DECEMBER NEWS

Lincolnshire County Council LCC
North Kesteven District Council NKDC

News from your local, Independent Councillor,
MARIANNE OVERTON MBE and

Thank You
A huge thank you to you all who took the trouble to vote - especially if it was for me! It is so important to use that right to vote, which people have fought so hard to gain. We had terrific support from our home area where I am best known, increasing my share of the vote over the whole constituency from 5 to 9pc. It is a big area with over 53,000 doors, so apologies if yours was missed. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thanks also to the many wonderful volunteers who kindly helped so much, getting almost 40,000 second leaflets hand delivered. We did not have the expensive national party machinery that I saw move in, paid in part by our taxes, but we did have the ground support of over forty volunteers who worked their socks off. Thank you. The results are on our website. www.lincolnshireindependents.org

Local and National
We have improved representation on Town, District and County Councils. We argued for local candidates and this time all were from Lincolnshire. We fought against the muddle-headed Trojan horse deal costing £2.2m in the first mayoral year of a new layer of government. Together, we held back the Tescos destruction of the Recreation Ground, saving it for Sleaford. Our group members spoke successfully against a landmark application, changing the approach to planning in villages, for starters. Together we can move mountains.

Local Plan Inquiry
Over four weeks I have been working to get improvements in the Local Plan to get the best for Sleaford, North Hykeham and our villages, each discussed in detail in turn.

Inspectors are dissecting the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan, until Dec13th That is the set of rules against which all planning applications must be compared to decide if they get passed or not. The Inspectors listen to the evidence and make their decisions. Public can attend, starting 10am on Tuesday at Double Tree Hilton, Brayford Pool, Lincoln. The Town extensions, village expansion, roads, jobs, employment and traveller sites are all up for discussion with the external Inspector. I am the only County Councillor at the table. Against speculative pressure, I have called for the cap to be applied to the medium and small villages, unless that community demonstrates that they want more. I have also called for a cap to the larger villages, but am finding that an uphill struggle.

I also called for the sites to be only allocated in proportion to the capacity of the facilities and services available in the village or town. The Developer said the shortfall was “no worse than they have in other parts of the country.”

It seems we can change the small things, but the big things are a much tougher call. I spoke against the developers who called for even more than the 37,000 new dwellings already proposed. The good news is that the five-year land supply is likely to be upheld, meaning we do not have to take more than is already in the plan.

I have used my seat at the table to good effect, speaking up for our villages and our District. My submission is available on the web www.lincolnshireindependents.org The schedule of the inspection is on https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/central-lincolnshire/local-plan-examination/
Money for Lincolnshire

November has been the time to tackle lead MP’s and ministers in Westminster to get more funding for adult care so that our elderly, disabled and people with mental health difficulties do not also have their services cut as much. (LCC is currently £57m short for next year.) The extra rural funding we negotiated last year was for two years so ceases next year. The NHS is seeking to avoid paying business rates to councils, which would pass the deficit across. The hospital Trust ULHT, has a declared shortfall of £47m. The Education budget is also to be cut by £600m nationally, so next year is not looking good. The demand for services is increasing as house-building brings more people who need more services.

While I was doing those things, many of you have been doing a fantastic job creating wonderful Christmas events, brightening the lives of so many people, including me, thank you.

Supporting Local Business: Christmas

Wellingore now has two active pubs under new ownership! Gavin and Cllr Catherine Mills have the Red Lion, a friendly, free house with wholesome pub food. 01522 810 071

Paul and Pauline Brumhead took on The Marquis of Granby in June 2016. Both pubs are attractively restored and provide different experiences. The Marquis has the restaurant 5 let rooms. Both pubs are receiving great reviews of the food and beverage, hospitality and ambience with the open coal fires proving to be a tremendous draw. Pauline said “we have been over whelmed by all the positive comments we have received from everyone that visits and we are getting a huge amount of repeat customers which is fantastic. We are really looking forward to our first Christmas here at the Marquis of Granby”. To book accommodation and for restaurant bookings call 01522 810442.

