

Public Document Pack



NOTE – At the commencement of the meeting there will be a public forum for up to 15 minutes which will offer members of the public the opportunity to make statements or ask questions.

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18 October 2016

South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum Meeting

A meeting of the South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum will be held on **Wednesday, 26 October 2016 at 2.00 pm in Council Chamber, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP** for the transaction of business set out on the attached Agenda.

Yours sincerely

Tony McArdle
Chief Executive

Membership of the South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum

Councillor Ray Wootten, (Lincolnshire County Council) (Chairman)
John Law, (Other Interests) (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor David Brailsford, (Lincolnshire County Council)
Councillor William Cross, Rutland County Council
Bryan Bowles, (Landowners)
Rosemary Harris, (Landowners)
Audrey Morley, (Landowners)
Andrew Childs, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
Alec Hill, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
Sam Tate, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
John Williams, (Users of Local Rights of Way)
Ian Cox, (Other Interests)
Paul Marshall, (Other Interests)
Barbara Smitheringale, (Other Interests)
1 Vacancy (Users of Local Rights of Way)
2 Vacancies (Land Owners)
1 Vacancy (Other Interests)

**SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL ACCESS FORUM AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2016**

Item	Title	Report Reference
1	Apologies for Absence/Replacement Members	
2	Minutes of the previous meeting of the Local Access Forum held on 6 July 2016	2 (Pages 5 - 12)
3	Actions Arising from the meeting held on 6 July 2016	
4	Countryside for All - Feedback Received <i>(To receive an update from John Law (Vice-Chairman) on the responses received to the guidance issued on Countryside for All)</i>	~ (Verbal Report)
5	Countryside For All <i>(To receive an update from John Law (Vice-Chairman of the Forum) in relation to Countryside For All. Also attached is an article which has appeared in the most recent publication of County News)</i>	5 (Pages 13 - 28)
6	Accessibility Ambassadors Report <i>(To receive a report by John Law (Vice-Chairman) concerning Accessibility Ambassadors)</i>	6 (Pages 29 - 38)
7	Accessibility Ambassadors Application Pack <i>(To receive a report by John Law (Vice-Chairman), which presented the Accessibility Ambassadors Application Pack)</i>	7 (Pages 39 - 42)
8	Health Related Walks from April 2017 <i>(To receive a report by John Law (Vice-Chairman), which provided an update on the Health Related Walks from April 2017)</i>	8 (Pages 43 - 44)
9	East Midlands Regional Local Access Forum Chairs Meeting <i>(To receive a verbal update from John Law (Vice-Chairman), which provides an update on the recent meeting of the East Midlands Regional Local Access Forum Chairs Meeting)</i>	~ (Verbal Report)
10	Making Our Needs Known and Permissive Access Consultation Returns <i>(To receive an update from John Laws (Vice-Chairman) on the Making Our Needs Known and Permissive Access Consultation Returns)</i>	10 (Pages 45 - 46)
11	English Coast Path – Sutton Bridge to Skegness <i>(To receive a report by Chris Miller (Team Leader for Countryside Services), which provides an update on the English Coast Path – Sutton Bridge to Skegness)</i>	11 (Pages 47 - 50)

12	Definitive Map Modification Orders	
12a	Rutland County Council <i>(To receive a report from Stuart Crook (Public Rights of Way Officer, Rutland County Council))</i>	12a (Pages 51 - 52)
12b	Lincolnshire County Council <i>(To receive a report by Chris Miller (Team Leader for Countryside Services))</i>	12b (Pages 53 - 60)
13	Public Path Orders and Progress Report	
13a	Rutland County Council <i>(To receive a report by Stuart Crook (Public Rights of Way Officer, Rutland County Council))</i>	13a (Pages 61 - 62)
13b	Lincolnshire County Council <i>(To receive a report by Chris Miller (Team Leader for Countryside Services))</i>	13b (Pages 63 - 64)
14	Date and Time of Future Meetings <i>(To consider potential dates for future meetings)</i>	~

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SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL ACCESS FORUM 6 JULY 2016

PRESENT:

Representing Independent Members: John Law, Rosemary Harris, Andrew Childs, Alec Hill, Sam Tate, John Williams, Ian Cox, Paul Marshall and Barbara Smitheringale.

Officers: Stuart Crook (Public Rights of Way Officer), Cheryl Hall (Democratic Services Officer) and Chris Miller (Environmental Services Team Leader (Countryside Services)).

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the current Chairman, the meeting was opened by Vice-Chairman who welcomed all present to the Gibraltar Point Visitor Centre.

Nominations for the position of Chairman of the South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum were invited.

AGREED

That Councillor R Wootten be elected as Chairman for the forthcoming year.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman of the South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum were invited.

AGREED

That Mr John Law be elected as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman took the Chair.

JOHN LAW (VICE-CHAIRMAN) IN THE CHAIR

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Mr B Bowles, Councillor D Brailsford, Councillor W Cross, Dr R Johnson, Mrs A Morley and Councillor R Wootten.

2

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

6 JULY 2016

4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM HELD ON 20 APRIL 2016

AGREED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2016 be approved by the Vice-Chairman.

5 ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 20 APRIL 2016

Further to Minute 38 - 'South Kesteven Local Plan' it was noted that in the development of neighbourhood plan, consideration would be given to green open spaces.

In relation to Minute 41 – 'Lost Ways Sub-Group', it was noted that permission had been granted for the New Livestock Building at Exton, Rutland. In response to a question, Members were advised that the Lost Ways Sub-Group could submit an application for a lost way as a possible way forward.

It was noted that Mr A Hill had recently been appointed as the Chairman of the Lost Ways Sub-Group.

Further to Minute 43 – 'Statutory Requirements', it was agreed that refresh training for the Members of both Forums would be provided within twelve months, with the intention of incorporating training on the new legislation once it had been released.

6 STATEMENT/QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public raised concerns in relation to Lincolnshire County Council's decision on case 364, Skegness. The Forum was advised of the history behind the case and the danger members of the public were faced with whilst walking the route, owing to the proximity of the golf course.

In response to the concerns raised, the Team Leader for Countryside Services advised that all of the evidence which had been submitted to support the case was taken into consideration when making the decision. The Team Leader also explained that the evidence unfortunately did not prove that a public right of way was in existence. The view that the alternative route that may be used by the English Coast Path was dangerous was supported by the Team Leader and Members of the Forum. Further to this, it was suggested that the Local Access Forum, or alternatively the Lost Ways Sub-Group, could submit its concerns to Natural England.

The member of the public was thanked for the information.

AGREED

That the Vice-Chairman of the Local Access Forum, in consultation with the Chairman of the Lost Ways Sub-Group, be requested to outline their concerns to Natural England.

SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
6 JULY 2016

7 PLANNING APPLICATION IN SOUTH WITHAM TO EXTEND THE LIMESTONE QUARRY

A member of the public raised a number of concerns in relation to the proposed eastern and western extensions to South Witham Quarry, particularly the proposed diversion of a right of way number 12 in South Witham.

Some of the concerns raised had included: the removal of mature trees and hedges; impact on local wildlife; loss of views and the intrusion of quarry workings; the increase in noise and dust levels; the personal effect on users; the safety of users; the inaccuracy of the proposals particularly around the final restoration showing that the path would be put back to its original line; lack of proposals to increase path network; lack of consideration to other possible alternatives; and consultation processes.

The Local Access Forum agreed to give due consideration to the plans which were currently published for consultation by Lincolnshire County Council and respond accordingly.

The member of public was thanked for his information and was asked to email the Vice-Chairman with an outline of his concerns.

AGREED

That Members of the Forum be requested to consider the Planning Application in South Witham to extend the limestone quarry and to respond by the consultation deadline of 29 July 2016.

8 NATURAL ENGLAND - LOCAL ACCESS FORUM ANNUAL REVIEW 2016

The Team Leader for Countryside Services guided the Forum through the form for the Natural England – Local Access Forum Annual Review 2016 seeking answers to each question.

During the discussion, it was suggested that there should be a recruitment drive to fill the vacancies on both the South Lincolnshire and Rutland and Mid-Lincolnshire Local Access Forums.

AGREED

That the Team Leader for Countryside Services be requested to submit the completed review form to Natural England.

9 SUB-GROUPS

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of establishing a Sub-Group specifically to respond to consultations which fall between meetings of the Local Access Forum.

**SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
6 JULY 2016**

Officers advised that in such situations, Members could be emailed a copy of consultation documents by the Forum's Secretary and submit any comments to the Secretary for collation. Alternatively, a Sub-Group could be established to undertake the role of responding to consultations on behalf of the Forum.

AGREED

That the Forum's Secretary be requested to collate the Forum's responses to consultation documents.

10 UNMADE ROADS - FAILURE TO PROTECT AND ASSERT THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT OF USE

A Members of the Local Access Forum raised concerns regarding 'unmade roads'.

It was noted that in Lincolnshire there were a number of highways shown on the countryside access map as 'unmade roads' which were currently blocked, had locked gates or were ploughed out. Concerns were also raised that the highways department at Lincolnshire County Council had no funds to take remedial or enforcement action. It was requested that the responsibility for sealed routes was transferred to the countryside access team and those which were not sealed became the responsibility of the highways team.

Further to the above, it was suggested that Mr Hill (Member of the Local Access Forum) provided the Chairman with information on the issue so that he could write a letter to the Chief Executive of Lincolnshire County Council outlining the Forum's concerns.

AGREED

- (1) That Mr Hill (Member of the Local Access Forum) be requested to provide the Chairman with information on his concerns with 'Unmade Roads'.
- (2) That the Chairman be requested to write a letter, on behalf of the Local Access Forum, to the Chief Executive of Lincolnshire County Council outlining the Local Access Forum's concerns and recommendations.

11 COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL

Consideration was given to a report from the Vice-Chairman of the Local Access Forum which provided an update on the work of the Countryside for All Sub-Group.

The report provided Members of the Forum with an update on the following areas: -

- Countryside for all routes;
- Dementia friendly walks;
- Choice Unlimited Event;
- Wolds Walking Festival; and

- Funding Bids.

During discussion the all-ability access gate at the Gibraltar Point Visitor Centre was referred to and it was agreed that the Team Leader for Countryside Services would email details of the gate to the Vice-Chairman, for his information.

AGREED

- (1) That the report be noted.
- (2) That the Team Leader for Countryside Services be requested to provide details of the all-ability access gate at the Gibraltar Point Visitor Centre to the Vice-Chairman of the Forum.

12 CONSULTATIONS

12a Making our needs known

It was agreed that the responses to the consultation on 'Making our Needs Known' would be circulated by the Forum's Secretary.

AGREED

That the responses to the consultation on 'Making our Needs Known' be circulated by the Forum's Secretary.

12b Future permissive access in Stewardship Schemes

The Vice-Chairman agreed to continue to take this forward and would circulate electronically, via the Forum's Secretary, information on the schemes.

AGREED

That further information on the schemes be circulated electronically.

13 HEALTH RELATED WALKS AFTER APRIL 2017

The Vice-Chairman of the Local Access Forum provided an update on health related walks after April 2017.

It was noted that the Vice-Chairman was scheduled to meet with the Ramblers' Association to take this matter forward. The Vice-Chairman agreed to notify Members of the outcome of the meeting.

It was also noted that unfortunately the number of health related walks nationally was in decline.

AGREED

That the update be noted.

14 LOST WAYS SUB-GROUP

Consideration was given to a verbal report from the Vice-Chairman of the Local Access Forum on the work of the Lost Ways Sub-Group.

Members were advised that Mr Alec Hill had recently been appointed as Chairman of the Lost Ways Sub-Group.

A discussion took place regarding training for Members of the Local Access Forum, which should cover lost ways. It was also suggested that Members of the Mid-Lincolnshire Local Access Forum and any sub-groups should also be invited to the training. However, Members were advised that if the training was to be opened up to external agencies then those organisations would be expected to contribute to the cost of the training.

AGREED

That the Team Leader for Countryside Services and the Public Rights of Way Officer be requested to make the necessary arrangements for a training event for Members of the Local Access Forums and their sub-groups.

15 DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDERS

15a Rutland County Council

Consideration was given to a report from Rutland County Council.

The Public Rights of Way Officer provided an update on the latest position with regards to the application in Wardley. It was noted that Rutland County Council had been directed to make a Legal Order by the Secretary of State after the Council had turned down the British Horse Society's application. It's possible a Public Inquiry would follow, should someone object to the Order.

Members were comfortable with the content of the report and raised no additional questions or comments.

AGREED

That the update report be noted.

15b Lincolnshire County Council

Consideration was given to a report from Lincolnshire County Council.

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6 JULY 2016

A Member of the Forum expressed his complete dissatisfaction in Lincolnshire County Council's decision on case 364, Skegness. The Member also explained the history behind the case and also explained the negative effects on the local economy.

In response to the concerns raised, the Team Leader for Countryside Services advised that all of the evidence which had been submitted to support the case was taken into consideration when making the decision. The Team Leader also explained that the evidence unfortunately did not prove that people had consistently walked the same line, as the sand dunes had drifted over the years. It was advised that the applicant could appeal the decision, but it was only possible for that individual to appeal. Alternatively, if additional evidence could be sourced, a new application could be submitted.

AGREED

That the update report be noted.

16 PUBLIC PATH ORDERS PROGRESS REPORT

16a Rutland County Council

Consideration was given to a report from Rutland County Council.

A discussion took place regarding Path Reference D85, Langham, where the Forum was advised that the British Horse Society had objected to a proposed footpath diversion on the basis that they were of the opinion that it should be a bridleway. Further to this, the Public Rights of Way Officer advised that if they had evidence of bridleway status then it should be submitted to the Public Rights of Way Officer so he could take a view on it, rather than just objecting to the proposal.

