.95 on a band D house, taking the total to £164 for the whole year.

There are **two grant funds** for NK; 1) A Rural Business Grant Scheme of £450,000 in total, to support capital investments, including rural start-ups, visitor economy and manufacturing supply chains, hospitality and more. 2) a Rural Community Grant Scheme of almost £300,000 in total which will support projects including the creation and enhancement of blue and green community spaces, community renewable energy projects and more.

North Kesteven will be making the leisure centers more energy efficient and still have a £1m Climate response reserve in hand.

Flooding

Thank you to our Parish Councils and residents who have worked with me, Highways and Anglian Water to bring improvements in the system, or things would have been much worse in the most recent rains. As it is, just on one day in January, Lincolnshire had 126 reports of flooding, including 53 homes and 14 people stuck in cars. Floodline: 0345 988 1188 I spoke at the Flood and Drainage Committee in Lincoln, raising the slow recovery from previous years. Brant Broughton, Welbourn, Aubourn and Haddington have had some improvements made, with more to do. [Section 19](#) reports are produced by the County Council on the cause of flooding in each case and the recommended actions.



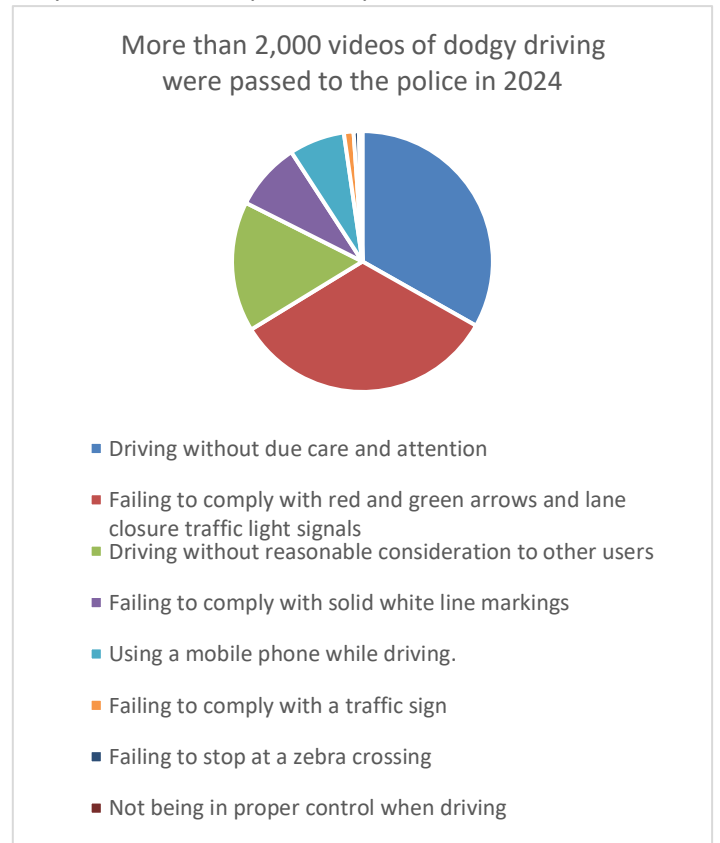
Noth Hykeham Relief Road

The County Council has published the legal orders for the new road, in case Westminster does agree the funding after all. The County Council seeks to purchase 470 acres needed for the road and to make changes to the road network to accommodate the new road.

There are 12 objections including the National Grid, Network Rail and businesses with whom there was insufficient negotiation. The Department for Transport will hold a public Inquiry between April 14-May 26. Construction of the new relief road was expected to start in late 2025 and open in 2028 at a cost of around £200m.

Dodgy Driving

The Police now accept private videos from the public and they contact the culprits. Keep safe!



National Conference

I was delighted to host the National Conference for Independent and smaller party councillors from across England and Wales. Our councillors have increased in number and influence to almost 20% of all councillors, in addition to the majority of Parish Councils who remain loyal to their residents and entirely non partisan!

Independents lead in 64 councils and are in the leading team of a quarter of all councils.

Thinking of helping or being a councillor?

The next big conference is in **Lincoln at the White Hart on Saturday February 22nd**. Want to come along? Please give me a call or text.

