



**March News**  
from  
**Marianne Overton MBE**

**Lincolnshire County Council  
LCC and North Kesteven  
District Council NKDC**

**Greetings!**

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 with anything.

**Ukraine**

The brutal invasion of Ukraine by Russia is horrific. Ukraine's democracy were in no way threatening, but now they suffer war with all it's pain. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Ukraine.

Our communities are helping, with local businesses and schools as collection points for food, blankets, clothes and first aid. Our first shipment is going from Welbourn Primary School this week. A "Lights Out" campaign is underway, and the less oil and gas we use the better.

Donating money on direct debit gives UNICEF or the Red Cross, for example, is a great help. Many families have been forced to flee to neighbouring countries. Councils are gearing up to support 100,000 refugees who have family in this country. (Family Migration route +44 (0) 300 3032785). Our Councils are working to provide for essential needs, cybersecurity and community support.

**New in Lincoln**



Thanks to all who joined us for an inspiring day at the new Lincoln Cathedral Centre for a conference hotspot on post-covid issues. Disappearing Councils, "levelling-up", mental health and tackling climate change all featured strongly. Newly opened is the exhibition in the visitor's Centre adjacent to the Cathedral with the fascinating Romanesque [frieze](#). At the evening reception in the Collection Museum, we created a ring of peace around the Gaia Earth, the art installation by Luke Jerram. It is very poignant in the light of the disaster in Ukraine and natural disasters caused by climate change.

**Ring of Peace around Gaia Earth at The Collection**



The Collection is owned and run by the County Council, and [now](#) open to visitors along with another new exhibition, gift shop and café. All are welcome.

**Energy for Central Lincolnshire**

As energy prices rocket, we need to use less where we can. There is a link off the home page of North Kesteven District Council that recommends making sure you are registered as living at the right address by 1 April 2022. Registering to pay council tax by direct debit makes it easy to receive the £150 rebate for homes in band A to D, which is most dwellings and there is also a discretionary grant for higher tax bands.

If you think the tax level is not correct, you can appeal to the valuation office on 03000 501 501 or [www.gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band](http://www.gov.uk/challenge-council-tax-band) <https://www.gov.uk/contact-voa>

**Changes to the Planning Rules**

You are invited to respond to the draft Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. The plan for 32,000 more dwellings was passed by Councils this week. The next consultation is from mid-March for six weeks.

Controversially, the plan still invites the introduction of ever larger wind turbines in some areas and up to 40m more widely. Yet we already have very large areas of solar panels being accepted, enough to meet our renewable energy requirements. There is no limit to number or size of turbines,, other than when the available space is full.

The requirement to build well insulated, low carbon emitting homes is welcome, but this is not required for dwellings in less profitable areas. As it stands, those who need the energy saving most, won't be getting it.

The 32,000 new dwellings is more than the government requires. creating a surplus, a "buffer". This increases pressure in our villages, as road repairs and health services struggle to keep up. Big issues are still to discussed, so please share your views!

## More detail on the NEW Local Plan

I attended the Joint Lincolnshire Local Plan Panel with twelve voting representatives from four Councils. Following our local public meetings on the proposals, many of us submitted objections.

On your behalf, I submitted questions which led on to a proposal from the County Council. There have been minor changes, including on the wind turbine policy, but the provision to build large wind turbines remains, contrary to the County Council unanimously agreed view:

“To enable a sustainable future for our communities, we are keen to enable a mix of green energy production across Lincolnshire. Large wind turbines are not the right solution in Lincolnshire and we are pushing partners to find other options including more solar production on our less productive land, as well as on buildings. Land classification work from the county council, shows approximately 6,900 acres of Grade 4 (‘poor’) land in Central Lincolnshire, which would be enough to accommodate the required solar energy capacity.”

The allocation of sites for another 32,000 dwellings, should be reduced. It is not needed and puts too much pressure on roads and health services. If facilities can’t be afforded, then fewer houses per year should be allowed in that area. To keep the character of our villages, there needs to be a limit, including the cumulative impact of many applications considered together.

