



**March News
from
Marianne Overton MBE**

Welcome to my monthly personal newsletter to let you know what I am doing on your behalf and to keep in touch with you.

Happy Easter!



Primrose in Tunman Wood, near Eagle Barnesdale

From Sarah Lingard about new Police Cadets

We are approaching the start of our Recruitment window for Volunteer Police Cadets for 2026 – 2027. The recruitment period runs between April 1st and May 13th. Why not apply? [Cadets | Lincolnshire Police](#)

Navenby GP Dispensary to close

The Integrated Care Board (ICB) at Sleaford has decided to close Navenby GP Dispensary on April 17th. When one partner left, the practice had to be closed for a few days and opened under the Welby Group of GP Practices. They do not plan to have a pharmacist on site. I have raised my concern with the GP practice and the ICB authorities and asked to speak at their next meeting. If everyone tries to park by the Navenby Pharmacy, we will struggle. Some may walk down to the pharmacy and back, if able. Some may turn to ordering medicines online and having them delivered, either to a pharmacy or to your home. That means trusting the suppliers and the delivery. The Government share a long list of [Online pharmacies](#).

Recycling food waste

Crop yields are dropping as soil is degrading worldwide. We need to return the organic material to the soil when we can. Hence the move to recycle the materials in your food waste to make electricity and compost. Please help by putting your food waste in the caddy, collected every week. We are expecting the black waste to be lighter. There are eight new vehicles and crews specialising in collecting food waste. It would be great if you could help keep them busy!

Solar on Roofs, not Farmland!

The oil wars over the Strait of Hormuz remind us that energy and food security are important. War makes the world less safe. Handing over good farmland to foreign - owned solar panels, made in China, makes us LESS secure in both energy and food, and breaks the bank in long term contracts paid by you and me with among the highest electricity charges in the world. This is NOT British energy. It is owned and operated to our cost by foreign companies, including Chinese, with external controls of their own. It is industrial development in the open countryside on an unprecedented scale.

Planning objections have been raised by residents, Parish Councils, the Cliff Villages Solar Action Group, Springwell Action Group, our District and County Councils, MP and Mayor. Thank you.

Thank you very much indeed to everyone who attended and contributed to the recent Public Inquiry on Fosse Green on March 10th with an Open Hearing on the 11th, at the football ground. The Inspectors allowed us reasonable participation, able to tackle the applicant’s case throughout. In the packed open session, the Inspectors and applicants listened to residents for 2hrs, with everyone having just five or ten minutes each. It was very powerful indeed with a stream of well-researched and well-argued presentations. [Recording/Transcript](#)



I contributed through all four days, including the Site Inspection, along with Nick Lyons, Chair of Thorpe on the Hill Parish Council, and residents in the Cliff Village Solar Action Group. For the second application, the indicative [detailed maps](#) show significant amount of land taken, from Navenby, 8.4 miles to Swinderby, Eagle Barnsdale and Thorpe on the Hill. This is the second of three solar sprawls, within 10km of Navenby. This one over 2,643 acres, the size of a London Borough, plus 10km of cable. It changes the nature of our lovely countryside to one of industrial solar spread over many miles. The panels are 3.5m, around 12 feet high, of glass and steel, making our walking routes unattractive. The substation is near Aubourn, with 1,300 shipping containers of Lithium batteries, either in one place, or in fenced compounds throughout the land. Safety is a big concern.

If solar is the right solution in this country, it should be required close to where it is needed; on commercial roofs, down railways, motorways, car parks. New build should be fully energy efficient and easily accessible grants for others. Solar panels are inefficient, around 15%, and filling the energy gap at night, especially in winter remains an issue if we are to rely on vast amounts of mined Lithium. The companies are global, so draining money out of the UK and very difficult to control, as we found with the water industry.

The Navenby Substation is pivotal and due to come to District Council planning committee for decision after April 27th. District Councillors will be making the decision. www.cvsag.org or on [facebook](#)

Attendance at Planning Meetings

Huge thanks for your tremendous support for our campaign for Solar on roofs, not farmland. Thanks to all who attended the planning meeting in Sleaford in December when the planning committee agreed with us and raised objections to the Fosse Green application. Thanks for your exemplary behaviour. I apologise if anyone was disturbed by the wording in my newsletter encouraging people to attend the planning meeting and stating; "Can you please attend? A show of force will help" Can you please write in? Every voice counts, even just a paragraph." I understand that it could have been interpreted as confrontational or suggestive of disruption, which of course, was never my intention. To be clear, my aim was and is simply to encourage strong public participation in the planning process. As I think you know by now, I value constructive, respectful engagement in local decision-making, and that is what I will be promoting today and every day.

New Road

Ceremonial spades went into the ground to launch the start of the 5mile dual carriageway linking the A46 at Pennells to the Lincoln Eastern Bypass, completing a ring-road around Lincoln. This is a [video of the route](#). I made some useful contacts and a Liaison officer is appointed.