AGREED

That the update report be noted.

16b Lincolnshire County Council

Consideration was given to a report from Lincolnshire County Council.

Members were comfortable with the content of the report and raised no additional questions or comments.

AGREED

That the update report be noted.

8

**SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
6 JULY 2016**

17 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that a future meeting of the Forum was scheduled to be held on the following date: -

- 26 October 2016 at 2.00 pm at Rutland County Council.

AGREED

That the date of the next meeting be noted.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Agenda Item 5

COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL – Report

Report for LAF meetings 18 & 26/10/16

1. COUNTRYSIDE FOR ALL ROUTES

1.1. Lincolnshire

1.1.1. The 4 routes funded by Bromhead Medical Charitable Trust have all been surveyed. The routes are:

The Water Rail Way, Southrey – Stixwould

Freiston Shore – RSPB

Grantham Canal, Denton Lane Bridge – Longmoor Bridge

Whisby Nature Park, Coot Lake

We have asked Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust if they are willing to fund a leaflet for another route at Whisby, the route around Thorpe Lake. If we have a print run for 5 leaflets rather than 4, the production of the 5th leaflet will be at a discounted price. We are still waiting for a response on this issue.

We are now drafting the wording for the leaflets for the site owners/managers agreement. We are also discussing the route improvements to take place to make the routes more accessible to people with a wider range of disabilities.

The lack of car park signage on the Water Rail Way at Southrey and Stixwould is a concern. We are currently trying to identify the site owners to enable us to resolve this issue.

1.1.2. A site meeting was held at Owlet Wood. The Woodland Trust are examining how to make the site more accessible and will be exploring funding options to carry out the work. The meeting included representatives from the Woodland Trust, RNIB, the disability sub group and Ian Brown from Lincolnshire Sports who we had invited.

1.1.3. County News has published an article promoting the Countryside For All routes and other Public Rights of Way.

1.1.4. We are aiming to attend the Activities For All event in Lincoln to promote our Countryside For All routes, advertise for expressions of interest for accessibility ambassadors and advertise the vacancies on the two LAFs. The event has been postponed and we are waiting for the new date to be announced.

1.2. Rutland

Anglian Water will be funding the majority of the printing costs rather than the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust. We have received the first set of proofs from the printers and are hoping to have the leaflets printed and available for the Rutland Choice Unlimited event.

The Woodland Trust stated in 2015 they would be planning a Countryside For All route in Rutland in 2017. The sub group will be contacting the Trust to see how we can assist in this project.

Further discussions by email have taken place with Councillors and Council officers in relation to Yew Tree Avenue. We have been informed that the Council are waiting for responses from the Forestry Commission and MP before further progress can be made. We have offered to apply for funding to improve the accessibility of this site and once this is carried out we will aim to get funding for a Countryside for All route leaflet for this site.

2. DEMENTIA FRIENDLY WALKS

2.1. Lincolnshire

2.1.1. West Lindsey is the district which according to a LCC Public Health report will have the highest level of growth of people with dementia across the County. City of Lincoln requested funding for training volunteers to enable them to lead dementia friendly strolls in West Lindsey. The training was delivered, then unfortunately City of Lincoln did not receive decommissioning funding from the West Lindsey contract. This meant City of Lincoln were not able to continue to support the work in West Lindsey. Due to the lack of support from councils the group of keen volunteers which were trained in the West Lindsey District, have decided not to continue with the project of delivering dementia friendly strolls. We are keeping regular contact with one member of the group to see if and how we can change that outcome in the future.

2.1.2. East Lindsey is the district with the highest number of cases of dementia. Magna Vitae requested further dementia friendly walk leader training. This training will have been delivered 6th October. Unfortunately due to the staffing changes at Magna Vitae the amount of time available to attract volunteers has been reduced. A verbal update will be provided at the LAF meeting. Unfortunately it may be necessary to return some of the money to the funding source due to the course cost per delegate. We have funding for 10 places, however it is doubtful that we will fill all the places.

2.2. Rutland

2.2.1. The date for dementia friendly inclusive walk leader training has been arranged for 30th November. Again we are having problems recruiting enough volunteers to fill the course. Work is still going on to attract volunteers.

3. CHOICE UNLIMITED EVENT

3.1. Rutland

The Rutland event will have taken place 19th October at the Active Rutland Hub. A verbal update will be provided at the LAF meeting.

Action: Verbal update to be provided

3.2. Lincolnshire

We have been encouraging a number Lincolnshire organisations, to attend the Rutland event as visitors, so they can find out more about the Choice Unlimited event. Hopefully this will encourage partner organisations to help us have an event in Lincolnshire.

4. WOLDS WALKING FESTIVAL

We have decided to take part in the Wolds Walking Festival again and are hoping for better weather this year and some people to come along. The Countryside For All route which will be used, is Chambers Farm Wood. It has been agreed that we will not be charging for people on this route as we wish to attract the disabled and young families with pushchairs. There will be a talk as we go round the route, kindly provided by Wally Grice the Forestry Commission beat officer. The walk will be supported by Sam Tate, Richard Graham and John Law. Other helpers from both LAFs will be welcomed.

5. FUNDING BIDS

We have decided if we are obtaining funding for external organisations, the external organisations should have their name as the applicants. This will help ensure the external organisations are accountable for complying with the statements made in the applications.

We have interest from a number of organisations in another inclusive countryside access course. We will wait until we have an expression of interest from 10 delegates prior to seeking funding for this course.

If we can find a further four reasonably accessible countryside for all routes in Lincolnshire we will apply for funding for the route leaflets early 2017.

It has been decided to utilise the existing countryside for all folders for Lincolnshire by splitting the routes into two areas. We are looking at having a separate folder for the Rutland routes.

Whilst we are awaiting Natural England to inform us on whether they will be able to fund the improvements we require to Chapel Six Marshes, we will be focussing on working with the Nettleham Woodland Trust and the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust on improvements at Ashling Lane Nature Reserve.

Actions: JL - Check whether Natural England is any closer to deciding on whether to fund the improvements to Chapel Six Marshes.

6. ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS

The request for expressions of interest for the roles Accessibility Ambassadors for Lincolnshire and Rutland have been advertised. For Lincolnshire the role has been advertised in County News. For Rutland at the Choice Unlimited event. The roles will be advertised at a number of events and organisations until April 2017. If we then have sufficient interest we will then apply for funding. One query which needs to be addressed is whether public liability Insurance is required to cover the Accessibility Ambassadors whilst on site visits with organisations. The application packs for Accessibility Ambassadors are with this report.

Actions: JL - Check if the Accessibility Ambassadors should be covered by public liability insurance if they report to the LAF. If so is this the responsibility of the organisations they visit?

Actions: Steve/Cheryl (Democratic Services) – Circulate electronically the application packs to members of both forums, to enable LAF members to circulate to interested parties.

Contact us

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countynews

AUTUMN 2016



KEEPING YOU SAFE

countynews contents

autumn 2016



Leader's welcome...

According to the Met Office, autumn runs from September to November, meaning it's already well underway.

To my mind, however, it really starts when the clocks go back at the end of October and the nights draw in even further.

Of course, autumn and the onset of winter bring the risk of severe weather, which is why our gritters are now on standby 24 hours a day through to April.

This year, as we explain in our roads feature on page 8, our fleet includes four massive vehicles known as "the Beast"! Equipped with hefty ploughs, they'll really help us to keep the roads clear, as well as being cheaper to lease and maintain than older models.

The feature also looks at major road projects in Lincolnshire – part of our ongoing commitment to investing in the county's future – as well as our sensible approach to street lighting.

Staying with the onset of colder weather, we have some practical advice, particularly for older residents, on staying warm and well this winter.

We also turn the spotlight in our centre spread on the care profession, finding out at first hand about the rewards involved in looking after others.

Turning to the younger generation, we explain how Lincolnshire is helping unaccompanied child asylum-seekers as they seek to overcome a traumatic start in life.

Then there's an update on the county's library service and the improvements already being seen by users since it was outsourced.

Elsewhere in this edition, we explore new countryside leaflets helping to make the great outdoors easier for everyone to enjoy.

We also examine what Brexit could mean for economic development in Lincolnshire, and how we're working to support prosperity and jobs.

Last but not least, I'd like to say a big thank-you to the 800-plus readers who took part in the County News survey, either through the magazine or online.

We had a great response, as we report on page 14, which will help us carry on improving the magazine for the future.

We'll be back in late December / early January with the Winter 2017 edition. Until then, best wishes to all our readers.

Mark of Hill.

Clr Martin Hill OBE
Leader of Lincolnshire County Council

3 The drive for devolution
Your views on the proposed deal

4 News in brief
Three pages of stories from across Lincolnshire

7 Playing our part
Caring for lone child refugees

8 Getting you from A to B
Gritting, street lights and road-building

11 Better than ever!
What's new at county libraries

12 Inspiring care workers
Could you be one of them?

14 Your views on County News
See our magazine survey results

17 Brexit and business
The new challenges and opportunities

22 Out and about
Your essential guide to autumn events

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Contact information

EDITORIAL

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Firefighters Lisa Clarricoates and Mark Dungworth at Lincoln South Fire Station.

MORE INFORMATION

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The drive for devolution

Greater Lincolnshire residents would welcome more local powers but are not convinced by the need for a mayor

In the last County News, we asked for your views about a proposed devolution agreement transferring powers and funding from the Government down to a local level.

It was put together by the 10 local authorities in the area, from the Humber to the Wash, plus the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). The initial proposal was for a "Mayoral Combined Authority" – a new board with a representative from each of the councils and the LEP.

There would also have been a mayor directly elected by residents, which the Government had said we must have to get all the new powers.

However, the survey results showed that many of you didn't support this idea, and we now intend to explore our options.

Here's what you said

When the results from the County News survey were added to online responses, more than 4,400 of you had got involved.

47% backed the idea of a Mayoral Combined Authority, while 49% opposed it.

59% felt that councils should pursue devolved powers for the Greater Lincolnshire area.

73% thought that councils should prioritise economic growth, infrastructure and housing.

77% wanted councils to pursue further funding – in addition to what's in the current deal – in these key areas.

Only 38% were keen on the possibility of combining the Police and Crime Commissioner role with that of an elected mayor, with 56% against.

In each case, residents were asked whether they agreed or strongly agreed with a proposal, disagreed or strongly disagreed, or didn't know.

The full results and reports can be viewed at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/greaterlincs.

What happens next?

Lincolnshire County Council leader Clr Martin Hill OBE said: "Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation and told us what they thought of the proposals.

"The results confirm what people often say as I go around the county – that they generally support what we're trying to achieve, asking for funding to enable more services to be run locally rather than from Whitehall.

"However, people obviously have very mixed views on an elected mayor, so we need to discuss with the Government what the options would be without one."

During September and October, each of the 10 councils will meet to consider its own response to the consultation findings.

The bigger picture

Clr Hill said changes at a national level, particularly since Theresa May became Prime Minister, could make a difference.

"There might be more scope to get devolved powers without having an elected mayor. However, we need to know what that would mean for the deal we've already negotiated."

Clr Hill pledged: "Whatever happens with these ongoing discussions, we'll continue to press for the best deal and the most suitable arrangements for our area.

"In those discussions, your views will be uppermost in our minds, so thank you again to everyone who shared them with us."

Lincolnshire news round-up

Simply unmissable art

Some of the world's best contemporary portrait paintings are on display right here in Lincolnshire!

Artworks in the BP Portrait Award 2016 exhibition have been selected from 2,557 entries, by artists from 80 countries.

They've now arrived at the Usher Gallery in Lincoln, direct from the National Portrait Gallery, London.

The BP Portrait Award is the most prestigious portraiture competition in the world, with huge international appeal. Organised by the National Portrait Gallery, it's now in its 37th year and has launched the careers of many renowned artists.

Visitors to the Usher Gallery can admire a hugely varied exhibition, featuring everything from parents and poseurs to figurative nudes and famous faces.

The exhibition is on display until 13 November (daily, from 10am to 4pm). Adult tickets cost £5.

 For more information, visit www.thecollectionmuseum.com or phone 01522 782040.



▲ Laura In Black © Joshua LaRock

◀ Jean 2015 © Jean-Paul Tibbles



Could you adopt?

Lincolnshire Adoption Service is not currently recruiting adopters of single children aged four and below. However, there's still a great need for adopters to provide a family for:

- Children aged four and over.
- Larger groups of brothers and sisters who need to be kept together.
- Children with disabilities and additional needs.
- Children placed under the Foster to Adopt scheme.

Foster to Adopt is an arrangement whereby adopters are also approved as foster carers. That can really help children in local authority care who are likely to be adopted.

To begin with, the child can be temporarily fostered. If the court later decides they should be adopted, they can then stay with the same family permanently.

Foster to Adopt carers need to be emotionally strong and able to put the needs of very vulnerable children first in an uncertain situation.

 If you feel you could offer a loving and secure home to any of these groups of children, please call 01522 554114 or visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/adoption.

The pride of Lincolnshire!

The wait is finally over for 57 local communities as we unveil the winners of the Best Kept Villages and Small Towns Competition.

With the judging completed, the winners in the different classes can now be revealed as Ingham, Barrowby, Holton le Clay and Holbeach, with Harlaxton, North Thoresby, Swineshead and Crowland as runners-up.