The plan contains a good attempt to enhance environmental credentials on new build, but **not** in our big development areas around Sleaford, Lincoln and Gainsborough. Building new houses that immediately need retrofitting at great expense seems completely daft, contrary to our agreed target of net zero emissions by 2030: Something you may want to raise.

The consultation from mid-March is based mainly on whether the plan is “sound”. For that it has to be deliverable, so it helps to connect your points with that. You may like to write again raising the issue of whether your points have been properly considered. All previous comments will **not** be passed forward to the Inspector, so we will need to write again. Writing also means the Inspector may invite you to speak at the hearing, which is very helpful. <https://democracy.n-kesteven.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=729&MId=8950&Ver=4>

Comments last time are on the tab at the top of the home page of [www.lincolnshireindependents.org.uk](http://www.lincolnshireindependents.org.uk)

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## Grants for insulation

Insulation may save up to 40% of your bill, so well worth having. Properties for let have to be up to a reasonable standard by law. There are grants if you get really stuck with your bills. The Citizens Advice Bureau is really helpful and the website has a great page on “grants for insulation” [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) 0808 278 7942. Veterans [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)

## Keeping our home areas crime-free

Neighbourhood Watch are running this burglary prevention campaign through March. [ourwatch.org.uk/thinkwiden](http://ourwatch.org.uk/thinkwiden)



## WEBINAR: What does smart security mean for my home?

10th March, 5-6pm delivered in partnership with ERA Home Security [ourwatch.org.uk/webinars](http://ourwatch.org.uk/webinars).

**ASK THE EXPERTS DAY:** 16th March on our Facebook Twitter channels – an opportunity to learn more and discuss burglary prevention live with ERA experts and Neighbourhood Watch [www.ERAhomesecurity.com](http://www.ERAhomesecurity.com)

Alarm kits have a 10% reduction from ERA using the code NHW2022 before March 31<sup>st</sup>. [Click here](#) [enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk)

## Are you busy March 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>?



Ever felt moved to create a beautiful icon? A great way to spend a week is this Icon course for beginners at Temple Bruer Church, Wellingore.



Led by Canon Ian Holdsworth from the Yorkshire Icon School The week all in costs £200. More from Rev Stuart Foster in Wellingore. [comrafikimusoma@gmail.com](mailto:comrafikimusoma@gmail.com)

## District Council Plans to spend on services

North Kesteven District Council passed the budget plan to spend a net £15.412m, after income from grants, fees and charges is taken into account. The District Council portion of your tax bill is up by £5 for the year for band D property. Around £60m is planned for capital spend, mainly building projects.

I have been part of the team working nationally to explain to Government ministers, with evidence, exactly why the money from the Treasury is needed locally. This year Councils got a better settlement for this one year at least. The District Council was able to put £3m into reserves. Our Independent group called for that to be ear-marked for the Council's Climate Action Plan, to include safer cycle and footpaths (eg Leadenham), solar canopies on charging points in car parks, and insulation and solar panels on our council buildings. We also proposed a community fund for local "green" projects as the NK Fund has ceased.

The Council owns over 3,800 dwellings and a detailed survey shows the need for substantial improvement in energy efficiency in around 400 dwellings. We called for a significant speeding up of the work. Legislation requires all let houses, including those owned by Councils to improve their energy efficiency. We have also declared we are tackling unnecessary emissions and we have to get on with it much faster.

The amendment was not passed on this day but I hope we have laid the direction.

## Planning committee gets smaller

The planning committee has been performing well in terms of timely decisions and very few being overturned by Inspectors. All members were on planning and all required to have proper training. The two sub-committees met alternately so applications could be rapidly taken to committee. However, some councillors don't want to be on planning and it has been recommended that the committee size be reduced somewhat.

The recent Council passed a motion to reduce the committee to just 15 councillors, meeting every three weeks. Other councillors will be allowed 5 minutes before the debate starts, like the applicant, objector and Parish Council rep.



Lights off for the Planet, not Putin.

