



**Lincolnshire County Council LCC
North Kesteven District Council NKDC**

News from your local, Independent Councillor,
MARIANNE OVERTON MBE

Our year

Wishing you all you good health, happiness and success in 2017!

Deciding what success looks like and what we want out of our work or out of life itself is the foundation of our New Year Resolutions. Shall we wait for good things to happen or give them a little help? Life never turns out as we expect, but it is surprising how many objectives are achieved, albeit not always in the way intended. Often a closed door opens a new one and the important point is to make the best of life.

So Brexit, Trump and a new Prime minister brings change and opportunity. Nationally and locally, I am working on getting the best for Lincolnshire and for Britain as we leave the EU 1973-2019. Another door was revealed recently in the form of the Council of the European Municipalities and Regions where all 42 countries of European Local Government have been working solidly together since 1951! This is joint working body well established outside the EU, but not legally binding.

Some countries have many referenda and compulsory voting, but tackling six by-elections across the County and the PCC elections in one year has been a tough call. Thank you for sticking with it! We won four and held our own well, even faced with a deluge of national marketing. Your heart-warming support and our solid ground support has been brilliant, thank you.

The next elections will be on May 4th for the County Councillors, based on new boundaries. (www.lgbce.org.uk click East Midlands on the map and Lincolnshire) Many excellent Lincolnshire Independents are standing, determined to stand up for residents.

Our big issue this year will be battling to get and protect local services, especially in health and care. There is much we can do locally and making plans for that will be key to the success of our villages. Already Welbourn and Dunston have theirs in place, with others hot on their heels.

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I am very pleased we have the Local Plan almost through the process with good protection for the character of small and medium villages. I spoke at the Inquiry, pointing out that the estimated numbers of overall housing “need” is way too high, with no hope of matching services or facilities. My intervention countered the developers who were seeking still more and helped protect our towns and villages from now on, at least. However, the plan is likely to remain at around 37,000 dwellings by 2036, with no phasing, driven by the political parties locally and nationally. There will be one more consultation on the proposed changes.

Loss of local services such as the Leadenham recycling site and Grantham A and E overnight is likely to be a continuing trend. We pay our income tax just the same, yet much less of the money is sent back for local spend, none by 2020. This government is allowing local public services to wither, so we will need to rethink. We will need to work up proposals and speak up very clearly when we need local services and support - and that is what we are good at!

Looking back over the year, some of my best moments have been with friends and family at local events. A huge thank you for all you do in organising so many great and varied happenings that add much to the quality of life in Lincolnshire. For regular activities and big events, from the Queens 90th birthday celebrations to Christmas late-night shopping in Navenby, thank you!

A summary year in pictures and monthly reports are at: www.lincolnshireindependents.org.uk

Innovation

Ecobuild – Roof tiles that make electricity

Barry Devonald kindly sent this link for solar roof tiles, invented some time ago, but recently coming to market.
<https://www.tesla.com/solar>
www.bbc.co.uk/news/amp/37809151

Europe

Last month I was honoured to represent our Country's local government at the Council of European Municipalities and Regions in Maastricht. Created in 1951, this body represents 100,000 councils across 42 countries in Europe, regardless of whether they are in the EU or not. The CEMR provides a forum and also influences legislation. We discussed Brexit in the light of 25 years since the Maastricht Agreement was signed, the toughening economy and agreed a new Gender Equality Charter to help improve local government.



Parish Councils

Thank you if you contributed to the consultation on whether to cap Parish Council Precepts. I am glad to say it was decided not to cap them this year, but keep them under close review. Parish and Town Councils set their own precept for local services and facilities, which makes up about 10pc of our Council Tax bills.

More on the County and District budgets soon, but I am expecting them to go up a little as government withdraws the part that comes from income tax. Under Conservative policy, we shall be paying more and getting less, while government debt continues to rise.