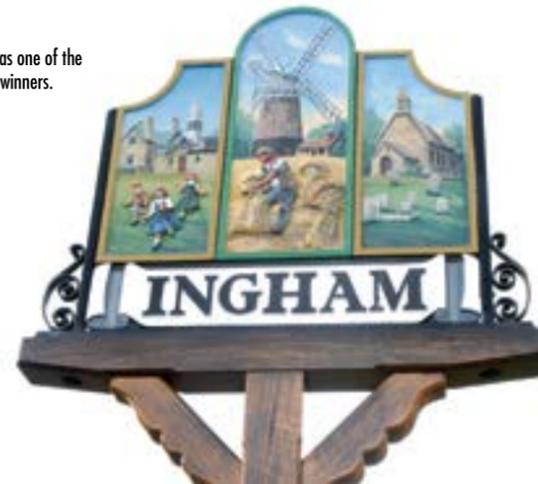
The battle of the champions – pitting past winners against each other – was won by Moulton, overcoming strong opposition from Allington.

The winners and runners-up will receive their certificates at a celebration evening at Grimsthorpe Castle, near Bourne.

The annual contest started in 1962 and is run by the Campaign to Protect Rural England. Tim Machin, acting chairman of CPRE Lincolnshire, said: "As always, our villages and towns have worked incredibly hard to ensure they looked their best. Congratulations to all of them – they really are the pride of Lincolnshire!"

 For more information, visit www.facebook.com/cprelincolnshire or email carina@missmoneypennypa.co.uk.

Ingham was one of the four class winners.



Praise for heritage venues

Five Lincolnshire County Council tourist attractions have won a top accolade following positive visitor feedback.

Lincoln Castle, Gainsborough Old Hall, The Collection, the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Visitor Centre and the Museum of Lincolnshire Life all achieved the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence.

It's based on the quality and quantity of reviews submitted by users of the website over a year. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall rating of at least four out of five.

Cllr Nick Worth, executive member for culture and heritage, said: "All our attractions are rated 4.5 on TripAdvisor, which is something to be truly proud of.

"It's great to have such positive and independent feedback from our visitors. It's well-deserved recognition for our staff and volunteers, who work so hard to help people enjoy our award-winning attractions."

Heather Leisman, vice-president of industry marketing at TripAdvisor, said: "With the Certificate of Excellence, TripAdvisor honours businesses that have consistently received strong praise and ratings."



The Collection

Gainsborough Old Hall

Advice on health and care

A new directory is available to help people get vital health and care information.

The free publication has been produced by Healthwatch Lincolnshire, the independent watchdog for the county. It lists all the local GP practices, dentists, pharmacies, opticians, nursing and care homes, and residential and domiciliary care providers.

The directory also includes advice on issues such as staying fit, minor ailments, choosing the right kind of care, and patient rights.

Julie Evans, from Healthwatch Lincolnshire, said: "We're often approached by patients who struggle to find the information they need, so we've tried to answer many of their questions in a single booklet."

The directory is available free of charge from local health and care venues, including your GP practice.

 For more information, visit www.healthwatchlincolnshire.co.uk or call 01205 820892.



Going to school for the first time

Was your child born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013? If so, they can start school from 5 September 2017.

Before then, you'll need to apply for a place, which you can do from 14 November 2016 until the deadline of 15 January 2017.

There are two ways of applying, either:

- Online at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions.
- By phone on 01522 782030.

There's more information about Lincolnshire schools and the admissions process on the website. Schools may also provide their own brochures.

 For further advice, email schooladmissions@lincolnshire.gov.uk or ask your local primary school headteacher.



Poppy pulling power

An extraordinary 533,000 visitors flocked to see an iconic poppy sculpture during its three-month summer stint at Lincoln Castle.

The venue was chosen as one of only four UK venues to host *Wave* – by artist Paul Cummins and designer Tom Piper – in 2016. The sculpture was originally part of an installation first seen at HM Tower of London in 2014.

Wave has been touring the country as part of 14-18 NOW, the arts programme marking the centenary of the First World War.

The recent influx of visitors has reinforced Lincoln Castle's status as a world-class attraction

following its £22m refurbishment in 2014. The venue is home to one of only four surviving copies of Magna Carta. Its 800th anniversary last year generated worldwide public interest.

In all, about one million visitors have come to the attraction since it reopened in April 2015, giving a major boost to the local economy.

Looking ahead, the castle will be celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Charter of the Forest – another hugely important historic document – in 2017.

i For castle opening times, admission charges and events, please visit www.lincolncastle.com.

Ready for flooding?

Flooding is more likely over the winter months, so it's best to be prepared.

The best place to start is online at www.gov.uk/prepare-for-a-flood, which will advise you how to:

- Find out if you're at risk.
- Make a flood plan.
- Improve your property's flood resilience.
- Get insurance.

Obtain help during a flood.

Get help after a flood.

The website also enables you to sign up for free flood warnings by phone, email or text.

If you prefer, you can call Floodline, which is available 24 hours a day on 0345 988 1188.

Advice on preparing for emergencies is also available from Lincolnshire's Resilience Forum at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lincolnshire-prepared.

One sensible step is to put together a simple flood plan, which could save you vital time in an emergency.

i If flooding does happen, you can report it on 01522 782082. In an emergency, call 101 or (if there is threat to life) 999.



We asked, you said...

Public feedback has helped Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue reshape plans for the future.

The service undertook an 11-week consultation on initial proposals earlier this year, attracting more than 300 responses.

Cllr Nick Worth, executive member for emergency services, said: "We're very grateful to everyone who shared their views. The replies helped us meet savings targets while minimising the impact on services.

"By working closely with the Fire Brigades Union, we also found an efficient solution which should allow us to make these changes."

Following the consultation, Lincoln South Fire Station will continue to be crewed 24 hours a day, rather than having just on-call night cover.

The Joint Ambulance Conveyance Project, which sees firefighters using their own ambulances in medical emergencies, will also be extended.

In terms of rescue provision, two specialist support units will be maintained, while a high-level ladder platform is to be relocated to Boston.

i For more details – including future service priorities – visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/lfr.



Stub it out in Stoptober

Smokers ready to kick the habit can get the support they need during this year's Stoptober Challenge.

Nationwide, smokers are being encouraged to quit for the whole of October, because if you can stop for 28 days, you are five times more likely to give up for good.

In Lincolnshire, **Quit 51** provide a range of support for people wanting to stop, including:

- A 12-week programme of support with a stop-smoking advisor.
- Clinics in pharmacies, GP surgeries and other venues.
- A telephone service for those unable to attend face-to-face appointments.
- Exploring your smoking habits, previous attempts to stop, and advice on the medications available.

For help to quit smoking this Stoptober, call Quit 51 free on 0800 622 6968. You can also text "smokefree" to 66777 and they will call you back, or email contact.quit51@nhs.net.



Playing our part

Lincolnshire is leading the way in the East Midlands in looking after unaccompanied child refugees

Vulnerable young asylum-seekers are benefiting from support in Lincolnshire as they try to overcome a traumatic start in life.

All local authorities in England and Wales have a legal duty to help unaccompanied children and young people arriving here.

In Lincolnshire, the county council is currently supporting 65 – and that number could grow as the Government resettles another 600 around the country.

Across the East Midlands, Lincolnshire is one of two councils leading the way in terms of the number looked after.

Executive councillor for children's services Cllr Mrs Patricia Bradwell said: "We're happy to do our bit to give these children the support they deserve.

"However, there has to be a fair, regionally managed allocation, and we're working hard with other East Midlands councils to ensure we all play our part."

Cllr Bradwell added: "Although the Government gives us financial support for each child, it also has to recognise that Lincolnshire is doing much more at the moment than some other authorities."

An unaccompanied asylum-seeking child has to be under 18, with no relative or guardian to turn to in this country.

If they have no papers to identify them, an assessment is carried out to determine their general well-being and give an indication of their age.

Yvonne Shearwood, from children's services, said: "Lincolnshire is a through-route from many ports on the coast, and if police become aware of children within our border we, as a local authority, have a duty of care.

"Many of the children have experienced high levels of trauma. Trained workers carry out assessments to get the most complete picture, so we can give these children the care they need."

The assessed age of a child decides the services provided, with under-16s being fostered.

Those aged between 16 and 18 are placed in semi-independent accommodation, and receive a small allowance with a deduction for rent and bills. They are also supported and encouraged to attend college.

As with all children who are looked after, services are offered to these young people until they reach 25, if needed.

Yvonne added: "We currently care for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children from several countries, particularly Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Sudan

and Eritrea. It's been noticeable that numbers have increased in recent years as a direct result of the civil war in Syria.

"It's extremely rewarding to see many of these young people overcome traumatic experiences and make a real success of their lives at college and beyond. That will always be our goal."

"It's extremely rewarding to see many of these young people overcome traumatic experiences and make a real success of their lives"

Getting you from A to B

Winter gritting, street lighting and road-building projects all help you travel around Lincolnshire safely and without unnecessary delay



TAMING "THE BEAST": Cllr Richard Davies.

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Unleashing "the Beast"!

As winter and the threat of snow approach, the council is ensuring it's prepared for the worst.

This year, our 43-strong fleet of gritters includes four of the biggest and most advanced snow-clearing vehicles in the country – dubbed "the Beast". Equipped with hefty ploughs, they can spread salt more uniformly and clear snow more effectively than older models.

They are also cheaper to lease and maintain, saving about £166,000 over the next decade.

Executive member for highways Cllr Richard Davies said: "Keeping the county's roads safe during winter is a priority for us.

"Last year, we invested in a new salt barn, and this year we're bringing in new gritters at the forefront of snow-clearing technology.

"We're committed to keeping major roads clear for those who use them."

The gritters are on call 24 hours a day between October and April and treat every A and B road in Lincolnshire when temperatures drop – that's nearly 2,000 miles of road, at a cost of up to £30,000 per run.

The council has stockpiled over 35,000 tonnes of salt, which should be enough to see the county through the winter months.

i For information about gritting and other winter road issues, visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/winterweather.

Can you help?

Retired LGV drivers are being sought to help keep the roads clear. Anyone with a current Class C LGV licence and Driver Qualification Card can apply – visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/snowclearing or call 01522 782070.

Lighting the way



Changes to street lighting in the Lincoln, Gainsborough, Market Rasen and Louth areas are already proving their worth.

We're now six months into the year-long Street Lighting Transformation project, which will save £1.7m a year and reduce CO₂ by 6,000 tonnes from April 2017. It will include replacing 17,000 street lights across the county with more efficient and cheaper-to-run LED versions.

Like other authorities across the UK, the council is also changing 38,000

lights to part-night timing, mainly in residential areas. These lights will switch on at dusk and remain on until around midnight. They will then turn off, before coming back on from 6am until dawn.

Around 3,000 lights on roads away from residential areas could also be turned off completely, contributing towards the big savings.

Cllr Davies said: "We're committed to providing lighting where it's most needed, but a one-size-fits-all approach is no longer affordable.

"We've carefully considered the impact before making changes, and over 40% of our 68,000 street lights will stay on throughout the night. However, in some cases part-night lighting, or turning off altogether, is the most appropriate solution to ensure the best use of taxpayers' money."

Cllr Davies added that there have always been significant areas of the county's highway network with no street lighting at all.

The new approach will ensure lighting is provided when it's most needed, while still achieving the required savings. At the same time, we're doing everything we can to protect the safety of road users and minimise inconvenience to residents."

In particular, lighting will not be switched off on main roads near junctions or roundabouts, near zebra crossings or speed humps, outside nursing homes or in areas with a record of significant night-time crime.

Between now and Christmas, the project will be extended across the south of the county followed by coastal towns, plus the Horncastle area, in the New Year.

i For information on the Street Lighting Transformation project, visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/streetlighting.

Investing for the future

Increased budget cuts have not stopped the council from delivering some impressive highways projects.

This year alone, the council has completed the East West Link Road through Lincoln and the first phase of the Grantham Southern Relief Road (pictured).

We've also obtained the legal orders required for the Lincoln Eastern Bypass and planning permission for improvements to Peppermint Junction in Holbeach.

For the future, the council will be unable to fund new roads and major improvements from existing reserves. We're therefore seeking alternative funding from sources such as housing developers and government grants.

i For information on current and planned major projects visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/roadworks-and-improvement-schemes.



From start to finish

Work is now underway on the Lincoln Eastern Bypass, 10 years after planning started. But why does it take a decade to build a big new road?

PHASE 1

Officers initially consider route options and their implications before consulting with residents, businesses and other interested parties. This can take up to **18 months**.

PHASE 2

Once a preferred route has been decided, it can take up to **three years** to secure funding and obtain planning permission and legal orders. A public inquiry is sometimes needed.

PHASE 3

Now that we have the funding and can legally build the road, we have to create a detailed design and prepare tender documents, which can take around **18 months**.

PHASE 4

We then appoint a contractor through a lengthy tender process which can take up to **a year**.

PHASE 5

We can now build the road. This can take, on average, anywhere from **18 months to three years** – or even longer for bigger roads.



Rainy Days ARE RUBBISH!



When the winter weather means you're stuck indoors with the kids, why not get crafty and creative making things ready for Christmas?



"Every month, local people put over 5,000 tonnes of items into their recycling bins. Sometimes, however, things get put in the recycling by mistake, such as food waste, clothes and crisp packets. These should all go in your normal rubbish or – as a fun alternative – some of them may be great for making new things with youngsters."

Cllr Reg Shore, executive councillor for recycling and waste

DIY BAG FOR LIFE

Takes: 15 mins Cost: Free

Customise an old t-shirt into a stylish bag

- 1 Take a large t-shirt and cut 3" slits upwards from the hem at 1" intervals.
- 2 To make the bottom, tie each front tassel to the corresponding one on the back. To ensure it's tight, do this twice.
- 3 To create the handles and opening, cut off the sleeves and extend both the armhole and neckline. The further you extend them, the longer the handles.



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Takes: 15 mins Cost: Free

Turn crisp packets into fabulous shiny Christmas decorations like paper chains or snowflakes.

