



August News from Marianne Overton MBE

This is my monthly 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 you. Text or call 07920 235 364

Lost Village Festival Aug 21-24th

The Lost Village Festival, an annual 4 day event at Norton Disney is in August. Thank you to all for much work last year helping to keep the noise levels reasonable and not a nuisance. The 1995 Pop Code is in their licence issued by the District Council, but there is agreement to use the new guidance on noise levels.

Some of the sound test locations need updating. The recorder is placed 1m at ground level from the façade of a person's house, in both Thurlby and Witham St Hughs. The deep base travels a long way, becoming the dominant focus in people's heads, and is often heard more on higher floors, where there is less physical interruption from other buildings. This is taken into account.

I was interested to meet Stuart Clough of NoiseNet, who analyse and automate noise recordings and have shared this with the Council. The festival team has a sophisticated system in place to help keep below agreed levels.

Revamp for Whisby and One NK

£2.65m funding is going to improve the energy efficiency of our leisure facilities, One NK in North Hykeham and the Whisby Natural World Centre. Funding is mainly from a grant from the government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, run by the Department of Net Zero and just under £319,000 (12%) is from Council reserves. The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme is delivered by Salix and run by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Three elderly heating boilers and two CHP units are to be replaced by air source heat pumps, better insulation and more to reduce the energy used and save £50,000/yr in heating bills.

Coupled with the recent solar installation, which directly powers the centres, the work will shrink our carbon footprint - OneNK alone currently accounts for 26% of the council's emissions.

Solar on Roofs, not Farmland



Thank you to everyone who completed the model letters. We managed to gather some 500 personal letters from residents and I handed them to the Minister for Energy and Net Zero, Kerry McCarthy, on July 3rd. It helped that I share a committee with the Minister and shared the stage on the Net Zero panel at the huge Local Government Association conference. I produced the big bundle of letters.

"What's it about?" asked the minister.

"Solar on roofs, not farmland," said I.

"Ah, I agree with that", she said.

If that is the opinion of the Labour Minister, why is it still happening? I am not sure they understand the scale of development on good farmland. I submitted an extra paper to the Public Inquiry to consider in the cumulative impacts from more applications over a wider area.



Can we now make intentions match what happens on the ground here in Lincolnshire? The first of a batch of applications covering an area much greater than the City of Lincoln was heard by the Inspector in Lincoln in July.

As Chairman of the Cliff Villages Solar Action Group, I was able to attend and spoke many times at the [Public Inquiry](#) on the [Springwell Application](#), which originally covered 2,400 acres and now includes over 1,300 shipping containers of fan-cooled Lithium batteries over 30 acres. Also a compound with structures up to 6m, concrete converters, CCTV, high fences and tanks to collect polluted water after an explosion or fire. Next deadline is Aug 12th.

Thank you very much for turning out for the Planning Inspector's tour, covered by ITV. I hope he got the message that we matter, loud and clear.



Huge Battery Storage

District Councillors on planning have the vote on the batteries. The majority are Conservative. I do not know which way they will vote. **Can you please put in a quick comment to show that it is important? By 16 Aug '25**

E-mail planning@n-kesteven.gov.uk Or online "[Planning on line North Kesteven](#)" Type in 25/0491/FUL for Navenby and 25/0533/FUL for Coleby, both huge battery storage sites in open countryside and close to our villages.

There are currently 324 shipping containers full of Lithium batteries proposed c.650m from Navenby dwellings, but more could be sought. 1,346 shipping containers of Lithium battery are proposed at [Coleby](#), 700m from the nearest dwellings. The Coleby application detail is [here](#), page 4. Batteries only store for a few hours and are not needed, as UK is already more than 3 times oversupplied.

All this infrastructure would not be needed at all, if the energy was made close to where it is wanted, down south. This is not about green energy or we would be using the vast areas of commercial roofs. This is about making global companies rich, at our expense.