Places to visit

Teal at the very impressive reserve, RSPB Frampton Marsh, near Boston, Lincolnshire

Places to Visit



Over three thousand seals were on the beach at Donna Nook this year, an amazing phenomenon. The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust provides full warden support. This pup is looking healthy and ready to leave on the next big tide.

Recipe

Margaret Nelstrop's Recipe for Mulled Wine

We so much enjoyed this at the Christingle service, and I thought I would share it as it is probably good for any Winter gathering of friends!

"Recipe says 8 ozs. castor sugar - but I only use 6 ozs.
Half a pint of water.
2 bottles red wine (I tend to use Merlot)
1 small stick cinnamon
1 lemon
4 - 6 cloves.

Measure the sugar and water into a saucepan. Stir over low heat to dissolve the sugar, and then bring up to the boil. Add the red wine, cinnamon stick and the lemon stuck with the cloves. Reheat gently until the mull is pleasantly hot, then draw off the heat. Cover and leave to infuse for 10 minutes. Enjoy!"

Useful References

Access to Wellbeing Services and care

The Carers service 01522 782224
carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Support for Adult care is available 01522 782155

To protect a house or business against flooding

<http://www.marydhonau.co.uk/information/how-do-i-protect-my-home-from-flooding/>

Roadworks www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/transport-and-roads/overnight-roadworks

roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk
To receive info' on twitter #lincsc roads

Help save lives and keep countryside clean

Report Potholes 01522 782070

<http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/potholes>

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

<http://www.FixMyStreet.com>

Report Litter 01529 414155

customer_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk

Report illegal parking 01522 511142 or

ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Adult Concern 01522 782151

Useful References Continued

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

Lincs 2 Advice are on 0300 303 8789

Non urgent Health 111, Police 101

Grants community_lincs@n-kesteven.gov.uk

Internet fraud 0300 123 2040

Transport and Travel

Call Connect 8.30am - 7pm Weekdays and to 5pm

Saturdays 0345 234 33 44 or 01522 553143

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/callconnect/35955.article

Dial a ride 01522 544983 Disabled door to door

Car-sharing www.lincshare.co.uk

Trains www.thetrainline.com

Local Plan www.central-lincs.org.uk 01529 308084

Village websites

<https://nocton-church.blogspot.co.uk>

<https://nocton.blogspot.co.uk>

www.facebook.com/Nocton-Social-Club

www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton

<https://dunstondossier.org.uk>

Branston <http://www.tucann.co.uk/the-sheepwash-times.html>

Branston Library 01522 880426

branstonlibrary@gmail.com

www.parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Potterhanworth

www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/ Navenby and Wellingore business

www.Navenby.net, www.harmston.info

Welbourn, Leadenham and Coleby have sites on LCC.

Some January Events

7th Navenby Methodist Church Coffee Morning 10.30-12

11th Wellingore U3A Memorial Hall 10.30am

11th Coleby Coffee Morning and Library 10.30am

11th Welbourn Annual Public Meeting, Village Hall 7pm

14th Books and Butties Wellingore Memorial Hall 10.30am

21st St Peter's Coffee Morning Navenby 10.30-noon

21st Branston Bargain Book and Jigsaw sale 10am-1pm

21st Blair Dunlop - Young, folk musical storyteller.

Harmston Memorial Hall, Tickets £9 and £6.50 (child)

from Keith Elms 01522 722462/Jo Oldham 722919 or

from the Thorold Arms. 7.45pm

And from me...

Thank you all for so much support and for all you do for our village communities. Let me know if I can help further.

Wishing you a very happy and successful 2017.

Kind Regards,



Marianne Overton MBE

Marianne

Councillor Marianne Overton MBE

Independent Councillor for Branston and Navenby on Lincolnshire County Council and for the Cliff Villages on North Kesteven District Council

Leader of the Lincolnshire Independents

Vice Chairman of the Local Government Association

Follow me on  or 