- 1 Open out the crisp packets and wipe with a cloth. Iron them flat on a low heat with a piece of baking paper covering the packet.
- 2 Create circles by drawing round a plate or bowl. Cut these out.
- 3 Fold each circle in half three or four times so it looks like a cone. Snip triangles into the edges. Remember: don't cut all the way from edge to edge.
- 4 Unfold and iron it flat again under baking paper.



WHAT CAN I PUT IN MY RECYCLING?

- ✓ Cardboard and paper
- ✓ Aerosols
- ✓ Plastic bottles, pots and trays
- ✓ Glass bottles and jars (except East Lindsey)
- ✓ Aluminium and steel tins

OTHER WAYS TO RECYCLE

- * Take toys, furniture and all electrical goods to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC)
- * H&M and M&S have schemes where you can get vouchers in exchange for old clothes
- * Batteries and engine oil can also be disposed of at your local HWRC

TUNE IN

Other excellent ideas on upcycling and activities with the kids are at www.molliemakes.com

Join in and share your creations on facebook @ [lincolnshirecc](https://www.facebook.com/lincolnshirecc)



WHERE YOU CAN, WASH AND SQUASH! AND IF IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!

Better than ever!

Improved buildings, new facilities, more activities and better books – have you been to a Lincolnshire library recently?

It's only been six months since Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) started running the county's library service for the council. But already things have started changing for the better – and there's more to come!

At Lincoln Central Library, a new outdoor reading garden proved a real summer hit, while the usual calm of the library was replaced by live music in the evenings.

As we move into autumn, jamming sessions will be hitting the "Write Note" on 22 October and 26 November, from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

For younger visitors, GLL is revamping the children's library, and even installing a castle! A new teenage zone is also being created, complete with a reading cube, games zone and study area.

Elsewhere across the county, Boston Library now boasts a new-look children's library, plus improved computer facilities for online users.

In Skegness, the exterior of the library has been given a welcome facelift, while Sleaford, Gainsborough and Stamford are being improved both inside and out.

In addition, Stamford is getting an exciting new children's library – watch this space for more news!

Of course, books are the cornerstone of any library, and GLL has been comparing what's on the shelves with what customers really want to borrow.

In Mablethorpe, for example, the selection of books on display will be tailored much more closely to local demand.

More generally, all 15 of the county's main libraries will be getting more of the latest bestsellers and crime novels, hot off the press.

Teen readers can look forward to extra graphic novels and manga, and the selection of e-books, e-audio and e-magazines is being enhanced.

At all Lincolnshire libraries, GLL – a charitable social enterprise – is aiming to ensure there really is something for everyone.

GLL head of libraries Diana Edmonds MBE explains: "We want our centres to be vibrant places to visit, providing a better service than ever before.

"From messy mornings for little ones to mindfulness sessions for adults and digital drops-ins, we're planning a range of new activities to complement our wide selection of books and resources.

"We're also keen to hold author events all across Lincolnshire, and would be delighted to hear from local writers interested in hosting book signings or talks in our libraries."

Diana adds: "On top of all the changes coming your way, there's going to be even more time for you to enjoy them.

"In the months ahead, we'll be extending and improving our opening times, so libraries are open when you want them."

In addition to running Lincolnshire's 15 main facilities, GLL – the largest provider of library and leisure services in the country – supports more than 30 local community hubs.

For all the latest developments, visit www.better.org.uk/lincolnshire.



TWO'S MORE FUN! Little Eliza Chambers and a friend enjoy the revamped children's area at Lincoln Central Library.

Inspiring care workers

Nearly 20,000 people in Lincolnshire enjoy the rewards of working in the care sector – could you join them?

“I’ve never looked back since becoming a care worker. I honestly enjoy everything about the job!”

That’s the upbeat view of **MICHAELA WILKINSON**, who took the plunge and changed career in middle age.

Michaela, 50, spent many years in retail when she was younger but gradually grew tired of it. “I knew I wanted to carry on working with people, but I was ready for a new challenge,” she recalls.

Eight years ago, Michaela joined the care sector and now works for a provider in Skegness.

She supports residents in their own homes, including older people and those with disabilities, as well as their families.

“Sometimes the early mornings are tiring, but it means a lot to know I’m helping give someone that little bit of extra independence so they can stay at home.”

As a senior care worker, Michaela mentors new carers as part of “a really supportive environment”.

“When a new worker starts, they come

out with me and shadow my rounds so they can learn and ask questions,” she says.

“Then, when they have more confidence, we still go out together, but I let them lead on the calls. Once they’re ready, they get their own clients.

“But it’s still not like they’re on their own, and we meet colleagues regularly for group discussions, which are really useful for sharing experiences.”

ADAM DICKENS, 33, works for the same company, having previously been a volunteer at a care home.

“My mum has worked in care, and some of my family members have care at home themselves, so it felt like the right time to pursue it myself.”

He became a care worker in January and says he was supported straight away in his new job.

“I went out with Michaela and was trusted to carry out tasks quite early on, but with her there to help me if I needed it. I’m definitely hoping to stay in care in the future, and have already been promoted to team leader.

“That means I now get to work closely with the council on care plans for people, as well as still doing the face-to-face care that I know makes a difference.”

“By keeping people safe, happy and out of hospital, care workers play a vital role for the individuals they care for, as well as helping reduce pressure on services like the NHS”

Could you be a care worker?

Carers support people and their families at home and in residential care, improving the quality of life for thousands across Lincolnshire.

Cllr Mrs Patricia Bradwell, executive councillor for adult care, says: “We don’t always hear about the daily achievements of this hardworking, compassionate and irreplaceable workforce.

“By keeping people safe, happy and out of hospital, care workers play a vital role for the individuals they care for, as well as helping reduce pressure on services like the NHS.”

The council has been working with Lincolnshire Care Association (LinCA) to support care workers.

The aim is to help people grow in their careers and encourage others to see caring as a career option.

Schemes across Lincolnshire already promote training, mentoring and development for those in the care sector. And the county will need more dedicated professionals in the future as the population ages and grows.

Cllr Bradwell says: “We want to keep the best care workers in the sector and to encourage more people to consider it when choosing a career.

“It can be a great job, and there are plenty of routes for career development. For example, excellent community care officers, nurses and social workers often started as carers, giving them a strong grounding to pursue professional qualifications later.”

If you think you’ve got what it takes, or want to know more about a career in care, visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/jobs.

“I’ve never looked back since becoming a care worker. I honestly enjoy everything about the job!”

COMPASSIONATE: Michaela Wilkinson and Adam Dickens care for 83-year-old Rose Copson (centre) at her Skegness home.



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Your views on County News

Thank you to all the readers who took part in our magazine survey – this is what you told us!

More than 800 residents participated – either by post or online – giving us a real insight into your views.

The magazine received a vote of confidence from a clear majority of people who replied, with 94% saying they generally read it. The other key results were:

94% felt the design of County News was attractive.

97% thought the articles were easy to understand.

87% said the publication made them feel better informed about our services.

Council leader Cllr Martin Hill said: "Good communication with residents is really important to us, which is why we conducted a survey.

"The results show that many people find County News a valued source of information and want to carry on receiving it. However, we're always seeking to improve and will be looking closely at all your comments, including those from residents less keen on the magazine."

As regards the online County News, it emerged that 92% of respondents had never visited www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countynews.

Many residents didn't have computer access or preferred to read a paper version, while others simply weren't aware the magazine is on our website.

For those who do like information digitally, we're working hard to improve the online County News and raise awareness of it.

We'd also like to hear from readers happy to get the magazine by email. It only takes a moment to subscribe at the website – and hundreds already have.

Cllr Hill said: "We keep County News under constant review, and it makes sense to start putting together a list of email addresses. However,

any changes are still some way in the future, and everyone will continue to have a paper copy delivered until then."

What County News costs

Readers understandably asked about the cost of County News in these difficult financial times.

We currently distribute the magazine every three months to all Lincolnshire's 345,000 homes and businesses.

Each copy costs 15p to produce, print and deliver to your door – less than a quarter of the cost of a first-class stamp (64p).

Why we produce it

The aim of County News is to keep you informed about the many services the council provides, either directly or indirectly.

That's particularly important for vulnerable residents – including older people or those on low incomes – who may not have computer access.

We also use the magazine to find out your views – for example, on important issues like the council's spending and local devolution.

Other ways to keep in touch

Besides County News, the council has an easy-to-use website at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk.

You can also like us at www.facebook.com/LincolnshireCC or follow us on Twitter @LincolnshireCC.

For email, phone calls and post, please get in touch with our Customer Service Centre – all the contact details are on the back page.

OUR LUCKY WINNER

Everyone who entered the County News survey was entered into a prize draw for a £50 High Street shopping voucher. Congratulations to Gillian Spencer, from Gainsborough, whose name was first out of the hat.

Speaking up for others

Cllr Daniel McNally is committed to ensuring local people's concerns are heard on Lincolnshire County Council

"I've always been interested in helping the local community, so it was a privilege to be elected in 2013 onto the county council, where I knew I had the chance to influence local decision-making.

Serving my local community is something I'm really proud of, and I'm passionate about making it the best possible place for people to live and work.

I found it such an interesting experience that, in 2015, I decided to stand for election to East Lindsey District Council and North Somercotes Parish Council.

I've lived and worked for most of my life in North Somercotes, where I run the family business, and have built up good relationships with local people and communities. As a result, I've been able to gain an in-depth knowledge of people's concerns and aspirations, which has helped me when making important decisions on their behalf.

My county council division covers a huge area incorporating 11 parish councils, all of which I regularly attend.

Parish councils are the grassroots of local government and I have

great respect for their work. They always treat me as one of their own, which allows me the opportunity to fully take part in their discussions.

I can also ensure their voice is heard at a county level, where I always have the interests of local people uppermost in my mind.

Most of my work as an elected member comes from dealing with queries and issues from my constituents, both on the phone and in person. While much of it may seem relatively small, such as potholes in the road, I know these kinds of things really matter so I do my best to get them resolved.

Being on the Economic Scrutiny Committee has given me an insight into the bigger picture of how different parts of Lincolnshire are interconnected.

I'm currently working on promoting industry, tourism and the wider rural economy along the east coast. Lincolnshire has some fantastic assets and visitor attractions – the Donna Nook seal colony is a particular favourite.

In my spare time, I enjoy restoring classic cars and cycling, and am currently training for my next London to Brighton charity bike ride.



Cllr Daniel McNally, pictured at Donna Nook, is the UK Independence Party councillor for the Louth Marsh division on Lincolnshire County Council.

He is vice-chairman of the Planning and Regulation Committee and a member of the Economic Scrutiny Committee and the Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way Sub-Committee.

He also attends the Mid-Lincolnshire Local Access Forum and the joint meeting of the Mid-Lincolnshire and South Lincolnshire & Rutland Local Access Forums.

To contact Cllr McNally, phone 07810 304434 or email cllrd.mcnelly@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

LINCOLNSHIRE FOOD & GIFT AT THE SHOWGROUND

Get that
Festive Feeling

26-27 November, 9AM-4PM

With over 150 exciting and varied exhibitors, entertainment from live choir groups, cookery demonstrations from top local chefs and hands-on craft workshops, the Lincolnshire Food & Gift Fair promises Christmas treats and festive inspiration for all of the family.

TICKETS

£5 in advance **£6** on the gate

Under 16's go free with a paying adult. Ample free car parking.



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Could Brexit mean business opportunity?

The UK has decided to leave the European Union – but what does that mean for Lincolnshire?

Cllrs Colin Davie (right) and Stuart Tweedale (left) with members of the Hunan delegation at Siemens in Lincoln.

As you'd expect, the council was preparing for a possible Brexit vote well in advance of the referendum in June.

Following the historic decision, work is now being stepped up to meet the challenges – and take advantage of the opportunities – that lie ahead.

Cllr Colin Davie, executive member for economic development, said: "One of the most obvious things to be affected is EU grants for economic development. Over the last 20 years, Lincolnshire has had tens of millions of pounds, which have helped fund the refurbishment of Boston Market Place, the Teal Park development in Lincoln and much more.

"For the six years up to 2020, we've provisionally been allocated about £130m. There's some uncertainty following the referendum, but we're likely to continue receiving money as long as the UK is paying in."

So what does that mean in practice for current and new applications?

Cllr Davie explained: "The Government has said it will guarantee funding for any projects signed off by late autumn, securing us up to £50m. It's also putting arrangements in place to consider applications that come in after that time."

Looking to the future, Cllr Davie is optimistic that both the country and the county can fulfil their potential in global markets.

"In the long term, European funding won't be available to us, but the UK also won't be contributing to the EU budget anymore. That means the Government will have extra millions to spend, and my immediate priority is

making sure Lincolnshire gets its fair share.

"Brexit also provides the perfect opportunity for the UK and Lincolnshire to increase their global presence. To that end, the council and its partners are working hard to establish new relationships with other countries, bringing new opportunities for our businesses."

A key trading partner for Lincolnshire in the years ahead could be China – one of the largest and most important export markets in the world.

Cllr Davie said: "Recently, we signed a declaration of friendship and economic co-operation with Hunan, a booming Chinese province.

"Hunan's economy is worth more than £200bn per year, and although traditionally a rice and cotton-growing area, it's been developing its machinery, steel, food processing and electronics.

"Some of the sectors earmarked for future collaboration are agriculture, engineering, adult social care, culture and education.

"We're also working to establish a similar relationship with Pinellas County in Florida, USA."

Describing himself as "optimistic" about the future, Cllr Davie said: "Lincolnshire has some world-class businesses. With the right support and freedom from EU bureaucracy, they can ensure our county thrives in the decades ahead."

If you're a Lincolnshire business looking for support, visit www.businesslincolnshire.com.