## Review by the Local Government Association

The Local Government Association was invited to do a review of the District Council. They found it to be "a strong, financially secure and stable council and all of its work is informed by its strong suite of corporate plans and strategies." The review team of Councillors and officers reflected what they saw and made 13 recommendations for improvement which we will be working through.

## Discover Lincolnshire Weekend 26-27 March

All Lincolnshire attractions are open and free to enter. It's a good opportunity to promote local businesses at the same time. Please get in touch on [hello@visitlincoln.com](mailto:hello@visitlincoln.com)

## Well Done Bassingham

Bassingham Parish Council has worked with nearly 300 volunteers, led by residents Paul Rea and Nicola Jones to create a new woodland. Huge thanks to all for their support.

## "Plant for the Planet" campaign

I spoke with the County Council Tree Officer this week and there will be more tree-planting grants available this winter. Lincolnshire has comparatively little woodland, especially woods with public access. Thanks to volunteers, we have the "Plant for the Planet" campaign running locally to give support. Please get in touch.

## Thanks

Thank you for all you continue to do in our communities and your kind support. Best wishes.

*Marianne*



## Marianne Overton MBE

*Working together to support people and planet*

## Events

- March 19<sup>th</sup> Riverlights in Sleaford
- March 26<sup>th</sup> Earth Hour at Mrs Smith's Cottage, Navenby; heritage, artwork in light, nature-based activities
- April 15<sup>th</sup> Easter hunt at Metherringham (see below)



## Useful Information

### Healthy Eating

#### Local shops

East Midlands Dairy 01636 614760  
Oldlings meat etc. 01522 810228  
Nick Streeter's fish etc. 01400 272547  
Grocery Paul Barton 07970 115351  
The Old Forge, Brant Broughton 07958 189650  
Greens, Bassingham 01522 788200  
Welbourn Post Office and Stores 01400 272242  
Leadenham Farm Shop 01400 273988

#### Pub/takeaway meals

The Tempest, Coleby 01522 810258  
The Bell, Coleby 01522 813778  
Thorold Arms, Harmston 07971 029 534  
The Bugle Horn, Bassingham 01522 789773  
The Five Bells, Bassingham 01522 788269  
Generous Briton Brant Broughton Tues-Sat 01400 272119  
Akash Indian Takeaway 01522 811126 Navenby  
Navenby Chinese Takeaway 01522 810773

#### Pre-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



## Where to get more information

Trading with the EU <https://www.gov.uk/transition>  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home)  
Coronavirus cases: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/>  
Business [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/grants-funding](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/grants-funding)  
Lincolnshire County Council [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
North Kesteven District Council [www.n-kesteven.gov.uk](http://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk)  
Local Government Association [www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk)

## Local Help Groups

- Aubourn and Haddington Luke Warwick 07765 900099  
Hayley 07928 032 866
- Bassingham Support Group 01522 404025
- Beckingham Covid Group Philip Wells 07930 990 950
- Brant Broughton and Stragglethorpe The Old Forge  
Village Shop delivers locally free. 01400 273796, 07958  
189650 9.30am-5pm Tues-Sat, Sun 10-4pm, Mon am.
- Carlton Le Moorland, Norton Disney and Stapleford  
Nicola Smith 01522 404024 120 volunteers  
[contact@CleMsupport.co.uk](mailto:contact@CleMsupport.co.uk)
- Coleby Parish Council Sue 01522 810509
- Rector Christine Chris Goldsmith 01400 679081  
07494870701 or [rectorleadenham@gmail.com](mailto:rectorleadenham@gmail.com)
- Welbourn Volunteers Alison 07 377 219 268
- Witham St Hughs Jason Snape on 07894 872 533
- Graffoe Parish Rector Michelle Godbold 01522 426723  
with many volunteers, including daily phone calls.

Like me, you may like to become a dementia friend or champion and add support. Being confused and alone or in lockdown, dementia is a tough call. Let's keep our communities friendly and safe for all.