Reasonable planning grounds for objection include: Industrialisation of landscape character, damaging visual impact, glint and glare, archaeology and cultural heritage, noise and vibration, Cumulative impacts, Air quality, including battery storage, climate change, land, soil and groundwater pollution from battery coolants, biodiversity, impact on people, health and wellbeing, No grid connection, traffic on inadequate roads, transport and public rights of way, water, MOD, decommissioning, disaster response, Safety close to dwellings.

The battery storage is separate to the solar and could connect to the grid from any industrial site, not in our open countryside on good farmland. Please comment twice, even very briefly. Both are significant industrial developments creating an unacceptably damaging impact.

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Thanks to our brilliant Cliff Villages Solar Action Group, which I chair. We spent weeks putting the attached response together, with professional help, so please feel free to use any point(s).

If you would like to donate for professional support, please click the following link <https://gofund.me/aaae0c8f>

The giant **Springwell Solar** application went to our District and County Planning Authorities with significant objections. I spoke as the Community Champion and the whole committee spoke against the application. To listen to the debate click [here](#). Click the video and forward to 30mins to hear the officer presentation and 51 mins to hear my speech, followed by other councillors. The **High Marnham** application came to County planning in July. Listen [here](#). Introduction at 55mins, debate at 1hr 20 and I speak at 1hr 37. **Fosse Green** is now submitted too.

The Action Group website is [here](#). Huge thanks for your support.

Council Planning to change?

Planning is a vital power in local democracy, and we pass over 90%, often improving applications in the process. However, the Government suggests that planning gets "in the way" of developers, who apparently want a "free for all" without planning. The Government proposes to change planning committees so that fewer elected members are involved and only allowed to consider certain applications, requiring officers to make decisions according to the Government "guidance". There is also an accreditation proposed, so that councillors who do not conform could be banned from planning committees.

Clean Water



After a huge amount of work behind the scenes, we welcome the best we can do to fix the nation's polluted water problems: halve sewage spills by 2030 and halve phosphorous from treated water by 2028 with £104bn. It's a start.

Sewage contaminates choke our rivers, suffocate wildlife and destroy ecosystems. In 2024, sewage spilled into waterways for a record 3,614,428 hours.

Like many other countries we do not even begin to tackle the forever pollutants, the PFAS chemicals that concentrate as we circulate waste. And we continue to build more houses, with more roads and more pollutants in a headlong push for endless "Growth"? Can we not tread more lightly on this earth and try to live within our means?

Sir John Cunliffe led the Independent Commission on how to clean up the water industry today, worked on by people we know locally.

"Thanks to the Secretariat," he said, "the credit is theirs, the blame is mine"! (What a nice person!)

88 recommendations in 465 pages, a new regulator to replace Ofwat and others, £104bn capital to reduce spillages, and reduce phosphorus from treated water. Clearly a brilliant piece of work done, and much to do.

Separately, [Steve Reed MP](#) says water treatment is too expensive to nationalise, so regulation and legislation to clarify and tighten. Reducing sewage spills will expose other pollution sources and much more work is needed.

In a response also pertaining to a number of other public interest industries, paraphrasing Sir John Cunliffe;

"High risk, high investment return attracts investors with business models that you may not want. Reliable, low investment return will benefit the industry."

"Some companies have acted in a private interest, not a public one .. that cannot be allowed in future."

That is the same concern we have about thousands of shipping containers of Lithium batteries owned by investment companies and placed close to our villages.

Congratulations!

Fantastic to have English Lionesses win the Euros again!



Roadworks on the A607

- 28.7.25 closed for 1 week at Normanton to prevent flooding into homes
- 4.8.25 closed weekdays for two weeks at Leadenham for junction repairs 8am-5pm
- 18.8.25 closed week nights for five weeks at Carlton Scroop, main road repairs
- 17.9.25 closed week nights for four weeks Caythorpe, main road repairs



On the 12 week weekday closure, we have some success. I co-chaired a big public meeting at Carlton Scroop and followed up with mail and phone to make the case for night work to protect access to Mid UK Recycling, many other businesses, schools, residences and the GP practice. On the strength of the evidence, night work was agreed for the A607 at Caythorpe and Carlton Scroop.