"Brexit provides the perfect opportunity for the UK and Lincolnshire to increase their global presence"



PEACE OF MIND: Kath Soltys, 78, with Max Tunmore from Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue.

“ Priority is given to residents most at risk from fire, although all Lincolnshire residents can get a free DIY assessment pack ”

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Keeping loved ones safe

As family members get older, a home fire safety check can give extra peace of mind

A Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue home fire safety check is totally free – all it costs is your time to ask for one.

During the visit, an officer will suggest steps to make your loved one's home safer and protect them from the risk of fire.

They will also provide an escape plan to follow, just in case the unthinkable should happen.

The fire safety specialists can even see if there are any health and care needs that local services may be able to help with.

Practical measures could include installing a personal home alarm system or a hard-of-hearing alarm, amongst others.

Priority is given to residents most at risk from fire, although all Lincolnshire residents can get a free DIY assessment pack. In addition to arranging a home safety check, it's sensible to:

- Get smoke and carbon monoxide alarms fitted and tested.
- Have a cordless phone or mobile in the bedroom.
- Keep glasses, hearing aids and walking sticks by the bed.
- Ensure stairways and doorways are free of clutter.
- Close all doors at night-time.

i For more information about a home safety check, or to make a referral for someone else, please phone 01476 565441 or email hpsc@lincoln.fire-uk.org.

Taking care of gran

Michaela Soltys, 25, from Billingham, said: “My mum and I regularly pop round to my granny's to help – we clean her house, take meals, test her smoke alarm, do her shopping and make sure she's going to appointments.

“As she's getting older and more forgetful, we also need to start making changes to help her live independently as long as she can.

“By contacting the fire service and organising a home safety check, I can help her reduce the risk of accidents and improve her quality of life.”

Some potential hazards

Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue community safety manager Shona Wright says older residents can sometimes forget that they have started cooking and go and watch the TV, do jobs or leave the house.

“We also get called to incidents where people have forgotten how to use the microwave and put it on the highest setting for much too long.

“Another danger is residents putting their electric kettle on the gas hob, melting the plastic and causing a fire.”

Shona continues: “As the fire service, we help people try and stop fires and dangerous situations happening – for example, using a microwave rather than a pan on the hob, or even organising home-delivered meals.

“Other practical ways could include programming settings in the microwave or buying a kettle specifically for use on the gas hob.”

Stay winter well!

Keeping warm and active can help prevent a range of illnesses and even hospital admissions

Cold weather can take us by surprise, but following these simple tips will enable you to get ready for it in good time:

- **WARM** – Keep your house warm with main living rooms heated, ideally at 21°C, to help your body to fight flu, pneumonia, heart attacks, strokes and depression.
- **IMMUNISATIONS** – Get your flu vaccination. It's free if you are over-65, pregnant, have a medical condition or care for someone. Call your GP to find out more.
- **NEIGHBOURS** – Keep an eye on elderly and vulnerable neighbours and relatives.
- **TIMELY** – Seek advice from a pharmacist at the first sign of illness. You could avoid more serious complaints or even a hospital stay.
- **ENOUGH** – Make sure you, anyone you care for and your neighbours have enough medication by picking up repeat prescriptions.
- **RE-STOCK** – Make sure you have enough food and have regular hot meals and hot drinks. Have a packet of cold and flu remedies in your cupboard.

Beating the blues

Staying active will help beat the winter blues and improve your wellbeing. If the weather is particularly cold, though, take care if you're walking on icy paths.

Another option during bad weather is to stay in and try some home exercise. See www.nhs.uk/livewell for gym-free workouts and 10-minute exercise plans.

Practical help

- Keeping your home warm can be a challenge, especially when things go wrong. **The Responders to Warmth** scheme, set up with the help of council funding, offers residents advice and help, including products such as heated blankets, hot water bottles and thermal socks. Support is available from October to March. Call 0845 606 4566 or visit www.responderstowarmth.org.
- For independent expert advice on saving energy, home insulation and heating contact the **Energy Saving Advice Service** on 0300 123 1234 (national rate call). Alternatively you can email energy-advice@est.org.uk.
- Check at www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/heating to see if you're entitled to **Government help with heating bills** through a Winter Fuel Payment, Warm Homes Discount Scheme or Cold Weather Payment.
- Register for the next round of the **Lincolnshire Energy Switch Scheme** by 11 October 2016, and you could save on your gas and electricity bills. To register online, visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/switch or call 0800 048 8439.
- **The Lincolnshire Central Heating Fund** fits central heating systems for free where none exists, to those on a low income. The scheme is limited, so to find out if funds remain and if you are eligible, contact the Lincolnshire Home Independence Agency on 01522 516300 or email info@lincsia.org. They will carry out entitlement checks and arrange a technical home survey.





Promoting our heritage

A local society with deep roots in the county's past is ensuring it lives on for the future

For over 170 years, local enthusiasts have been dedicated to researching and promoting Lincolnshire's extraordinary heritage.

The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology (SLHA) can trace its roots back to a Lincoln antiquarian group formed in 1844.

Since then, it has joined forces with various other organisations, finally becoming the SLHA in 1974. It now has about 700 members from across the world, but its central aim remains unchanged – promoting the past for the benefit of the present and future.

The SLHA is based in a fine stone building called Jews' Court (pictured) on Steep Hill in Lincoln, next to the famous 12th-century Jew's House. However, its activities – lectures and other events, publications, research and fieldwork, links with other societies, and more – reach out across the whole of Lincolnshire.

In particular, the SLHA has thriving offshoots in the south of the county – the Sleaford History Group and the South Holland History Group in Spalding.

The SLHA is based at Jews' Court, 2-3 Steep Hill, Lincoln, LN2 1LS. The office is open on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 9am to noon.

i For more details, including events listings and how to become a member, visit www.slha.org.uk, email info@slha.org.uk or phone 01522 521337.

Becoming a member

If you're interested in Lincolnshire's history and would like to know more, why not consider joining the SLHA?

All new members receive a free copy of a book published by SLHA. Members also enjoy a range of other benefits, including quarterly and annual magazines and an open invitation to all events.

Annual subscription costs £26 for adults, with a concessionary price of £18 for those in full-time education. Family membership costs £27.

The membership form is available to download at the website.

ABOUT JEWS' COURT

Jews' Court – the HQ of the SLHA – has been altered so many times that experts can't agree when it dates from.

Archaeologists put it at around 1300, while architects argue for the 17th-century – no documents have ever been discovered to solve the mystery!

By tradition, Jews' Court is the site of Lincoln's medieval synagogue, but once again the past retains its secrets, and no-one can be sure.

In the 1930s, the building was derelict and due for demolition, but thankfully Lincoln Corporation gave it to a heritage group for refurbishment. Thanks to the SLHA, the building is now at the centre of activity exploring the county's past.

It also has the best local history bookshop in Lincolnshire, as well as selling secondhand fiction and non-fiction donated by supporters. The shop is open from 10am until 4pm, Monday to Saturday.

Appropriately, given its name and history, Jews' Court is still the centre for Jewish worship in Lincoln.

Countryside for all

New leaflets are making it easier for everyone to enjoy Lincolnshire's great outdoors

For those who enjoy the countryside but have limited mobility, a set of leaflets has been produced, featuring all the information you need.

Volunteers have been researching specially selected routes across Lincolnshire, suitable for most abilities to walk or use with wheelchairs or pushchairs.

So far, 16 Countryside for All routes have been published, with a further four in the pipeline. They take in attractive nature reserves and parks, including Bourne Wood, Deeping Lakes, Gibraltar Point and Hubbards Hills. Each leaflet provides information on path surfaces and gradients, as well as the location of seats, steps and gates.

The volunteers are from the Mid Lincolnshire, South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forums (LAFs). They aim to improve access to the countryside and are supported by the council.

Volunteer John Law says: "We aim to highlight routes that are accessible and enjoyable for people with different abilities. We choose the places we're going to feature, and talk to many people, including disability groups, to make the most of local knowledge."

"Research includes detailed measuring of gradients and the width of paths. Other useful information is included to enable people to plan a successful day out."

Could you help?

People who are disabled or carers are being invited to become "accessibility ambassadors". They will liaise with local authorities and



voluntary organisations that manage parks, countryside and green spaces, and advise how to improve accessibility for everyone.

Training will be available to support volunteers. To find out more, please contact cheryl.hall@lincolnshire.gov.uk. Also, in East Lindsey, volunteers are being sought to assist on dementia-friendly strolls for people with dementia and their carers. Email tracey.wilkinson@mvtlc.org.

Routes for riders

For those who like to explore the countryside using horsepower, volunteer John Presgrave has produced a set of circular riding trails in the Lincolnshire Wolds. They range from seven to 18 miles, mainly on bridleways and quiet county lanes, and the maps highlight any roads that need crossing, gates, parking, and pubs!

John said: "This area of the Wolds has delightful countryside, and really benefits from some well-researched routes for horse riders. Through liaising with the council and the British Horse Society, I was able to ensure the routes follow well-maintained tracks that riders can use with confidence."

A special 40th!

The 147-mile Viking Way marked its 40th anniversary in September. It runs from the Humber to Oakham, passing through the Lincolnshire Wolds, the Limewoods and the rolling countryside of South Kesteven.

More information

The Countryside for All leaflets, Lincolnshire Wolds Riding Trails and Viking Way information are all available at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/countryside or from 01522 782070.



FOR ALL: Volunteer Brian Smith, right, leads a group at Whisby Nature Park.

Out and about

The essential guide to what's on in Lincolnshire for autumn 2016

BBMF VISITOR CENTRE

Various dates

Based at RAF Coningsby, Dogdyke Road, Coningsby, LN4 4SY. View the aircraft of the RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, including Spitfires, Hurricanes and a world-famous Lancaster. For admission charges and opening times, visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/bbmf/ 01522 782040.

FIRST WORLD WAR REMEMBERED: 1916 CONSCRIPTION, OBJECTION AND RISE OF THE TANK

10 Sept – 3 Jan, 10am – 4pm

Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3LY. Specially curated exhibition exploring 1916, including the tank. The museum is home to an authentic WW1 tank named Daphne, as well as interactive Royal Lincolnshire Regiment galleries. Free. www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/ 01522 782040.

PP PORTRAIT AWARD 2016

2 Sept – 13 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Usher Gallery, Danes Terrace, Lincoln, LN2 1LP. The most prestigious portraiture competition in the world arrives in Lincoln direct from its 37th year at the National Portrait Gallery, London. (See story in News in Brief section.) Admission charges apply. www.thecollectionmuseum.com/ 01522 782040.

SOUTH Lincs WALKING FESTIVAL

24 Sept – 30 Oct

The second festival, organised by Heritage Lincolnshire, features free guided walks in North and South Kesteven, Boston and South Holland. Roam with ramblers, take the kids, improve your photography, or go "walkies" with your dog. www.southlincswalking.com.

EUAN UGLOW / SARGY MANN EXHIBITION

24 Sept – 8 Jan, 10am – 4pm

The Collection, Danes Terrace, Lincoln, LN2 1LP. Two British painters whose work crosses the boundaries between physical and visual. www.thecollectionmuseum.com/ 01522 782040.

STURTON AND STOW SHOW

1 Oct, 1.30 – 4.30pm

Sturton by Stow School and Youth Wing. The 129th agricultural / horticultural show. Admission by donation – 50p minimum (30p children). www.sturtonandstowshow.wordpress.com/ 01427 717711.

WOLDS WORDS FESTIVAL

1 – 31 Oct (various dates / times)

Centred on Alford, Horncastle, Louth and Spilsby and celebrating the rich culture of rural Lincolnshire. Workshops, talks and events covering literature, heritage, performance, and arts and crafts. Admission varies. www.magnavitae.org/woldswords.

APPLE DAY

2 Oct, 11am – 4pm

Wragby Town Hall, LN8 5PH. Hosted by Lincolnshire Organic Gardeners' Organisation. Free juicing (10kg clean apples), refreshments, produce stall, organic gardening advice. Free admission. www.logo.org.uk/ 01673 818272.

MADE IN SLEAFORD

7 – 8 Oct

Sleaford town centre, around National Centre for Craft and Design and Navigation Wharf. Two-day festival celebrating local manufacturing, design and engineering. Free. www.madeinsleaford.com/ 01529 414155.

LOUTH RIVERHEAD THEATRE

Various dates / times

Victoria Road, Louth. Playgoers present **Sense and Sensibility**, 10 – 15 Oct; **Quartet**, 7 – 12 Nov; **James and the Giant Peach**, 5 – 10 Dec. Also, **Railway Children**, 22 Oct (*Starbright Productions*); **Far from the Madding Crowd**, 19 Nov, (*Hotbuckle Productions*). Box office 01507 600350 / www.louthplaygoers.com.

COSY CONCERTS

13 Oct, 10 Nov, 8 Dec (10am)

Trinity Methodist Church, Barn Hill, Stamford, PE9 2AE. Enjoy top-quality music with your children in a relaxed setting: 13 Oct – Alex Crutchley (trombone); 10 Nov – "Clangers" concert with Estelle Langthorne (recorders) and Eleanor Turner (harp); 8 Dec – Helen Winter (soprano). Children free, adults £5.49 (online advance ticket). www.cosyconcerts.co.uk.

AUTUMN GUIDED WALK

15 Oct, 10am – noon

Lincolnshire Coastal County Park. Meet in car park at Anderby Creek, PE24 5XW. Walk through the dunes looking for migrant birds and coastal wildlife. 07919 326646 / www.lincstrust.co.uk.

WOAD FESTIVAL

15 – 16 Oct, 11am – 3pm

Moulton Windmill, High Street, Moulton, PE12 6QB. Join the fun and find out about woad. www.moultonwindmill.co.uk/ 01406 373237.

