

SEPTEMBER 2014

News from your local, Independent Councillor,

MARIANNE OVERTON MBE

Planning

The new Local Plan: set of planning rules

The first draft Local Plan for Central Lincolnshire is now public. Formal consultation for six weeks starts on October 1st. Only responses received in that period will be accepted. They will, however, all be properly treated this time, with individual responses on each point raised.

Since the previous "Core Strategy" failed last year, only North Kesteven has kept an all-Conservative representation on the Joint Planning Unit, who oversee the process. It is still not politically balanced, but I now have a seat at the table, as a reserve, via LCC.

Both nationally and locally, I have fought hard against what I see as politically-driven plans for massive housing development without enough jobs, infrastructure nor services. I believe we want some steady growth, but kept in balance with what we can afford and without damaging the very essence of our rural county.

The new staff responsible is Richard Kay from Peterborough City Council, supported by the four senior District Planning officers.

There are some big changes on which your response is really important.

- The new number of houses wanted is likely to be lower, but there are three ranges offered.
- There is a hierarchy of villages 1-5 where development is expected to go.
- For Branston within 7 miles of Lincoln, which is proposed for the most development, the only limitation would be "sustainability", enough schools, health, housing etc. under the National Planning Policy Framework legislation. We have not found that very effective to date.
- Rather than swamping the current villages, a new village with facilities would be better.



Fen View from Branston Booths, where turbines are proposed

- Village curtilages are removed by the plan.
- Instead, for most villages, a 10% extra build maximum over the twenty years of the plan since 2011 is proposed. If the community can be persuaded they want more, then it will be allowed in policy, but the decision still rests with the District Council.

The government requires us to have five years planned build, and Inspectors will use that as a reason for giving permission in places where we at NKDC have refused. Thus, whilst developers don't build, they keep seeking and getting permissions. Large national companies are moving in. If development is left to depend on sales drawing in new people from far and wide, then there is little or no control by your democratically-elected council. This is an uncomfortable government policy.

We do need to be very firm in our responses to the local plan as changes are needed. I am very keen to meet with residents anywhere in my area to hear and support your views. I will attend every invitation I can, just get in touch.

Wanted; Champion Volunteers for our Voluntary Car Scheme

Voluntary car schemes are small but important services for local people. It is about being neighbourly, but with others to share the work. Call Connect is an excellent service but getting harder to book. Most of all, it is really helpful to have a local person get you to the hospital or other medical services. For example, I was so grateful that I was able to take a lady to say goodbye to her husband one last time. The Navenby Scheme, run by Margaret Lyons is running well. However, the one for the other Cliff Villages is in desperate need of a volunteer, please. It could be a short-term task helping to get it back on its feet, to hand on to another scheme, or to run it ourselves. It has run well in the past, and with your help, will do again.

Supporting local communities

Harmston Village Hall

Congratulations to the Village Hall Committee and its many supporters for the brilliant opening of the new facilities and the big Harmfest, including eight bands and real ales on tap.

They have announced their next improvement already, the bar area. Rosemary King has a few of her excellent short story books to sell at £6. They make nice presents too. 01522 721187

Broadband

Thanks to Angela Crowe with support from residents, the Parish Council, my fellow District Councillor, Laura Conway and me, we are back on the programme to get broadband in Coleby, June 2015. Hurrah! Thank you all.

Councillor grants

Got a community group that would benefit from a small grant from me? Please let me know if I can help and copy to my PA, on gemma.hawkes@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Business Networks

Navenby and Branston Business networks continue successfully and we have joint marketing leaflet and events on the go. Why not come along to the big joint event on Thursday 25th September at the Branston Waggon and Horses 6pm to raise your business profile and hear top tips from five business people. www.navenby.biz; www.octagontech.com/branston-business-network; www.businesslincolnshire.com

West Kesteven Wildlife Watch And RSPB Explorers

The National Trust launched a list of 50 things every child should get to do, and our group has done almost all of them! If you are interested in discovering wildlife, then this is the club for you! Next events are boating and a mushroom hunt before the Christmas party in Welbourn. New webpage is at www.biosearch.org.uk/wkww

Help save lives and keep countryside clean

<http://www.FixMyStreet.com>

Report Potholes 01522 782070

Or use "Fix my street" on line – works well.

Report Litter 01529 414155

Adult Concern 01522 782151

Non urgent Health 111, Police 101

Grants community_lincs@n-kesteven.gov.uk

Supporting communities: Information

A warm welcome to Nick and Julie Mitchell at Harmston's Thorold Arms; A family with a chef, and three children who are making Harmston their home and doing a great job with the pub.

Dolly's Paddock: IDEAS in Dunston

Congratulations to the IDEAS Team at Dunston, shortlisted for an NKDC Community Award. Good luck all. Play equipment is in and the fencing for the fitness and dog exercise trail, started. Thanks to all for your valuable support.