The shorter two week Leadenham works starting August 4th have stayed weekday daytime as it is in the heart of a residential area, but now phased, so not all roads will be closed at once. Discussions with the farming community aim to ensure access for the harvest.

At Normanton, the A607 road is closed daytime this week Monday to Friday 1st August for drainage works to prevent properties in Normanton from flooding. The proper signs were not up and no press release went from the Council.

I spoke to the manager Ian Ward, who ordered the correct signs, but not all arrived, and the suppliers, contracted by Balfour Beatty have not responded to chasing. I have asked for penalties to be implemented.

I also asked for assurance from the Director Karen Cassar, on the problem of co-ordination and ensuring all correct actions are taken, including good signage. I also asked to ensure the bus service is now properly reinstated on the A607 during the night work at Caythorpe and Carlton Scroop. Also that arrangements are made for the bus turning at Leadenham when that road is closed.

Navenby Library Site East Road

The Council is still selling off unwanted property at a rate of around £5m/year. The past three years raised £19m, from 35 farms and 20 buildings in adult and children's care. There is some concern as to the future use of assets and we have asked for codicils to be included to avoid an increase in solar on farmland or hotels for asylum seekers.

Are there any corners of Council land or buildings in your area? For example, the Navenby Library Site East Road? What, if anything, do you want to see done with them? Communities can take on Council sites and community benefit could be reflected in the price.

Funding to bring nature closer to home

Do you have a vision for making your community greener, more sustainable, or more connected to nature? The National Lottery Awards for All programme has launched a new 'Environment' grants scheme. The new programme has been created for projects that:

- help people connect with and care for nature in their area, and/or
- make a positive difference to the environment



The funding can be used for creating community gardens, improving parks or playgrounds to support nature and wildlife, outdoor learning activities, repair and re-use sessions, installing solar panels or other energy-saving features in well-used community buildings, food growing, tree planting and activities to help people save energy and reduce waste.

Grants are between £300 and £20,000 for projects lasting up to two years. The application deadline is 17 December [National Lottery Awards for All England – Environment](#).

For more information on funding for environmental projects please visit [the District Council's website](#), and to discuss a potential project, contact [here](#).

Kings Award for Enterprise

Employ 2 staff or more and can demonstrate strong environmental, social and good governance? Then please apply for this national award before September 9th. Businesses, non-profit and public organisations are eligible. Boost staff morale and get invited to a Royal reception. www.gov.uk/kings-awards-for-enterprise. Advice is here lieutenancy@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Learning from other Countries



Speaking in Oslo on water resilience on behalf of the Council for European Municipalities and Regions, I responded to the EU Minister's new paper on water quality. We also visited Oslo's vast underground sewage works, cleaning the water from some 800,000 people, including cruise ships. Ahead of tightening EU regulations, they have found new [ways](#) to remove micropollutants and 90% of the Nitrogen. They introduced their first robotic litter collecting boat in 2020.

Want to keep in touch?

If you know anyone else who would find this newsletter useful, please suggest they drop me an [email](#) here. I write a weekly bulletin which you can find [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