SPIRES AND STEEPLES CHALLENGE

16 Oct

From Lincoln Cathedral to National Centre for Craft and Design in Sleaford, discovering artistic and historical treasures of North Kesteven on a 26 or 13-mile run / walk. In aid of WheelPower. www.spiresandsteeples.com or Twitter @Spires_Steeples.

HALLOWEEN TRAIL

22 – 31 Oct, noon – 3pm

Hartsholme Country Park, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln, LN6 0EY. Enjoy being scared on our creepy Halloween Trail! £2.50 per person. Booking essential. www.lincoln.gov.uk/hartsholmecp/ 01522 873735.

◀ WW1 tank at Museum of Lincolnshire Life

HORRIBLE HISTORY DAY

25 Oct, 10am – 3.30pm

The Collection, Danes Terrace, Lincoln, LN2 1LP. Family fun day looking at the gruesome side of history! Free, with optional £1 crafts. www.thecollectionmuseum.com/ 01522 782040.

HOMEMADE HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS

28 Oct, 1 – 4pm

Gainsborough Old Hall, Parnell Street, DN21 2NB. Friday Family Fun Club – make scary light-up Halloween decorations! £1 per child. www.gainsborougholdhall.com/ 01522 782040.

VICTORIAN DAYS OF FEAR

29 – 30 Oct, 7 – 10pm

Lincoln Castle, Castle Hill, LN1 3AA. Join us after dark and a cast of characters will immerse you in the Victorian underworld! Admission charge. www.lincolncastle.com/ 01522 782040.

HALLOWEEN AT THE TERRIFYING TEMPLAR TOWER

30 Oct, 11am – 4pm

Temple Bruer Tower, Temple Road, Lincoln, LN5 0DG. Explore the spooky tower, take the Knights Templar trail and make swords, shields and crowns. Free. www.heritagelincshshire.org/ 01529 461499.

RAINBOW'S HALLOWEEN WITCHES FAIR

30 Oct, noon – 4pm

Silverwood Centre, Long Sutton, PE12 9AU. Also: **Rainbow's Yule Festival**, 26 Nov, noon – 4pm, Holbeach Community Centre, PE12 7DQ; **Rainbow's Pet Fest**, 11 Dec, 11am – 4pm, Curlew Centre, Sutton Bridge, PE12 9SA. www.rainbowfestivals.co.uk/ 01406 259167.

SPOOKY GOINGS-ON

31 Oct, 6 – 7.30pm

Cogglesford Watermill, East Road, Sleaford, NG34 7EQ. Explore this old mill and enjoy Halloween fun. Also: Festive Milling Day, with mulled wine and mince pies, 11 Dec. Both events free. www.cogglesfordwatermill.co.uk/ 01529 413671.

CAISTOR BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

5 Nov, from 6pm

South Street Park, Caistor, LN7 6UB. Organised by Caistor and District Lions. 07908182963 / contact@caistorlions.org.uk.

HANDFUL OF PLEASANT DELIGHTS

6 Nov, 3pm

Priory Church, Deeping St James, PE6 8NP. Freshe Ayre present music from medieval to modern, played on recorders, crumhorns, rebec, symphony and keyboard. Adults £6, children £4 (incl. refreshments). Tickets from 01778 346879 or on door.

MARKET DEEPING REMEMBRANCE GARDEN

6, 11 and 20 Nov

Riverside Gardens, Market Deeping, PE6 8HA. Sun 6th at 3pm – opening; Fri 11th at 11am – two-minute silence; Sun 20th at 3pm – closing. The garden will be opened at a simple ceremony and remain open for two weeks. Residents can plant remembrance crosses throughout the fortnight. 01778 343170.



LINCOLNSHIRE ARTISTS' WINTER EXHIBITION

7 – 20 Nov (except Mon), 10am – 4pm

Sam Scorer Gallery, Drury Lane, Lincoln, LN1 3BN. See the work of talented Lincolnshire artists. Free. www.samscorergallery.co.uk/ 07831 186489.

MARIE CURIE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

9 – 10 Nov (Wed 11am – 6pm, Thurs 9.30am – 4pm)

Petwood Hotel, Woodhall Spa. Over 60 stalls – your Christmas shopping all wrapped up! Event raises £7,000 for Marie Curie. Tickets £4 incl. tea / coffee. www.marie.curie.org.uk/ 07525 801531.

ROMEO AND JULIET

11 Nov

Embassy Theatre, Skegness, PE25 2UG. Ballet Theatre UK tell the tale of star-crossed lovers with astonishing grace. Tickets £12 – £20, families £56. www.embassytheatre.co.uk/ 01507 613100.

THE RISE OF THE TANK

15 Nov, 2 – 3pm

Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3LY. On the 100th anniversary of the first appearance of tanks, WW1 historian Richard Pullen gives an illustrated talk on their development and early use. Free. www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/ 01522 782040.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

17 Nov, 5.30 – 8pm

High Street / St Mark's Square, Lincoln. Start the countdown to Christmas at this annual fun-packed event. Free. www.visitlincoln.com/ 01522 545458.

CHRISTMAS GIFT AND CRAFT FAIR

20 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Moulton Windmill, High Street, Moulton, PE12 6QB. Stalls selling handcrafted items and gifts. Free entry and parking. Refreshments in Granary Tea Room. Mill tours until 3pm. www.moultonwindmill.co.uk/ 01406 373237.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET

20 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Caistor Town Hall, LN7 6QU. Caistor Lions annual event. 07908 182963 / contact@caistorlions.org.uk.

LOUTH CHORAL SOCIETY

20 Nov, 7.30pm

St James's Church, Louth. Autumn concert conducted by Martin Pickering and accompanied by Lincolnshire Chamber Orchestra. Also, Christmas concert – 17 Dec, 7.30pm. Festive favourites for all. www.louthchoral.co.uk/ or Eve & Ranshaw, Louth.

FESTIVAL OF DECORATED CHRISTMAS TREES

26 Nov, 10am – 4pm; 27 Nov, 11am – 5pm

Sleaford Methodist Church, Northgate. Opened by Mayor and Town Crier. Adults £2.50, children free. Donation from proceeds will be given to Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance. Refreshments available. Facilities for disabled people.

SEA WATCH

26 Nov, 11am – 3pm

Lincolnshire Coastal County Park. Round-and-round hide, 500m south of Anderby Creek Car Park, Sea Road, PE24 5XW. Join coastal ranger to scan the sea for what's passing – perhaps a seal or porpoise! 07919 326646 / www.lincstrust.co.uk.

STOW CHRISTMAS MARKET

26 Nov, noon – 3pm

Stow Minster. Stalls and refreshments in

the historic minster. Admission free. www.stowminster.co.uk/ 01427 788787.

CHRISTMAS MARKET AND LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

26 Nov, 2pm onwards (lights after dark)

Caistor Market Place, LN7 6TU.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

26 – 27 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Gainsborough Old Hall, Parnell Street, DN21 2NB. As the Hall fills with the festive sounds, sights and tastes of Victorian Christmas, a host of specially chosen crafts people unveil their unique gifts and homeware. Admission £1. www.gainsborougholdhall.com/ 01522 782040.

CHRISTMAS MARKET

27 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Market Place, Market Deeping, PE6 8EA. Goods from cheeses, meats and local beer to jewellery, paintings and gift ideas. Entertainment from local groups and schools. 01778 343170.

SPALDING CHRISTMAS MARKET

27 Nov, 10am – 4pm

Market Place, PE11 1SL. 40-plus stalls, carol singers, band, Father Christmas, street entertainers, street food and children's entertainer. Free. www.spaldingchristmasmarket.co.uk/ 07703 656238.

CATS PANTO

30 Nov – 3 Dec, 7.30pm (plus Sat matinee)

Caistor Town Hall, LN7 6QU. Caistor Amateur Theatrical Society presents Sleeping Beauty. Tickets from Caistor Post Office on 01472 851201.

LINCOLN CHRISTMAS MARKET

1 – 4 Dec (various times)

Castle Hill and surrounding area. Visit the magnificent market – craft stalls, food and drink from around the world, and much more! Free admission. www.lincoln-christmasmarket.co.uk/ 01522 881188.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

3 – 4 Dec, 10am – 4pm

Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Rd, Lincoln, LN1 3LY. Victorian characters prepare a traditional Christmas in our historic room-sets. Refreshments in tearoom. Free admission. www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/museumoflincolnshirelife/ 01522 782040.

GIFTED CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS MARKET

6 – 7 Dec

National Centre for Craft and Design, Navigation Wharf, Carre St, Sleaford, NG34

7DW. Two-day craft and food market, kicking off an exciting seasonal programme. Free entry. www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/ 01529 308710.

BRANSBY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

10 Dec, 1 – 4pm

Bransby Horses, Bransby, LN1 2PH. Festive fun, shopping and delicious food. Plus, seasonal craft stalls, Santa's grotto, carols and mulled wine. Admission free, donations gratefully received. www.bransbyhorses.co.uk/ 01427 788464.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN JUBILEE PARK

16 Dec, 7pm

Thackers Way, Deeping St James, PE6 8HP. Come along to sign and hang a bauble on the tree. Free. www.dsipc.co.uk/ 01778 343266.

PETER PAN

16 – 27 Dec

Embassy Theatre Skegness, PE25 2UG. All your favourite characters, including beautiful Tigerlily, naughty Tinkerbell and dastardly Captain Hook! Tickets £10 – £17, families £53. www.embassytheatre.co.uk/ 01507 613100.

CHRISTMAS TRAIL

17 – 21 Dec, noon – 3pm

Hartsholme Country Park, Skellingthorpe Road, Lincoln, LN6 0EY. Help Father Christmas find his lost reindeer. £2.50 per person. Booking essential. www.lincoln.gov.uk/hartsholmecp/ 01522 873735.

CAROLS ROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

20 Dec, 7pm

Market Place, Market Deeping, PE6 8EA. Sing carols in a short service led by the Rector, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in town hall. 01778 343170.

EVENT PUBLICITY

To submit details of an event for a future edition, please email countynews@lincolnshire.gov.uk at least three months before it takes place. Due to the volume of requests, we cannot guarantee inclusion, so please make other publicity arrangements.

You can also publicise events on Lincolnshire County Council's website. Visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/whatson.

ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS

FOR

PARKS, GREEN OPEN SPACES AND THE COUNTRYSIDE

IN

LINCOLNSHIRE, N.E. LINCOLNSHIRE, LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

1. INTRODUCTION

A number of Government departments and other organisations have recognised for some time that being in parks, green open spaces and the countryside improves peoples' health and general wellbeing. Evidence provided by Natural England shows that people with disabilities do not access these spaces as much as other people. There could be a number of reasons for this but one of the major issues must be suitable access. This report examines how accessibility ambassadors could assist in delivering improvements for the disabled and their carers to access parks, green spaces and open countryside.

2. LAND OWNERS/MANAGERS ALLOWING PUBLIC ACCESS

In many cases Land owners and managers allowing public access do not cater for the disabled. Some are keen to learn and a number of local authority representatives and representatives of national organisations have attended the inclusive countryside access courses, delivered by the Countryside For All trainer used by the South/Mid Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forums Disability sub group. A number of these organisations ask for advice to help their future plans include more appropriate access for the disabled. There are also a number of organisations which feel for one reason or another they do not need to make improvements. The disability sub group has an ever increasing workload and recognises that it cannot make real improvements for the disabled by continuing to use the same processes. There needs to be more time spent with the land owners and managers to enable them to understand the issues facing the disabled. This is where the role of the accessibility manager would assist to move improvements forward. These improvements may be physical changes of the route/site or improvements in communication to enable people to understand what is available and the physical barriers of the route/site.

3. THE ROLE OF ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS

The role of the accessibility ambassador working with organisations which allow public access should include:

- Identifying issues for improvement

- Discussing the improvements required with the organisation

Jointly creating an annual action plan with the organisation

Assisting in funding applications

Monitoring progress of improvements

Liaising with Land owners and managers

Undertake appropriate training

Quarterly attending the accessibility ambassadors meeting to report on progress, receive additional training and network with other ambassadors.

4. PERSON SPECIFICATION FOR ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADOR

The accessibility ambassador should either be disabled or a carer. The role will require the ambassador to drive or be driven by their carer as a number of sites are not easily visited by public transport. Unfortunately expenses cannot be paid. It is essential that the accessibility ambassador is a team player.

5. RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

It is getting difficult to recruit volunteers in a number of areas in the voluntary sector. With this being a new role it may prove even more difficult to attract volunteers. The number of volunteers required for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland is 32. The number of volunteers for Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire is also 32. It is envisaged that attracting this number of volunteers may not be reached. To make the project worthwhile it is thought that a minimum of 8 accessibility ambassadors in each Region is necessary. Prior to obtaining funding it is necessary to find the level of interest there is from people who are disabled and carers in becoming accessibility ambassadors. Appendix A displays a questionnaire for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland potential volunteers. Appendix B displays a questionnaire for Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire potential volunteers.

6. TRAINING OF ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS

To ensure the accessibility ambassador has the confidence and can provide the right advice to organisations it is important they receive the right training. The training providers are currently being selected. The training will include accessibility training and design of sensory open spaces/trails. It is expected that the training will be a two day course plus a half day at a later stage to deliver training on the role of the accessibility ambassador. An overview of the two day training course is displayed in appendix C. The training will be delivered for Leicestershire and Rutland then Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire. A handbook will also be provided for the accessibility ambassador to guide them in their role.

7. ALLOCATING ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADOR TO AREA

The volunteers will initially be asked at the recruitment stage to indicate in order of preference the local authority area they wish to work in.

8. ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS REGIONS

In order for the accessibility ambassadors to have a body which will provide advice, direction, support and further training as required etc. it is necessary to examine the capabilities of the organisations which will assist in driving this project forward. Leicestershire Centre for Integrated Living (LCIL) is well regarded as being able to manage these types of projects. LCIL represents the disabled and carers of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Although Rutland is the responsibility of the South Lincolnshire Local Access Forum it makes sense for the Rutland team of accessibility ambassadors to become the responsibility of LCIL. As there are no major organisations similar to LCIL representing the disabled in Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire the Mid/South Lincolnshire and Rutland Disability sub group will take on the role of being responsible for the accessibility ambassadors until a suitable organisation believes it can take over the role. To ensure the sub group follows the Natural England Guideline for Local Access Forums the Lincolnshire ambassadors will need to be seconded to the Disability sub group.

9. FUNDING

Prior to requesting funding it is important to assess the interest from volunteers. To ensure we can get the volunteers required for the project it is necessary to publicise the need for voluntary accessibility ambassadors. Following on from that establish how many people would be interested in attending the 2.5 day course and being active accessibility ambassadors.

10. ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS TEAMS

To enable the accessibility ambassadors to work efficiently and have a real impact a team of ambassadors would be allocated either to a district, borough or city council's geographical area. Each team should consist of four ambassadors. The team would choose a chair person and would operate as a committee.

11. AREA ANOMOLIES

With Oadby and Wigston district council's geographical area being small and compact this should be included in with Leicester City areas team's workload.

12. PRIORITISING THE WORK OF THE TEAM

The team would select the organisations within their area to prioritise, prioritise their work and manage their workload. To enable quick wins to be achieved, working initially with the teams area local authority should be most advantageous.

13. ORGANISATIONS CROSSING THE TEAM'S BOUNDARIES

When the team wish to carry out work with an organisation that crosses their boundary it is important that the chair person communicates this to all chairs involved. In some cases it may be ideal to work jointly with the team in the neighbouring area, if the improvement is one which could be replicated in more than one area of the organisation.

14. INTRODUCTION OF ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADOR TO THEIR AREA ORGANISATIONS

The regional coordinator organisation should email the land owners/managers with public access informing them of the team of ambassadors operating in the area. This email should also explain the role of the ambassadors and their contact details.

15. ANNUAL CYCLE OF IMPROVEMENTS

The area team of accessibility ambassadors will be responsible for contacting the land owners/managers with public access in their areas, investigating what improvements can be made and agreeing an action plan. That action plan may include short term and long term goals. That action should be signed by the land owner/manager as the agreed action plan. World Disability Day which is expected to be held in December 2017 will be when the action plans for both of the regions will be announced. The relevant land owners/managers will be invited to the event along with the accessibility ambassadors. The World Disability Day 2018 event should include the achievements from the past year and the plan for the year going forward. A further 3 meetings per year should take place at quarterly intervals for the accessibility ambassadors to network etc.

16. LAND OWNERS/MANAGERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Prior to the World Disability Day the achievements for the year will be summarised and the accessibility ambassadors within each region will be able to vote for the land owners/managers which have made the greatest achievements in improvements.

17. FUNDING OF MEETINGS AND ANNUAL EVENT

The local authorities in the region should jointly fund the quarterly meetings excluding the annual event. This should include contributions towards the hire of the venue, teas, coffees and biscuits. With there being 8 local authorities in the Lincolnshire Region and 9 local authorities in the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Region this should be a very small cost for the local authorities to share. The annual event should be held in a venue which is appropriate for the occasion. For Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland something similar to the rooms at the King Power or Tigers Stadium would be appropriate. It is hoped that these facilities could be provided free of charge for the event.

18. TIMESCALES

Once the level of interest is established by volunteers in becoming accessibility ambassadors funding can be sought. It is hoped that the expressions of interest can be obtained by the end of September 2016. If there is enough interest funding could then be sought. It is expected funding for training should be obtained by the end of April 2017. Training could then be delivered by the end of September 2017. It may be useful to stagger the training and implementation to enable any unforeseen issues to be addressed.

ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS REQUIRED

IN

LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

Are you disabled or a carer?

Do you want to improve accessibility to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

Would you like to volunteer for the Leicestershire Centre for Integrated Living, to work with organisations which provide public access to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

Can you drive or do you have a carer who will drive for you?

If the answer is yes to the questions above you may like to become an accessibility ambassador. The accessibility ambassador works with a team of ambassadors investigating access improvements required, discussing the improvements with organisations and assisting in developing an annual action plan. The role will include travelling to different sites but unfortunately expenses cannot be paid.

Two and a half days training will be provided.

We are currently examining how many volunteers are interested in this role. Once we have established the numbers we will apply for funding to deliver the training. When we have been successful in attracting funding we will contact those of you who are interested in becoming an accessibility ambassador to advise you of training dates etc.

If you are interested in becoming an accessibility ambassador please complete the following:

Name:

Phone number:

Email address:

Please indicate the geographical area you wish to work in. Number 1 being your 1st choice and number 8 being your last choice. If you do not wish to work in a specific area please leave blank:

Leicester City, Oadby and Wigston District Council	
Blaby District Council	
Harborough District Council	
Melton District Council	
Charnwood District Council	
North West Leicestershire District Council	
Hinckley and Bosworth District Council	
Rutland County Council	

Please note we aim to deliver the training either in or close to Leicester.

ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS REQUIRED

IN

LINCOLNSHIRE AND NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

Are you disabled or a carer?

Do you want to improve accessibility to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

Would you like to volunteer for the Local Access Forums disability sub group, to work with organisations which provide public access to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

Can you drive or do you have a carer who will drive for you?

If the answer is yes to the questions above you may like to become an accessibility ambassador. The accessibility ambassador works with a team of ambassadors investigating access improvements required, discussing the improvements with organisations and assisting in developing an annual action plan. The role will include travelling to different sites but unfortunately expenses cannot be paid.

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Please indicate the geographical area you wish to work in. Number 1 being your 1st choice and number 8 being your last choice. If you do not wish to work in a specific area please leave blank:

City of Lincoln	
West Lindsey District Council	
East Lindsey District Council	
North Kesteven District Council	
South Kesteven District Council	
South Holland District Council	
Boston Borough Council	
North East Lincolnshire County Council	

Please note, we intend to deliver the training in both the north and south of Lincolnshire. If we do not have enough volunteers to run two training courses, the training course will be delivered in a more central area.

TWO DAY TRAINING COURSE OVERVIEW

Introducing the role of Accessibility Ambassadors

Principles of inclusion

Equality legislation

Countryside equality scenarios

Countryside for All standards

Accessible publications

Definition of a sensory garden and how to create one

Benefits of a sensory garden and how they can be used to deliver health, social and learning benefits

Sensory plants, what makes a good one, how to choose and use

Ideas for different spaces

Pitfalls and how to avoid them

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Agenda Item 7

ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS APPLICATION PACK

1. THE ROLE OF ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS

The role of the accessibility ambassador working with organisations which allow public access should include: Identifying issues for improvement

Discussing the improvements required with the organisation

Jointly creating an annual action plan with the organisation

Assisting in funding applications

Monitoring progress of improvements

Liaising with Land owners and managers

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3. TWO DAY TRAINING COURSE OVERVIEW

Introducing the role of Accessibility Ambassadors

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Sensory plants, what makes a good one, how to choose and use

Ideas for different spaces

Pitfalls and how to avoid them

ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS REQUIRED

IN

LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

Are you disabled or a carer?

Do you want to improve accessibility to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

Would you like to volunteer for the Leicestershire Centre for Integrated Living, to work with organisations which provide public access to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

Can you drive or do you have a carer who will drive for you?

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Blaby District Council	
Harborough District Council	
Melton District Council	
Charnwood District Council	
North West Leicestershire District Council	
Hinckley and Bosworth District Council	
Rutland County Council	

Please email the details above to: john.law_32@yahoo.co.uk

Please note we aim to deliver the training either in or close to Leicester.

ACCESSIBILITY AMBASSADORS REQUIRED

IN

LINCOLNSHIRE AND NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE

Are you disabled or a carer?

Do you want to improve accessibility to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

Would you like to volunteer for the Local Access Forums disability sub group, to work with organisations which provide public access to parks, green open spaces and the countryside?

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West Lindsey District Council	
East Lindsey District Council	
North Kesteven District Council	
South Kesteven District Council	
South Holland District Council	
Boston Borough Council	
North East Lincolnshire County Council	

Please email the details above to: john.law_32@yahoo.co.uk

Please note, we intend to deliver the training in both the north and south of Lincolnshire. If we do not have enough volunteers to run two training courses, the training course will be delivered in a more central area.

Agenda Item 8

HEALTH RELATED WALKS FROM APRIL 2017

We are continuing with our work to obtain funding for Walking for Health and dementia friendly walks County wide. The project has fell behind plan due to the delay in information being provided. Discussions have taken place with current providers. All the current providers with the exception of South Kesteven wish to continue providing the service if funding is provided. 1Life are interested in providing the service in South Kesteven. We are aiming to secure three years worth of funding and have asked the providers to provide targets and costs for year 1, 2 and 3. At the time of writing this report we have still not received the information. Below is a breakdown of the status County wide:

West Lindsey voluntary community group, run by Jackie Brown will continue without funding. However we aim to obtain funding to assist this group.

Boston voluntary community group will deliver Walking For Health in Boston. There may be a requirement to fund some work in the future.

East Lindsey's Walking For Health and Dementia Friendly Walks will continue to be delivered by Magna Vitae providing we obtain funding. The project team are waiting for information from Magna Vitae.

City of Lincoln's Walking For Health and Dementia Friendly Walks will continue to be delivered by City of Lincoln providing we obtain funding. The project team are waiting for information from City of Lincoln.

North Kesteven Walking For Health and Dementia Friendly Walks will continue to be delivered by 1Life providing we obtain funding. The project team are waiting for information from 1Life.

South Kesteven Walking For Health will be delivered by 1Life providing we obtain funding. Meeting arranged for 13th October with 1Life.

South Holland - The current volunteer walk leaders will provide the information for 1Life to enter into the Walking For Health data base. However it is our aim to secure funding for 1Life to grow the number of walks and participants in South Holland. The project team are waiting for information from 1Life.

A meeting has been arranged for 27th October with Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service. This is to investigate whether they can deliver dementia friendly walks in all parts of the County with the exception of East Lindsey, City of Lincoln and North Kesteven.

Meetings are now taking place with the Clinical Commissioning Groups to explore possible funding opportunities.

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REPORTS ON MAKING OUR NEEDS KNOWN AND PERMISSIVE ACCESS

SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RETURNS FROM LAFs

	No. Of LAFs	Responses to Making our needs known (An England Access Forum)	Agree with recommendations to Making our Needs Known	Disagree with recommendations to Making our Needs Known	Responses to Proposals for future permissive access (Payment for Permissive Access)	Agree with Proposals for future permissive access	Disagree with Proposals for future permissive access
West Mid's	10	0			0		
East Mid's *	8	3(Note 1)	2	1	3(Note 1)	3	
South East	17	5 (Note 2)	2	3	3 (Note 2)	3	
Total	35	8	4	4	6	6	0

* Northant's LAF has been removed from the above, as they are now in a different region

Note 1: Includes South Linc's and Rutland LAF

Note 2: Includes Mid and West Berk's

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Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment and Economy

Report to:	South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum
Date:	26 October 2016
Subject:	English Coast Path – Sutton Bridge to Skegness

Summary: To provide an update of the latest situation of the English Coast Path, Sutton Bridge to Skegness.

Recommendation(s):

That the report be noted

Background

Lincolnshire County Council continues to work with Natural England on the provision of the English Coast Path with the sections from Sutton Bridge to Skegness and from Skegness to Mablethorpe already progressing. The section from Mablethorpe to the Humber will be started imminently and initial scoping meeting between the authority and Natural England have taken place.

Although most landowners along the stretch have had a visit although Natural England are currently at a difficult stage to make much progress with finalising the route and there are two issues that need answering before we can continue with work on the less obvious parts of the route that will not follow an existing public right of way.

The issue of crossing the Steeping River persists as Natural England have not yet identified a way of getting to the existing IDB bridge by a route that was both safe and avoided unacceptable disturbance and are investigating the option of a new crossing closer to the visitor centre. Quotes for such a provision have been recently received and it would appear that a realistic range for a new crossing would be between £90,000 to £130,000. LCC has been informed that should no alternative route be found then it is possible that the Coastal Path budget could support this amount and the idea will be continued to be developed as one of the options.

Council officers have however raised significant concerns regarding the operation of such a bridge alongside the matter of funding future maintenance. It has been suggested that Natural England should also investigate the potential of a route that

passes much further inland however this would have the effect of bypassing Gibraltar Point to a greater extent and does not fit with the principles of the coastal path.

The second issue is that of agreement with other areas of Natural England responsible for the SSSIs at Gibraltar Point and around the Wash on avoiding disturbance to the notified species. Until they have accepted that the expected level of use and mitigating measures will avoid disturbance Natural England cannot proceed with finalising the route along the preferred line.

The main areas of uncertainty are therefore around the crossing of the Steeping, Wainfleet to Friskney and the Freiston Shore area. At Gibraltar Point agreement with the Wildlife Trust to a fair level of detail for the route north from the visitor centre has been achieved with proposals for the route to take a route partly along the dune ridge and partly at the base. This takes into account Council advice that maintenance cutting would be more easily done in a strip at the base (providing a dry path and one that avoids trampling sensitive dune slack plants) and avoids significant and expensive scrub clearance on the dune ridge.

The schedule for the stretch is still to complete the report detailing the proposed route by June 2017. At this point the report is submitted to the Secretary of State and there is a brief opportunity for final objections and representations. The proposal should be given approval with or without alterations by December 2017. Establishment work can then begin so that the route will be ready to open at the end of 2018. It is accepted though that if the option of constructing a new bridge is chosen it may not be possible to complete this in time for the opening of the rest of this section .

