

BIODIVERSITY BOOST FOR HECKINGTON

New spaces for plants and wildlife to flourish are set to be created in a new joint Council and community project that's soon to blossom in Heckington.

Together, North Kesteven district Council and groups Heckington in Bloom and Trees for Heckington will transform a number of the council's green spaces in the village which are currently mown and offer limited benefits to nature.

Following a consultation with residents these green spaces, a variety of measures will be implemented to encourage improvements in biodiversity.

Such measures may include letting grass grow longer, planting wild flowers and trees and providing other habitats for wildlife. Green spaces in Osborn Way, Willow Close and Alexander Way will see new management, while the communal lounge in Willow Close will have large new planters to compliment the existing trees and planting.

In all aspects safety and the views of the community will be considered, while prioritising the benefits that a wilder environment can offer.

If this project proves successful it is possible that other partnerships could be developed within NKDC communities to create sustainable biodiversity projects across the District.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME BOOKINGS OPEN

The HAF programme is a Government funded programme that provides reception to year 11 pupils, who receive benefits related to free school meals in Lincolnshire, access to free healthy meals and activities over the summer, Christmas and Easter holidays.

Further eligibility criteria can be found on the HAF website for children who are not eligible for benefits-related free school meals. The LA is able to utilise 15% funding to support other vulnerable children and young people.

Easter 2023

Easter HAF will take place during the Easter holidays running Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April 2023 (excluding weekends and bank holidays).

Locations

There are over 120 clubs being delivered across the county during the Easter holidays. More detailed information on HAF providers can be found on the booking system, including activity information, dates and times.

How to book

To book on to a club families will require a HAF E-voucher code which are provided by schools.

The HAF E-voucher, received by email and/or text message, will include a link that re directs to the booking site lists all Lincolnshire HAF clubs and you can narrow your search by postcode for the most local clubs. A parent's guide to booking is available.

If you know of families and children that are eligible but have not received a HAF E-voucher from their school, please contact HAF@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Please share this information so as many children and young people can take advantage of the holiday clubs where they can access sports and games, enrichment opportunities, learn about healthy lifestyles and receive a hot healthy meal.

NORTH HYKEHAM RELIEF ROAD INFORMATION EVENTS

Anyone interested in meeting the project team and finding out more about the North Hykeham Relief Road is encouraged to attend one of the public events.

Feedback was gathered during last September's information events and LCC has optimised the route based on local views and knowledge. Further design work and survey's will take place ahead of submitting a planning application in the autumn.

This project will see a new dual carriageway built linking the A46 Pennells Roundabout to the Lincoln Eastern Bypass, creating a full ring road around the city.

POLICE RESOURCING

As many of you are aware, a decision has been made to reduce the level of Police Community Support Officers in Lincolnshire.

It is clear that these decisions have been taken, in part, due to financial constraints and the funding formula for Lincolnshire Police, with the the neighbourhood policing levels for North Kesteven being based on a number of considerations.

"Whilst we are disappointed about the significant reductions in the PCSO numbers for North Kesteven - from nine to two, with a focus now being placed on the Sleaford Town beat - we remain committed to our strong working relationship with the neighbourhood policing teams as we move forward and will work with Lincolnshire Police and partners to make the case for additional resources for Lincolnshire.

It is appreciated that this is difficult and challenging time for all involved. There is a significant amount of work being undertake, to understand the amount of work being undertaken, to understand the implications around service deliver, and wider impacts for the broad range of partnership activity presently delivered in keeping are communities safe, but we wanted to reassure Members that these matters are being discussed and fuller details will be shared and communicated with the Council as they become available".

EASTER BANK HOLIDAY PRESCRIPTION

Easter is fast approaching with Good Friday on 7th April. So with this in mind NHS Lincolnshire ICB is reminding patients to order their prescriptions in plenty of time.

The ICB is encouraging patients to make sure they renew any regular prescriptions and collect medication before the holidays start as running out of daily medication over this period could have serious consequences for patients that rely on them to control a range of conditions including heart and breathing problems.

If you become unwell over the bank holiday period or need medical advice when your GP surgery is closed, GP out of hours services can be assessed by visiting NHS 111 free of charge.

EASTER BIN COLLECTIONS

NKDC are reminding every-bunny of some great waste tips to help households keep up their egg-ceptional recycling through Easter.

There will be one change to bin collection dates by NKDC over the Easter period affecting Easter Monday only (April 10th). Collections of purple and purple lidded bins which would have been on this day are instead being brought forward to Saturday April 8th.

Those with bin collections due on Good Friday (7th April) will have their black general waste bins collected on this day as normal.

Residents are asked to please present their bins by 6.30am on the morning of their collection day.

RIVERSIDE FOOTPATH WORKS SOON TO START IN SLEAFORD

A 335 metre section of existing footpath along the River Slea along the northern bank of the River Slea between the railway bridge and the old Cranwell railway line, is being replaced.

To enable this work, the pathway will be fully closed from Monday 27th March for the duration. The works are due to end on Monday 24th April, weather permitting. There is an alternative route suggested during this time, via Drove Lane.

ELECTOR GUIDE LEAFLET DELIVERY

In the week starting from today, April 3rd, Royal Mail will be delivering house to house an Elector Guide produced by the Council to support electors through the new requirement to have voter ID at the polling station.

Building on publication created by the Electoral Commission, it seeks to bring together everything that voters need to know to help them to vote on May 4th and to embed the new practice for elections going forward.

It also summarises a map, the new boundary changes and how they are supporting anyone who needs access to the social Voter Authority Certificate before the April 25th deadline.

PLAN UPDATE

Government-appointed Inspectors have given the green light for the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. This is a major step forward for the plan which, if adopted, will promote an ambitious plan to tackle climate change, deliver housing to meet NK's local needs, deliver significant economic development and infrastructure, and require biodiversity net gain ahead of national policy requirements.

It will now go to the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee meeting on April 13th to consider approving it as a joint plan for development across the City of Lincoln, West Lindsey and North Kesteven district for the future.

UK HOSTS THANKED FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HOMES FOR UKRAINE

The Government and Ukraine Ambassador to the UK last month thanked those that have shared their homes through the UK's Homes for Ukraine Scheme, one of the fastest and biggest visa programmes in British history.

Since the scheme's launch 1217,700 Ukrainians have been invited into the homes of thousands of families across the country.

As the war continues there are many Ukrainians looking for rematching and sponsors are urged to come forward.

To strengthen the support for Ukrainians to settle into their new homes the Government is providing the following:

Per capita funding for councils for each new arrival including £150 million to support guests into their own homes and extended as well as increased 'thank you payment for sponsors'.

£11.5 million towards intensive English language courses and employment support for up to 10,000 individuals to boost the number of Ukrainians entering the labour market and to help those already employed into higher-skilled roles, this is in addition to 20,500 Ukrainian children currently attending schools.

£100 million for 145 councils in England by the end of March as part of the £500 million Local Authority Housing Fund to help obtain, repurpose or build housing for arrivals on resettlement programmes.

Best Wishes
Lucille



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The
Electoral
Commission

Find out more at

electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

No ID? You can apply for free voter ID

Remember,
I need photo ID
to vote