August Events

Aug Sunday Teas at St Mary's Carlton le Moorland 2-4pm
And Sunday Teas at St Johns, Temple Bruer 2-4.30pm
2nd **Bassingham Village Show**, Vintage Cars and Boot Sale, falconry, Morris Dancers, Katy Baker School of dance and dog team and more from noon
2nd **Bassingham Bash** 5 mile race Enter online here: <http://totalracetiming.co.uk/race/615> 2.30pm
Bassingham St Michael's Coffee Morning 10.30-11.30am
3rd **Day of Lincolnshire Folk at Leadenham** Free entertainment all day 11am til dusk
3rd Coleby Car Boot - with food!
5th and 19th Bassingham Lunch Club Book 01522 789935
6th Crafternoon, Coleby £3 2-4pm
6th Singing and sound, Venue, Navenby Join in! 10.30-12
9th **Annie's 70th Birthday Bash**, Annie and Martyn Justice wellingorememorialhall.com for Charity £10
11th Heath U3A Village Hall, Bracebridge Heath, 2pm
13th Wellingore and District U3A, Nigel Lowey on Ashing Lane Reserve, Tea and coffee from 10am, 10.30 start
13th Coleby Coffee Morning 10.30-12.30
14th Mobile library 11.15am Carlton/Bass/Witham 2.30pm
14th and 28th Royal Oak Quiz Night
15th Flag-raising commemoration 80th anniversary of Victory over Japan, Navenby Venue 8.55am
16th Carlton le Moorland Coffee Morning Vill. Hall 10-noon
20th Singing and sound, Venue, Navenby Join in! 10.30-12
24th Aubourn Hall Open Gardens for Diabetes UK
28th Withamside Waste not want not, St Michael's Church, Bassingham Bring 9.30-11.30am, collect 1-3pm
28th Mobile Library Hadd/Aub/NortonDisney/Bass
29th Cheese and Wine at The Venue, Navenby, WI Book 07788556707 Incl. first glass of wine £10 7-10pm
30th Coffee Morning, Navenby Methodist Church 10.15am
30th **Outside Cinema**, Navenby Venue £8.50/£5.40 Shrek 3.30pm, Top Gun 8pm ticketsource.co.uk/the-venue
31st Stapleford Parish Celebration

September Events

3rd Crafternoon, Coleby £3 2-4pm
3rd Singing and sound, Venue, Navenby Join in! 10.30-12
6th Harmston Annual Show karenshepherd@gmail.com
Entries 9.30-11am Show opens 2pm, Prizes and auction 3pm
6th Bassingham Care Centre Big Fun Day 12.30-4.30pm
6th Fellacapella Singers and nibbles at St Germain, Thurlby donations welcomed 7.30pm
7th Coleby Car Boot
10th Coleby Coffee Morning 10.30-12.30
12th Quiz Night at Swinderby Village Hall £6 for teams of up to 6, Book 07771702136 7.30pm start
13th Welbourn Coffee Shop 10-noon
13th Wellingore Books and Butties 10-12
14th Aubourn hall Open Gardens for St Barnabus
17th Singing and sound, Venue, Navenby Join in! 10.30-12

20th Bassingham Ball Hammond Hall £65 7pm
enquiries@bassinghamball.co.uk
21st Harvest Festival & tea at St Johns, Temple Bruer 5pm
23rd Harmston Scarecrow Festival 07817 230028 12-5
23rd Harmston Charity Quiz
27th **Wellingore 1000 years Celebration**. Book an entry by Sept 20th, Bake a cake and bring to Wellingore Memorial Hall 11-12.15am, Prize giving 3pm All Saints, Eating cake must be in there too!
28th Wellingore Harvest Festival and food 4pm

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.bombergatewaytrust.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 Cartidges 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
Carlton le Moorland Young People's Trust 07943 760 155

Navenby Heritage Trail 2.5km [Navenby Heritage Trail](#)

Useful Contacts

Local shops who may deliver

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
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

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

Venue Finder

420 Lincolnshire Village halls are registered here.
www.lincscmunitybuildings.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

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 782082
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
Car-sharing www.lincshare.co.uk

Trains www.thetrainline.com

Facebook Hykeham town rural NPT T @hykeham NPT

Buses www.lincsbuses.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.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

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”

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!



Events and Visits

With the Parish Council to meet Peter Sowerby to hear about plans at Swinderby



Thanks to wonderful Local people supporting our events



National Garden Scheme Welbourn Mrs McBeath and her amazing apricots!



Above: Welbourn Forge is open first Saturday monthly

Below: New houses at Swinderby