The Joiner’s Arms, Welbourn does good quality, traditional food at weekends in a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. 01400 279356

The George at Leadenham, run by Karin and Michael Willgoose does lots of events including folk singing and a Sunday Carvery. 01400 272251

Coleby has two pubs; The Bell Restaurant (813778) and the Tempest Arms, community-owned, with good pub meals and events. 01522 810258

The Akash, serving Indian cuisine in Navenby takeaway and now has a bigger restaurant for parties 811126

Harmston has the Thorold Arms with popular themed meal events. 01522 720358

Red Lion, Navenby with live music

Kings Head, Navenby with restaurant 01522 810367

Branston Waggon and Horses pub meals 01522 791356

Red Lion at Dunston with good food 01526 322 227

Macy’s, High St, Navenby 01522 811830 does private functions & outside catering. Open 9am-9pm except 4-6pm

Joanne Keenen at “Keen on cakes”: Pop Up Shop in Navenby

Troop’s Garage, Leadenham

Caroline and Rod Troop and son Daniel have upgraded to a spacious sales and fuel forecourt. It is smart, welcoming and open for business!

Christmas Switch-on Thanks to the Navenby business network for organising the very successful Christmas Tree, Red Arrow “Switch on” and late night shopping.

Navenby Library

The new Navenby Library in the Venue is now open, thanks to brilliant volunteers, more wanted for Saturdays.

Monday 9.30am - 12.30pm. Wednesday 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Post Office Consultation

The government is consulting on closure of post offices. It closes 21st December.


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Opportunities
Archaeological Finds
The (national) Portable Antiquities Scheme in Lincolnshire is looking for volunteers to help enter into the database hundreds of Lincolnshire finds made by the public. Our County is one of the most prolific contributors to the scheme so there's quite a lot to do.

The database, which now contains around 1.25 million items, is of considerable importance to archaeologists, both amateur and professional, as it can be easily searched for items of interest. Search results can be shown on a map and a click on a map icon will lead you to the specific item, many of which have a good photo and a clear description. The finds and their distribution are helping to re-write the history books to some extent, challenging accepted thought. https://finds.org.uk

Neighbourhood Plans
Coleby Neighbourhood Plan forges ahead, hard on the heels of Dunston’s Plan. Thanks to so many people for getting engaged and helping to shape our villages’ future.

Information sought please, following petty theft
Two sets of battery powered Christmas lights were taken from a driveway tree in The Nookin, Welbourn. 7th Dec. Theft of a table and chairs from a garden on Sleaford Road, Wellingore. Night of Dec 9th. Dial 101

Campaign: Rural Arts and Heritage
The Rural Touring Programme provides high quality events in our villages, subsidised nationally and with a little help from the County Council, less than £20,000. LCC proposed to cut that but I am pleased to say we won and the funding has now been agreed.

Local Events
U3A Jamboree at the Venue, Navenby. Thanks to Rosemary King and so many other people who organised a terrific day. I manned the Lincolnshire Life Quiz with mystery objects well remembered by some!

Wellingore Lawnmowers Christmas Event was a great success

West Kesteven Wildlife Watch enjoyed Christmas Crafts with beeswax and wool. Thanks to Suzie Sparkles for the radio interview on Gravity FM to encourage more children to come along and give it a try! Monthly events for children 7-13yrs who are interested in wildlife. Ring me or Jean Martin on 01636 626176 for a calendar of What’s On.
Thanks to all the organisers of the very successful Christmas Tree Celebration in St Peter’s, Navenby.

Grantham Accident and Emergency
Closed at night, due to shortage of medical staff in Lincolnshire, we are told. The secret plans are now revealed for “consultation”. Will this A and E continue to be downgraded like Newark and closed at night? Can our new MP help to get the funding and staff we need?