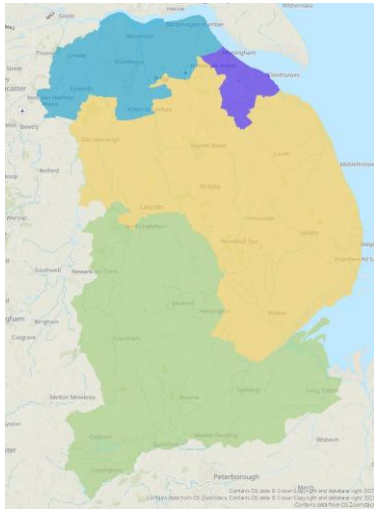


Visit from Highways

Our local highways officer came round our area with me to review the bigger improvements needed. The footpath between Leadenham and Welbourn is getting an immediate cut back and needs a longer-term solution. We agreed resurfacing of Clay Lane 2.5miles from Bassingham to Norton Disney later this year. It was a joy to drive along roads that have improved dramatically and more to go. Please keep reporting potholes or other highway faults on www.fixmystreet.com It works and enables me to chase.

Local Government Reorganisation

All our District and County Councils are due to dissolve and new councils be formed with election in May next year. We had been told that all the new authorities had to be 500K people and that is what our options were based on. But the latest five county areas announced by the minister have an average of around 300K people. If



smaller areas are allowed, it makes possible the proposal to expand Lincoln City to include the whole of the rural area down to the A17. Putting our rural areas as a “hinterland to serve the City” would be very damaging. It is important that we are seen as vital in our own right.

North and South Kesteven together put a proposal supported by all the Independents, keeping our council local, with focal points in Sleaford and Grantham.

For us, elections to the new Council will be next May 2027, though we do not yet know the area! We have made representations and now await the decision of one man, the Secretary of State, Steve Reed MP.

All this without a single vote being cast! We need a referendum on such a huge change.

NK Community Champion Awards

NKDC award ceremony was held for 2025 with winners [listed here](#) and you can nominate for 2026 [here](#).

Art at the Hub Sleaford



Supporting small businesses

Businesses and officers celebrated National Tourism week at the Carre Arms in Sleaford and shared promotional material. Our rural District gets 2.9m visitors a year, adding significantly to our local economy. Heritage and nature are top attractions. Nature tourism and walking are the most popular tourist activities, with 24m people annually. We launched a new visitor book for NKDC and a new aviation heritage trail. Our local Viking Way is celebrating 50 years this year and meets the new King Charles III Coastal path, at the Humber.



Supporting Art

I greatly enjoyed meeting the artists [at the Hub](#) in Sleaford last week at the start of the new Exhibitions. Well worth a look! They also have a series of workshops including ballroom dancing, a creative Saturday Club for 13-16year olds and a busy shop and café.



Local Events

A packed hall loved Beebi Dels' Dolly Parton Tribute Show at the weekend! Huge thanks to Beebi Del and especially to the organisers and bar at our super smart [Leadenham Village Hall 2000](#) Look out for the next events in Leadenham - they are brilliant! <https://lvh2000.org.uk>



Thanks

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who put together such amazing local village events in our beautiful countryside!

Want to keep in touch?

If you know anyone else who would find this newsletter useful, please suggest they drop me an [email](#) here. Please keep in touch with social media. [facebook](#) or [@overtonmarianne](#) Best wishes,

Marianne

Marianne Overton MBE

Working together for people and planet
Local services need local decisions

Are you following me on Facebook yet?
You might like it! Click [here](#).

April Events

- 4th Bassingham Car Boot 07792 920 868 8am-noon £5/car
Owners cars on show and shine
- 4th Welbourn Forge fired into action Welcome.10am-1pm
- 4th St Michael's Coffee Morning Bassingham 10.30-11.30
- 4th Lighting the Easter Fire Service Norton Disney 7pm
- 5th Easter egg service, Stapleford 3pm
- 5th Carlton le Moorland Easter Service 10.30am
- 8th Wellingore and District U3A 10 for 10.30am
- 8th Coleby Coffee Morning and library 10.30-12.30am
- 9th Norton Disney Tea and Chat 2-4pm
- 9th Welbourn Gardener's Club "Pests and diseases" 7pm
- 9th Mobile library Aub/Hadd/Norton/Bass 11.15
- 10th 70's Pub Night Leadenham Village Hall Book meal in a basket bookings@lvh2000.org.uk 01400 272413 7.30pm
- 11th/12th 11am-4pm Open Gardens at 8 Hall Wath,
Bassingham LN5 9EZ for Beaumont Hospice
- 11th Grand National Watch Party Harmston Hall 2-5pm
- 11th Norton Disney Family Bingo
- 12th Villages plant Brant Broughton 10.30-noon
- 12th Coleby Car Boot Sale
- 12th Irish Jam Joiners' Arms, Welbourn 3pm
- 14th and 28th Bassingham Lunch Club Noon
Book Lyn 01522 426498
- 15th Singing and Sound, Navenby good for the brain!
10.30-noon
- 15th Welbourn Music Appreciation Group with Phil Reeder
A tale of two cities, London and Vienna. St Chad's,7pm
- 16th Brant Broughton Village Hall Coffee Morning 10am-12
- 18th Carlton le Moorland Coffee Morning 10am-noon
- 18th Sing your school assembly favourites with Paul Shiel
Charity fund-raiser £10 adults, £5 children incl.
Ploughman's and drink 07885 701876 6.30pm
- 18th Welbourn Coffee Shop, Welbourn Village Hall 10-noon
- 18th Cash Bingo at Welbourn Village Hall 7 for 7.30pm
- 19th Bassingham Bowls Open Afternoon 2-4pm
- 19th Cricket Matches at Bassingham and Brant Broughton
- 22nd Tea@3 Wellingore Memorial Hall 3-4pm
- 23rd Mobile Library Carl/Bass/Witham
- 23rd Royal Oak Quiz Night
- 24th Dementia carers café The Venue, Navenby 11am-1pm
- 25/26 Centenary Weekend Navenby Methodist Church 2-5
- 28th Shep's Charity Quiz & Bar Harmston 7.30pm-10.30pm

