

# June News from Marianne Overton MBE

Lincolnshire County Council LCC and North Kesteven

**District Council NKDC** 

# 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 with anything.

## **Election Success**

Huge thanks for your support over the past four years as your District Councillor. For the first time in my life, no-one stood against me. Thank you very much indeed to those who responded to the call to stand or help. We had over 50 candidates in Lincolnshire, 21 in North Kesteven, including one new county by-election seat. Well over a hundred Independents were elected in the County, taking control in Boston and South Kesteven and very close in South Holland and East Lindsey. North Kesteven was already being run by Independents in a coalition. Our group held their seats and won four more, though didn't replace the councillors who had stepped down. The Conservative Party has taken control of North Kesteven, East Lindsey and South Holland – for now.

# **County Take-over?**

Nationally in May, we lost hundreds of councillors as 18 councils dissolved, taking Independents with them. The larger Unitaries are more faceless, so that voters tend to fall back to party politics as seen on TV. Big areas are difficult for a good councillor to be locally well known.

The Leader of the County Council is intent on going ahead with a new additional layer of Government covering north and North-east Lincolnshire as well as Lincolnshire, under a Mayor. The last Consultation came out against the additional expense of a Mayor. Dissolving the District and County Councils could be a next step to "save money". Where this has been done elsewhere, the money and powers did not all arrive as promised and was closely controlled.

In the meantime, we have had significant funds for Lincolnshire new roads, probably helped by having a swing seat in Lincoln and an agreement to give permission for a great many new houses. That has put heavy pressure on our already struggling NHS, care, police and emergency services. The new authority could be in place as early as March next year, before the MP elections, before Dec '24.

#### **New Nature Reserve**

First Kings Nature Reserve has been announced and will be close to the proposed nuclear waste dump. The nuclear proposal is already dripping money prior to any decisions being made. Linking current nature reserves, the new Coastal Park to be catchily renamed the "King Charles III England Coast Path" and cover 21 square miles of Lincolnshire Coast from Skegness to Grimsby. Mablethorpe, Skegness and Ingoldmels will not be included. It is to be the first of 25 King's Nature Reserves and will include Gibraltar Point Nature Reserve, the 2,000 Winter seals at Donna Nook and the Wash, an important feeding ground for our migratory birds.



## **Enjoy Walking in the Wolds Festival**

The 50th anniversary of the Wolds being designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is being celebrated with the annual walking festival of events until June 11<sup>th</sup>.

Many of the activities designed to give people the opportunity to explore hobbies and new skills that they would not usually try, with planned activities including hikes, guided tours, gliding, horse riding, clay pigeon shooting and much more. Link <a href="here">here</a>.

#### Welcome at Lincolnshire Show

Join me for a chat, coffee and biscuits on the County Council stand from 11am on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 3pm on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.



www.lincolnshireshow.co.uk

## **Bishops' Palace Reopened**

The medieval Palace was one of the most important buildings in England, just as magnificent as the Cathedral in whose shadow it stands. Restoration is complete and it is open to visitors once more.



### Fewer new roads after all

The County Council joined the bidding round and won £20m for specific highway projects in October 21. The South Hykeham Relief Road is continuing. The A16 is being improved in Spalding and Boston the works are being reduced as the money is no longer enough and will not be completed after all.

For repairs, please keep using <a href="www.fixmystreet.com">www.fixmystreet.com</a>. I have worked hard on our County Council responses and I am getting some very positive feedback.

## Call Connect – a great service for you

If there is not an ordinary bus to do the journey you need, the County has created a council service for you.

CallConnect and ConnectBus bus services will be operating on a Saturday from 8am – 6pm. Monday to Friday operating times remain unchanged at 7am – 7pm.

CallConnect is available to book from 7 days advance notice up to 1 hour in advance of your journey time, subject to availability.

Buses are still only £2 per journey, any journey. It's well worth considering leaving the car at home if you can! Timetables and info is here. <a href="https://lincsbus.info/">https://lincsbus.info/</a> or call our friendly team on 0345 234 3344. The Transport Helpline is 0345 456 4474.

## **Lincoln College wants host families**

£135/week. <a href="https://info.lincolncollege.ac.uk/register-your-interest-to-become-a-host">https://info.lincolncollege.ac.uk/register-your-interest-to-become-a-host</a>

## **Supporting Small Businesses – Rural Grants**

Local businesses, social enterprises and entrepreneurs in North Kesteven can access the training and tools by signing up with Maybe\* now.

Social media support in North Kesteven has received £36,000 from the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Over a three-year period. The aim is to help around 3,500 businesses across North Kesteven access social media tools and advice. The Council offers a whole range of business support in addition, including through its independent Business Support Advisor Phil Means. Phil can assist with start-up advice, business planning, grants and funding, development and skills, sales and marketing and can be reached on <a href="mailto:07920">07920</a>
<a href="mailto:472671">472671</a> or by email at <a href="mailto:philmeans@nkesteven.gov.uk">philmeans@nkesteven.gov.uk</a>

## **Solar Panels**

There are now six huige applications for changing the use of farmland in North Kesteven. With an open gateway in the new Local Plan, we are seeing more huge applications for Solar Panels. The developments are so large that they will not be decided by local councils, but by the Secretary of State who lives nowhere near. In each development, the panels will continuously cover miles of farmland that is currently growing food or woodland. The energy companies are big multi-nationals, charging us large sums for the basic energy we need and selling off the rest abroad. Unlike turbines, nuclear or fossil fuels, solar farms are not required to give any local benefit to the communities at all. Lincolnshire is already very well supplied with renewable energy from smaller solar panel farms we have previously welcomed, and turbines, both on and offshore. Are these huge, foreign-owned, industrial developments the kind of "investment" we are blindly asking for? We need to be more discerning. How about investment into local community energy initiatives? Or Investment in our local businesses and communities?

I am calling for a proper strategy that calculates how much energy is needed and land designated in scale and size to match what is needed locally, throughout the country, not just in sacrificial areas. There should be a sequential test that gives preference to local businesses giving a degree of local benefit. Solar developments should be of a size and scale proportionate to the industry or home they are serving. With sensitive, environmentally friendly farming, even Grade 3 land grows excellent wheat, woodlands, wildlife areas or parks. There is no "vacant" land that is not in production of some sort! Change of use will have a knock-on cost, whether it is

increasing food imports, loss of food security or a hike in food prices. There is no free lunch.

#### **Useful Information**

## **Healthy Eating**

#### Local shops who deliver

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 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
The Tempest, Coleby 01522 810258
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
Black Swan, Beckingham 01636 626474
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



# A huge thank you to our local volunteers

Amazing work done by willing volunteers delivering food, medicines and offering neighbourly support. **Business Advice is free** from NKDC Phil Means on 07920 472671 <a href="www.businessnk.co.uk">www.businessnk.co.uk</a> @BusinessNK <a href="www.businesslincolnshire.com">www.businesslincolnshire.com</a>

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

## 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

#### **Church Services**

#### www.graffoechurches.co.uk

rectorleadenham@gmail.com 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-androads/overnight-roadworks roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk Twitter #lincscc 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

Police: Sgt Ken Whyte, plus PCSO's 101 or www.police.uk 07973 846537/235/5827

Floodline 24/7 on 01522 782082

Adult Concern 01522 782151

#### **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
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
Facebook Hykeham town rural NPT T @hykeham NPT
Buses www.lincsbus.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.parish.lincolnshire.gov.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"

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

# **Supporting Local Heritage and Events**

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



## Where to get more information

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