Skegness to Mablethorpe

Natural England are in the processes of finalising the route for the coast path for this section with the major issues under consideration being the golf club at North Shore, Skegness, the road junction at Quebec Road, Mablethorpe and the potential for a seafront boardwalk to adjoin the existing sea defence at Chapel St Leonards near to the Sea Observatory being constructed at present. It is envisaged that timescales will be similar to those at Sutton Bridge to Skegness.

Mablethorpe to Humber Bridge

Natural England announced on 14th October the starting of the final Lincolnshire stretch of the Coast Path and walking the course with officers from LCC and North East Lincolnshire Council will begin in the near future. Drop in Sessions at North Somercotes and in Grimsby are due to be undertaken in December.

Conclusion

For noting only

Consultation

N/A

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

This report was written by Chris Miller MIPROW Team Leader – Countryside Services, Environmental Services, Lincolnshire County Council (Tel No. 01522 782070 x53091 email:- countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

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Definitive Map Modification Orders update - Rutland County Council - Oct 2016

Location	Status	Path Ref	Legislation	File Date	Comments
Preston	Footpath	Barbers Lane	WCA s53(3)(b)	17/12/2003	Submitted to PINS 10th August 2016
Braunston	Footpath		WCA s53(3)(c)(i)	22/07/2011	Submitted to PINS 1st August 2016 & rejected
Thorpe-by-Water	Footpath		WCA s53(3)(c)(i)	08/11/2013	Determined 3rd October 2016
Oakham	Footpath		WCA s53(3)(c)(i)	04/12/2013	
Clipsham	Footpath		WCA s53(3)(c)(i)	12/11/2014	Under investigation
Ketton	Footpath		WCA s53(3)(c)(i)	18/09/2015	
Wardley	Bridleway		WCA s53(3)(c)(i)	09/02/2014	RCC directed to make Order by PINS 28th June 2016
Lyddington	Footpath	E306	WCA s53(3)(c)(iii)		Order to record additional width over section of footpath

Since Jul 2016:

0 Orders confirmed
 2 Case referred
 0 New cases received
 0 Order declined

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Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment & Economy

Report to: **South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum**
Date: **26 October 2016**
Subject: **Definitive Map Modification Orders - Ongoing**

Summary:

A report on the progress of Definitive Map Modification Order Currently being undertaken

Recommendation(s):

That the report is noted & formal written advice provided as required.

1. Background

As Surveying Authority the County Council has a statutory duty to keep under continuous review the Definitive Rights of Way Map and Statement for Lincolnshire and to make orders to take account of events requiring the map to be modified. This is carried out by the processing of Definitive Map Modification Orders (DMMOs) which are either applied for by the public or initiated by the Authority on the discovery of evidence.

Highways & Traffic Guidance Note HAT33/3/11 sets out that such cases will be dealt with in order of receipt/initiation unless one or more of the eight "exception criteria" apply.

The criteria are as follows:

1. Where there is sustained aggression, hostility and ill feeling within a community that is causing severe disruption to the life of that community, and that in processing the case early there is a strong likelihood that this will reduce.
2. Where there is a significant threat to the route, likely to cause a permanent obstruction (e.g. a building, but not, for example, a locked gate or residential fencing).
3. Where there is, or has been, a finding of maladministration by the Local Government Ombudsman on a particular case and that in processing the case the County Council will discharge its duty to the Ombudsman's decision.

4. Where legal proceedings against the County Council are instigated or are likely to be instigated and it is possible that the Authority has a liability.
5. Where there is a risk to children on County Council owned property and land or where the claimed route would provide for a safer alternative route to a school, play area or other amenity for children.
6. Where there is a significant financial saving to the County Council (and therefore taxpayers) through the processing of an Order.
7. Where a new application is received that relies on evidence of a case already received or, if the new application forms part of or is adjoining to an existing claim, the new claim will be dealt with at the same time as the older application.
8. Where the route will significantly assist in achieving a Countryside and Rights of Way Improvement Plan Objective or Statement of Action.

The above numbered exception criteria do not cover every eventuality and it is recognised that in exceptional circumstances there may be other reasons why it would benefit the public for a case to be considered out of normal order. Officers will not prioritise any case under such circumstances and any appeal will only be considered by the Definitive Map & Statement of Public Rights of Way Sub-Committee.

Initially the priority of a case is set by Officers however there is a right of appeal for any affected persons whereby a decision is made by the Definitive Map & Statement of Public Rights of Way Sub-Committee.

Appendix A, provides an outline of the position of cases currently deemed to be "active" within the prioritisation policy.

2. Consultation

- a) Scrutiny Comments**
- b) Executive Councillor Comments**
- c) Local Member Comments**
- d) Policy Proofing Actions Required**

n/a

3. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Outline summaries of "active" modification order cases as at 14 October 2016
Appendix B	Appeals against prioritisation – Q2 2016-17
Appendix C	Definitive Map Case Prioritisation (LINK) – Paper copies available on request

4. Background papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Highways & Traffic Guidance Note 33 – Prioritisation of Definitive Map Modification Orders - HAT 33/3/11

This report was written by Chris Miller, Team Leader – Countryside Services, who can be contacted on 01522 782070 or countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

APPENDIX A - Outline Summaries of "active" modification order cases

PARISH	CASE No.		CASE TITLE	FORMAL APP?	Date	UPDATE
Ancaster	2	BOAT	Regrade from RB to BOAT	Yes	13/11/91	Currently revisiting extensive file work from long-standing case.
Colsterworth / Gunby & Stainby	259	PF	Colsterworth FP14 & Stainby PF 1(pt)	No	19/05/04	Confirmed with modifications (Deletion of PF 14 accepted but realignment of PF1 wqas not) – Objections received to the modified order. Determination still awaited.
Utterby	354	PF	Claimed Footpath from Grange Lane to Holy Well Lane	Yes	08/05/12	Submitted to the Secretary of State 8/12/2015 – Public Inquiry set to 15/11/2016
Utterby	355	PF	Claimed Footpath from Grange Lane to former railway and beyond	Yes	08/05/12	Submitted to the Secretary of State 8/12/2015 – Public Inquiry set to 15/11/2016
New Leake	353	PF	Claimed Footpath from Spilsby Rd to Spilsby Rd	Yes	30/05/12	COMPLETE - Submitted to the Secretary of State 18/11/2015 - Not Confirmed SoS found that there was insufficient evidence for Common Law dedication
Belton / Gt. Gonerby	12	PF	Belton to Great Gonerby (Gads Lane)	Yes	01/11/83	Submitted to Secretary of State – Hearing to be held 29/11/2016
North Somercotes / Marshchapel / Grainthorpe	374	PF	Upgrade of PF 18 to PB between Stonebridge Cottages, North Somercotes & Keyholme Lane, Marshchapel	Yes	4/8/2014	LCC Decision not to make an Order. W&CA81, Schedule 14 appeal made by applicant to Secretary of State
South Willingham / Benniworth	96	PF	Claimed PF from Grange farm, Low Barns to road south of Skirbeck House	Yes	30/04/86	COMPLETE Submitted to the Secretary of State – Not Confirmed – Insufficient evidence
South Willingham	97	PF	Hainton Rd to High St	Yes	30/04/86	Statement of Reasons prepared. submitted to Secretary of State 22 July 2016 – Awaiting notification of Start Date
South Willingham / Hainton	98	PF	Moors Lane to A157	Yes	30/04/86	Statement of Reasons prepared. submitted to Secretary of State 22 July 2016 – Awaiting notification of Start Date
South Willingham	99	PF	Moors lane to Poplar Fm	Yes	30/04/86	Statement of Reasons prepared. submitted to Secretary of State 22 July 2016 – Awaiting notification of Start Date
Woodhall Spa	193	PF	Mill Lane to R.Witham Bank	Yes	12/05/98	Order made and a number of objections received - Statement of Grounds prepared and submitted to Secretary of State – Public Inquiry 22 February 2017
Coningsby	182	PF	School Lane to Dogdyke Road	Yes	06/11/97	Order made and a number of objections received. Statement of Reasons being prepared.
Navenby	384	PB	Claimed bridleway from Grantham Road to Doncaster Gardens	Yes	16/04/15	LCC Decision not to make an Order. W&CA81, Schedule 14 appeal made by applicant to Secretary of State
North Ormsby	379	PF	Claimed footpath between north end of PF 357 and metalled highway in centre of North Ormsby	Yes	14/11/14	Investigations ongoing

APPENDIX A - Outline Summaries of "active" modification order cases

Castle Bytham	136	RB	Reclassification of RB	No	22/10//90	Investigation Ongoing
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BOAT – Byway Open to All Traffic

RB – Restricted Byway

PB – Public Bridleway

PF – Public Footpath

- **Total Number of cases (Formal application or Self-initiated) – 152 still outstanding inclusive of those awaiting determination by the Secretary of State (10 including 2 Sch 14 Appeal) at 14th October 2016**

APPENDIX B – Appeals against prioritisation Q2 2015-16

There have been no appeals determined in this quarter although one appeal (Ludborough) has been submitted but is yet to be heard.

Appendix C – Outstanding Modification Order Cases

Parish	File	Status	Further details	Application/Acceptance	Active	Priority Ranking
North Ormsby	379	PF	Claimed footpath between north end of PF 357 and metalled highway in centre of North Ormsby	14/11/2014	Yes	1
Castle Bytham	136	RB	RB 3	22/10/1990	Yes	2
Ancaster	2	RB	to BOAT	13/11/1991	Yes	3
Coningsby	182	PF	School Lane to Dogdyke Road	06/11/1997	Yes	4
Colsterworth / Gunby & Stainby	259	PF	Colsterworth FP14 & Stainby FP 1(pt)	19/05/2004	Yes	5
Utterby	354	PF	Claimed Footpath from Grange Lane to Holy Well Lane	08/05/2012	Yes	6
Utterby	355	PF	Claimed Footpath from Grange Lane to former railway and beyond	08/05/2012	Yes	7
Tetford	365	PF	Addition of missing link to PF 33	30/09/2013	Yes	8
North Somercotes / Marshchapel / Grainthorpe	374	PF	Upgrade of PF 18 to PB between Stonebridge Cottages, North Somercotes & Keyholme Lane, Marshchapel	04/08/2014	Yes	9
Long Bennington / Westborough & Dry Doddington	377	PF	Claimed footpath between Westborough Lane & bridge on Church St. along east bank of River Witham. Also access to route from Winters Lane & Sparrow Lane.	19/09/2014	Yes	10
Navenby	384	PB	Claimed bridleway from Grantham Road to Doncaster Gardens	16/04/2015	Yes	11
Navenby	385	PF	Deletion of PF13	14/04/2016	Yes	12
Belton / Gt. Gonerby	12	PF	Belton to Great Gonerby via Gonerby Grange (Gadds Lane)	01/11/1983	Yes	13
South Willingham	97	PF	Hainton Rd to High St	30/04/1986	Yes	14
South Willingham / Hainton	98	PF	Moors Lane to A157	30/04/1986	Yes	15
South Willingham	99	PF	Moors lane to Poplar Fm	30/04/1986	Yes	16
Woodhall Spa	193	PF	Mill Lane to R.Witham Bank	12/05/1998	Yes	17

ACTIVE CASEWORK

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Public Path Orders update - Rutland County Council - Oct 2016

Location	Status	Path Ref	Legislation	Application Date	Comments
Caldecott	Bridleway	E315	HA s119	N/A	Order to be drafted
Lyddington	Footpath	E314	HA s119	N/A	Order to be drafted
Clipsham	Bridleway	E135	TCPA s257/S261	N/A	Legal in discussions with applicant.
Clipsham	Bridleway	E134	HA s119	N/A	Legal in discussions with applicant.
Langham	Footpath	D85	HA s119	24/04/2015	Order published 24th June 2016. Objection received.
Hambleton	Footpath	E341	HA s119	07/05/2015	Legal agreement with Anglian Water drafted

Since Jul 2016:

- 0 Orders made
- 0 Orders confirmed
- 0 Order came into operation
- 0 Orders abandoned
- 0 Cases referred
- 0 New case opened

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Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment & Economy

Report to:	South Lincolnshire and Rutland Local Access Forum
Date:	26 October 2016
Subject:	Progress of Public Path Orders

Summary:

A report on the progress of Public Path Orders

Recommendation(s):

That the report is noted and formal written advice given where required

1. Background

The County Council has a power to divert, extinguish or create public rights of way either of its own volition or following an application to do so from the public. The Council may also enter into agreements with landowners regarding the dedication of public rights.

2. Summary of ongoing cases

The County Council is currently working on a number of cases most notably as follows.

- A package of diversions to realign routes in the Coastal Country Park area including the potential dedication of a bridleway over a current footpath. The reports from the consultant reviewing this package has been received and progress will be imminent
- Level crossing diversion orders at Tallington and Whisby the latter is about to have an order made to divert in the near future
- Orders to realign a number of PROW affected by a level crossing at Claypole which will also resolve "missing link" and path status change issues.
- A diversion to enable the managed realignment of the coastal sea defence at North Somercotes
- Diversions affecting school/parish recreation fields in Claypole

These public path orders have been undertaken as they fall within one of three of the following strategic areas

- Applications from members of the public where public benefit in the proposal can be demonstrated in line with Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- Cases that form part of wider green infrastructure schemes (Coastal Country Park, Witham Valley Country Park etc.)
- Cases forming part of wider Council strategies (Road / Rail Partnerships, Environmental strategies)

The County Council will be reviewing its position of public path orders when greater detail regarding the Deregulation Act 2015 regulations is known.

3. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Chris Miller, who can be contacted on 01522 782070 or countryside_access@lincolnshire.gov.uk .