With no party instructions, our members are known for listening to residents, thinking about the issues and working hard to achieve the best possible outcomes for our residents. Meanwhile I am running Saturday noon briefing sessions online for candidates. Call me to join in.

Local Government provides or influences almost all local services for residents, employing 1.3 million people on an annual budget of £127bn, in England this year. The Local Government Association where I am Vice Chairman, is the voice of Local Government. We take your voices right into the heart of decision-making.

Cyber-safe

Beware of any unexpected e-mails inviting you to click on a link. Please do not click on it! The links in this bulletin take you to the official websites.

Green hospitality

Visit Lincolnshire has produced a [toolkit](#) for you to use to make sure that you are not missing out on any savings to your business and the planet! Tourism relies on people wanting to visit our attractive rural area and I know I am not the only one working to keep it that way – from litter-picking to defending against poor developments. There is also a [checklist](#) for churches here!

Want to keep in touch?

If you know anyone else who would find this newsletter useful, please suggest they drop me an [email](#) here. I write a weekly bulletin which you can find [here](#). You can also keep in touch with social media. [@overtonmarianne](#) or [facebook](#)

Best wishes,

Marianne

Marianne Overton MBE

Working together for people and planet



Christmas Bus Service in Lincolnshire

Please visit <https://lincsbus.info/christmas/>
Helpline 0345 456 4474 Monday – Friday 9.30am- 5.30pm
and Saturdays 9.30am – 4pm. Our friendly team will be happy to help. [@Lincsbus](#) on Facebook and Instagram

Some Useful information

[3 Villages Magazine](#)

[Witham Staple Magazine](#)

Lancaster Gateway, Norton Disney

This inspiring epic is remembering the sacrifices and how people fought so that we could have freedom today. Donations here. <https://www.bombergatewaytrust.co.uk/>

Take the Bus Campaign

Buses are still only £2 per journey, any journey. Timetables and info is here. <https://lincsbus.info/> or call 0345 234 3344. The Transport Helpline is 0345 456 4474.

Old Printer Cartridges for Charity

Richard Wilson wants your empty printer cartridges at 11 Chapel Lane, Navenby to raise funds for the Juvenile Diabete Research Foundation. Seal them in an envelope and pop them through his door. Or ring 01522 810373

Support from Local Charities

Sir Christopher Nevile/Summers [Charity](#) for residents of **Aubourn, Haddington and Thurlby**. For people who need a bit of help. Local Trustees. Apply 01522 788236
Carlton le Moorland Young People's Trust 07943 760 155

Navenby Heritage Trail

Have you explored the 2.5km [Navenby Heritage Trail](#)?

Useful Contacts

Healthy Eating

Local shops who may deliver

East Midlands Dairy 01636 614760
Nick Streeter's fish etc. 01400 272547
Grocery Paul Barton 07970 115351
Greens, Bassingham 01522 788200
Welbourn Post Office and Stores 01400 272242

Pub and takeaway meals

The Joiner's Arms, Welbourn 01400 279356
The Red Lion, Wellingore 01522 810071
Marquis of Granby, Wellingore 01522 811100
The Kings Head, Navenby 01522 810367 open
The Tempest, Coleby 01522 810258
Thorold Arms, Harmston 07971 029 534
The Bugle Horn, Bassingham 01522 789773
The Five Bells, Bassingham 01522 788269
The White Hart, Carlton le Moorland 01522 788893
Generous Briton Brant Broughton Tues-Sat 01400 272119
Black Swan, Beckingham 01636 626474
Akash Indian Takeaway 01522 811126 Navenby
Navenby Chinese Takeaway 01522 810773
The White Hart, Lincoln (locally owned) 01522 526222

Cooked meals

Andy's Fish and Chips Van Bassingham Tues, Skellingthorpe Wed, Caythorpe Thurs 5-8pm
Hot lunches for senior citizens 01522 404025 Bassingham, £5 for two courses. Book by Sunday 5pm
Primary hot lunches Thurs and Sat 01522 788488
Age UK will deliver 21 small single person meals for £20, plus £7 delivery 03455 564 144
Hollynelstropcatering@gmail.com - weekly meal boxes
Sarah's Bakes and cakes caron@awharrison.com Amazing @Sara's Cakes & Bakes