### First Aid Course online

St John Ambulance [stjohnambulance@email.sja.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
Support for Adult care is available 01522 782155  
Supporting People 01522 782140 [www.wellbeinglincs.org](http://www.wellbeinglincs.org)  
Umbrellas events supporting all ages with additional  
needs and their families [umbrellaslincoln@outlook.com](mailto:umbrellaslincoln@outlook.com)  
#EveryMindMatters advise on coping with anxiety and  
improving your mental health: <https://qoo.ly/35q2xs>  
Mental health [www.connecttosupport.org](http://www.connecttosupport.org)  
Bereavement Helpline St Barnabus 0300 303 1897  
[tracy.tuffs@stbarnabashospice.co.uk](mailto:tracy.tuffs@stbarnabashospice.co.uk)  
Befriending Service Lincolnshire YMCA 01529 301965  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk) 0800 1448444 free 8am-6pm

### Church Services

[www.graffoechurches.co.uk](http://www.graffoechurches.co.uk) with Michelle Godbold  
Christine Goldsmith [rectorleadenham@gmail.com](mailto:rectorleadenham@gmail.com)  
[www.withamsidechurches.org.uk](http://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](http://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](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/overnight-roadworks)  
[roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk) Twitter #lincsc roads

### Business Support

[www.businesslincolnshire.com](http://www.businesslincolnshire.com)  
[www.teamlincolnshire.com](http://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](mailto:customer_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk)  
Report illegal parking 01522 511142 or  
[ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
Adult Concern 01522 782151  
Police: Sgt Ken Whyte, plus PCSO's 101 or [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)  
07973 846537/235/5827  
Floodline 24/7 on 01522 782082

### Highways, Transport and Travel

Good newsletter from [lincscountycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:lincscountycouncil@gmail.com)  
**Roadworks** [www.one.network](http://www.one.network) [lincolnshire.roadworks.org](http://lincolnshire.roadworks.org)  
**Transport** [www.accesslincoln.co.uk](http://www.accesslincoln.co.uk) shows all the options,  
or ask [accesslincoln@lincolnbig.co.uk](mailto: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](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/callconnect/35955.article)  
**Dial a ride** 01522 544983 Disabled door to door  
**Car-sharing** [www.lincshare.co.uk](http://www.lincshare.co.uk)  
**Trains** [www.thetrainline.com](http://www.thetrainline.com)  
Facebook Hykeham town rural NPT T @hykeham NPT  
**Buses** [www.lincsbuses.info](http://www.lincsbuses.info) or Traveline 0871 200 22 33

**Mobile Library** 01522 782010 or [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://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](http://www.central-lincs.org.uk) 01529 308084

### Village websites

Withamstaple.com; yourbassingham.co.uk  
[www.carltonle Moorland.org.uk](http://www.carltonle Moorland.org.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton](https://www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/) Navenby  
and Wellingore business parishes.[lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://lincolnshire.gov.uk)  
[www.harmston.info](http://www.harmston.info) [www.navenby.net](http://www.navenby.net)  
[dunstondossier.org.uk](http://dunstondossier.org.uk) [nocton.blogspot.co.uk](http://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](http://www.tucann.co.uk/the-sheepwash-times)  
Branston Library 01522 880426  
[www.mrssmithscottage.com](http://www.mrssmithscottage.com)

### County Events- Good web page here

Search Lincolnshire County Council out and about or use  
[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk) search on "county news"

**Wheelchair loan:** No Name Lodge Geoff Nelson 788213  
**Young People Grants** Carlton Le Moorland 07943760155

### Supporting Local Heritage

Mrs Smith's Cottage, Navenby  
Open Friday to Monday noon to 4pm  
Volunteers welcome



### Inspiring Children to Care

West Kesteven Wildlife Watch has a new calendar of events out. Running since 1991 aimed at children 7 to 13, children enjoy learning about our local environment and wildlife. Stars and planets, bees, summer camp, birds, wild walks to discover things, making and doing. Contact me or Jean Martin on 01636 626176 or [jcmartin0448@gmail.com](mailto:jcmartin0448@gmail.com)