28th Storm over Yorkshire 1644, James Handley
Leadenham Military History Group, £5 7.30pm
28th Leadenham Military History Club, Leadenham Village
Hall, The Battle of Marston Moor 1644 7 for 7.30pm start
30th Withamside Community Food Larder 07961 636886

MAY

2nd Car boot, Bassingham 8am to Noon
2nd Welbourn Forge in action 10am-1pm
2nd Carlton le Moorland Art Group Village Hall A Pastel
Workshop with Vic Bearcroft £15/£18 guests 10-3pm
3rd Coleby Car Boot Sale
9th May Newark Showground Nottingham Show
9th Coffee Morning in St Michael's Church, Bassingham for
Beaumont House Hospice 10.30-1pm
beaumonthouse.co.uk/support-us/catering
16th From here to there Concert St Mary's Church, Carlton
le Moorland, 7pm
21st Brant Broughton Coffee Morning, Vill. Hall 10-noon
22nd Wine Tasting Evening Welbourn Vill. Ha £15 Text
07944 103979 for tickets 7pm
26th Leadenham Military History Club, Leadenham Village
Hall, Show and tell 7 for 7.30pm start

29th/30th Act Two Plays and supper in Bassingham School
Hall £20 Tickets from www.act-two.info/shows
30th Welbourn Coffee Shop, Welbourn Village Hall 10-noon

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.bombgatewaytrust.co.uk/>

Take the Bus Campaign

Buses are £3 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 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research
Foundation. Ring 01522 810373 or pop through his door.

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

Brant Broughton BB.ReliefCharity@gmail.com
Carlton le Moorland Young People's Trust 07943 760 155
Navenby Heritage Trail 2.5km [Navenby Heritage Trail](#)

Useful Contacts

East Midlands Dairy 01636 614760

Nick Streeter's fish etc. 01400 272547
Greens, Bassingham 01522 788200
Welbourn Post Office and Stores 01400 272242

Pub and takeaway meals

The Joiner's Arms, Welbourn 01400 279356 (Food Truck
every Thursday, Bingo Tues, Pool 28/29thMarch)
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

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://lincolnmetho.org.uk/circuit-services-weekly-live-stream/> David.lawton@methodist.org.uk

Venue Finder

420 Lincolnshire Village halls are registered here.
www.lincscmcommunitybuildings.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
AI Adoption Accelerator - overcome barriers and implement practical AI solutions.
Retail Accelerator - flexible, high-impact support for independent retailers.
Low Carbon Lincolnshire - cut energy costs and boost efficiency.
Lincolnshire Farm Support Programme - build resilience and explore future opportunities.
Your Business Boost - fresh ideas, practical tools, and a clear action plan.
Visit the Business Academy for access to valuable insights and resources tailored to business needs, under four themes: starting a business, running and growing a business, selling overseas and digital skills
Personal business advice is free.

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:101 or www.police.uk NKDC Annual [Report](#)
Or hykehamtown.npt@lincs.police.uk Hykeham Jordan 07799082 456, Mick Rimmer 07827902489 and for the Cliff Villages Matt Roberts 07796557600
Floodline 24/7 on 01522 78208210am-non
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://lincsbu.info/callconnect/>
Dial a ride 01522 544983 Disabled door to door
Carsharing www.lincshare.co.uk
Trains www.thetrainline.com
Facebook Hykeham town rural NPT T @hykeham NPT
Buses www.lincsbu.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 online 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
dunston dossier.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 0AP
£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 by local volunteers – enjoy!



Thanks to wonderful Local people supporting our events

The Joy of Spring!



- Early nectar at the local garden centre
- Celandines and frog spawn at Doddington Hall
- Proposals are developing for a 50,000-acre landscape improvement project in the Witham Valley, designated the Witham Valley Country Park. Thanks to landowners and all our local Councils for their support.
- Norton Disney Village