Business Advice is free from NKDC Phil Means on 07920 472671 www.businessnk.co.uk @BusinessNK
www.businesslincolnshire.com
Business www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/grants-funding

First Aid Course online

St John Ambulance stjohnambulance@email.sja.org.uk

Parish Offices for local support and information

Navenby Venue Tuesday to Friday 10-noon
Witham Office at Bassingham in the Hammond Hall, LN5 9HQ 01522 789758 Open Mon, Wed, Thurs 9-1pm
Local Police Statistics <https://www.police.uk/>

Access to Wellbeing Services and Care

Covid Helpline continues 01522 782189
The Carers service 01522 782224 carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Support for Adult care is available 01522 782155
Supporting People 01522 782140 www.wellbeinglincs.org
Umbrellas events supporting all ages with additional needs and their families umbrellaslincoln@outlook.com
#EveryMindMatters advise on coping with anxiety and improving your mental health: <https://qoo.ly/35q2xs>
Mental health www.connecttosupport.org
Bereavement Helpline St Barnabus 0300 303 1897 tracy.tuffs@stbarnabashospice.co.uk
Lincolnshire YMCA 01529 301965
www.citizensadvice.org.uk 0800 1448444 free 8am-6pm
www.getsafeonline.org Keeping safe online
Know anyone suffering memory loss? Contact
Wheelchair loan: No Name Lodge Geoff Nelson 788213

Church Work and Services

www.graffoechurches.co.uk
sara.davies@lincoln.anglican.org 07768 706952
www.withamsidechurches.org.uk
Navenby Methodist Church 01522 685226
<http://lincolnmethodist.org.uk/circuit-services-weekly-live-stream/> David.lawton@methodist.org.uk

Venue Finder

420 Lincolnshire Village halls are registered here.
www.lincscommunitybuildings.org.uk

Useful Advice for Charities

<https://www.charityhowto.com/blog/>

To protect a house or business against flooding

<http://www.marydhonau.co.uk/information/how-do-i-protect-my-home-from-flooding/>

Roadworks www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/overnight-roadworks

roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk Twitter #lincsc roads

Business Support

www.businesslincolnshire.com
www.teamlincolnshire.com do monthly webinars

Community Larders

Sleaford Community Larder at the Newlife Centre
<http://www.communitylarder.co.uk/>

Help save lives and keep countryside clean

Report Potholes 01522 782070
<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/potholes>
Or use "Fix my street" on line – works well.
<http://www.FixMyStreet.com>
Report Litter 01529 414155
customer_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk
Report illegal parking 01522 511142 or
ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Adult Concern 01522 782151
Police: Sgt Ken Whyte, 101 or www.police.uk
07973 846537/235/5827
Floodline 24/7 on 01522 782082
Volunteer locally www.rivercare.org.uk
Wild Things Rescue 01526 578579 9-9 every day
www.wildthingsrescue.uk

Highways, Transport and Travel

Good newsletter from lincscountycouncil@gmail.com
Roadworks www.one.network lincolnshire.roadworks.org
Transport 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
<https://lincsbuses.info/callconnect/>
Dial a ride 01522 544983 Disabled door to door
Car-sharing www.lincshare.co.uk
Trains www.thetrainline.com
Facebook Hykeham town rural NPT T @hykeham NPT
Buses www.lincsbuses.info or Traveline 0871 200 22 33

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”

Local Plan www.central-lincs.org.uk 01529 308084

Village websites

Withamstaple.com; yourbassingham.co.uk

www.carlton-le-moorland.org.uk

www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton

www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/ Navenby

and Wellingore business.parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk

www.harmston.info www.navenby.net

dunstondossier.org.uk nocton.blogspot.co.uk

Welbourn, Leadenham and Coleby are on the LCC site

E.g. <https://leadenham.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>

Branston 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

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk search on “county news”

Mrs Smith’s Cottage

East Road, Navenby LN5

OAP £3.50/£2

Open Weekends Friday to

Monday noon til 4pm

Step into a time capsule

into the life of Mrs Hilda

Smith who lived a simple

and principled life here to 102. The Cottage is owned by

North Kesteven District Council and manned with the help

of local volunteers – enjoy!