Information
Radon
In response to a request, I have had a look at Radon levels in our villages. Radon is a naturally occurring radio-active gas associated with limestone and can build up in dwellings if kept relatively sealed. Some time ago for a limited period, the Council offered free radon tests for residents but this ceased some time ago. Test kits are now available from UK Radon – part of Public Health England. [http://www.ukradon.org/](http://www.ukradon.org/) A domestic testing kit currently costs £49.80.

New housing in areas likely to have radon problems is required to incorporate various levels of radon protection work depending on the level of risk under Building Regulations requirements. The website has a radon risk map based on 1km grid-square data. NK’s Building Control team subscribe to more detailed data to ensure that the required level of precautions is incorporated. I spoke to Sharon Routledge who will respond if you have specific property enquiries. (01529 414155 NKDC)

Risk is measured on a scale from low 1 to 6 high. The higher levels 5,6 mean that in new properties a membrane is required under the floor and a sump. Once tested, a pump may also be required. It is not an expensive addition to new houses. Some people have had the measures incorporated to their older houses. Specific properties vary, but some general readings show Dunston to Potterhanworth as low, Branston and the Cliff Villages high on the high ground.

Agricultural Quality Land
I also had a look at the agricultural land quality map. The strip that includes the top of the Cliff Edge and the fenland at Potter and Branston Booths is all grade 2, very good agricultural quality.

The rest is down as grade 3 good to moderate. So if we were protecting our “best land” from development, as in the new Local Plan it could argued that much of the Cliff Villages and fenland would be excluded from further green field development.


Useful References
Access to Wellbeing Services and care
The Carers service 01522 782224
carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Support for Adult care is available 01522 782155
roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk
To receive info’ on twitter #lincscclroads

Help save lives and keep countryside clean
Report Potholes 01522 782070
[http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/potholes](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/potholes)
Or use “Fix my street” on line – works well.
Report Litter 01529 414155
customer_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk
Report illegal parking 01522 511142 or ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Adult Concern 01522 782151

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Useful References Continued

The Wellbeing service will help set up and people in a vulnerable position with more or less anything, from finance, transport, support groups etc. 01522 782140

Lincs 2 Advice are on 0300 303 8789
Non urgent Health 111, Police 101
Grants community_lincs@n-kesteven.gov.uk
Internet fraud 0300 123 2040

Transport and Travel
Call Connect 8.30am - 7pm Weekdays and to 5pm Saturdays 0345 234 33 44 or 01522 553143
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/callconnect35955.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

Village websites
https://nocton-church.blogspot.co.uk
https://nocton.blogspot.co.uk
www.facebook.com/Nocton-Social-Club
www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton
https://dunstondossier.org.uk
Branston www.tucann.co.uk/assets/sheepwash-august-full.pdf
www.parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Potterhanworth/index.asp
www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/
Navenby and Wellingore business
Welbourn, Leadenham and Coleby have sites on LCC.

Some December Events
13th Navenby Archaeology Group, Navenby Methodist Hall 7.15
14th Coleby Coffee Morning and Library in the hall 10.30am
14th Wellingore U3A Memorial Hall 10am
14th Waiting with Mary St Peter’s 3pm
15th Snr Citizens Carol Service at St Peter’s 2pm
18th St Andrews Boothby Graffoe Carol Service 2.30pm
18th Candlelit Carols All Saints, Wellingore 4pm
20th Carols on the Green Coleby 6.30pm
21st Carols by Candlelight Navenby Methodist Church 7pm
23rd Carols by Candlelight, All Saints, Coleby 6.30pm
26th Welbourn Walk 10am

January
7th Navenby Methodist Church Coffee Morning
11th Wellingore U3A Memorial Hall 10.30am
11th Coleby Coffee Morning and Library 10.30am
14th Books and Butties Wellingore Memorial Hall 10.30am
21st St Peter’s Coffee Morning Navenby 10.30-noon

And from me...
Thank you all for so much support at the recent by-election and for all you do for our village communities. Let me know if I can help further.

Wishing you a very happy Christmas and successful 2016.

Kind Regards,

Marianne Overton MBE

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