Live Music – Licensing Exemptions

Are organising an event involving live music? There are some new changes might help; you don't need a licence for live music 8am - 11pm for up to 200 people and live *unamplified* music, doesn't need a licence between 8am and 11pm.

Street Parties

It is now easier to get parts of side roads closed for community events, like the Wellingore Mikefest next weekend and the incredibly popular Harmfest last weekend. To get permission, there is a straight-forward form from the County Council to be submitted back at least six weeks in advance.

Are you involved with a charity?

The Charities Commission Website has simplified the process to register as a charity and gives a lot of useful information for Trustees too. www.charitycommission.gov.uk

Bomber Memorial

The Bomber Memorial at Canwick was given full permission by NKDC, LCC is improving the road and the first sod dug. Another £4m to find. www.lincsbombercommandmemorial.com

Nationally

Unison's national call for more than the 1% pay increase has involved me in further discussions on behalf of the employers, our councils.

More

I hope you find this newsletter of interest. You get more immediate snippets by following me on twitter at [#overtonMarianne](https://twitter.com/overtonMarianne) or facebook.

With Very Best Wishes,

Marianne

Councillor Marianne Overton MBE

September Events

- 1st St Andrews Potter' coffee morning 10-11.15am
 4th Nocton Produce Show £12/£8 7.15pm
 5th Harmston Happy Hour, Harmston Memorial Hall 5pm
 6th Harmston Annual Produce Show, Harmston 2.15pm
 6th Wellingore Mikefest at the Marquis of Granby
 6th St Swithuns Roving Supper Lead'm £25 07889 540605
 9th Two talks organised by the Wellingore and Navenby Royal British Legion "Lincoln's role in the development of early WW1 tanks" and "The war over the trenches" £2.50 incl. refreshments The Venue at 19.25
 10th Coffee morning & library, Coleby 10.30am
 10th Wellingore U3A & District The 50s revisited Wellingore Memorial Hall 10am
 13th Heritage w/e children's activity, Nocton Church, First WW1 commemoration activities 10am-noon
 13th/14th Heritage weekend where heritage sites are free.
 13th Nocton Curry Night at Nocton Club 10am-noon
 16th Navenby Archaeology Group, Navenby 7.30pm
 16th Funding information fair Donington Community Centre, 6-9pm jenny.stone@communitylincs.com 01529 301951
 17th St Peter's Church Coffee morning, Navenby 10.30am
 17th Training the Venue
 18th Voluntary Sector Day St Denys Church Hall, Sleaford market square, 10am-1pm £3 Book on 01529 308450
 20th Coffee morning Methodist Church, Navenby
 20th Leadenham Village Show Public 2pm, auction 4pm
 20th Potterhanworth Autumn Festival, Memorial Hall and Barff Road. Events and scarecrows 2pm onwards
 21st Harvest service and supper at Nocton £10 from PO or Ann on 01526 322739
 23rd Archaeology day on Lincoln Castle at Epic Centre £10 <http://www.visitlincolnshire.com/Countdown-to-Castle-Revealed.aspx>
 26th McMillan Coffee Morning Lead'm Vill Ha 10.45-12.15
 27th Car Boot Sale Leadenham Field from 8am
 27th Harvest Service and supper, Harmston 6.30
 27th Coleby Ball, Coleby Village Hall book 01522810601
 27th IDEAS 40s Band, Dunston 7.30pm
 27th/28th Dunston Scarecrow Festival
 28th Harvest Festival, Navenby Methodist Church, 10am
 28th Harvest Festival and supper, Wellingore 6pm
 28th "Rallying Round" Funny and moving performance Leadenham Ha., £9/8 Book 01400 272835 7.30pm
 30th Navenby Business Network, Lion & Royal, 6pm



Built to last? Knapp of Howar, in the Orkneys, the oldest house in Northern Europe, at 5,800 years old.



Celebrations to mark completion of the improved village hall.

County and District Councillors, Marianne Overton and Laura Conway as sponsors at the event, thanking Keith Elms, his team and the wonderful number of people who have contributed in so many ways. Thank you.



Chairman of Harmston Hall. Keith Elms thanks Gill Macadam for her work project managing the fantastic improvements. Full new kitchen, new patio opening out from the hall, new loos and storage area. Gill thanked the contractors and brilliant volunteers.



The uninvited but enthralled extra guests at Harmfest!



Wildlife Watch August Camp enjoyed brilliant weather



Below: Two days dry recyclables at Sleaford

I am chairing an investigation to see if anything can be done to reduce the £150K it costs us to have “contaminants” in our dry recyclables. Viewing the rubbish, we see it is more to do with the contract limiting what can be recycled. Large pieces of plastic or material are not accepted. It was good to see how clean and dry it was, thank you all for that.



Two members of the Wildlife Watch and RSPB Explorers created a display, ready to accompany talks in schools. Let me know if you would like a talk about our local wildlife and to encourage children to get started.



Waiting for water. Nocton Beck earlier in the season.