



District Cllr Report

November 2023

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Hemswell Cliff Approves of Neighbourhood Plan

On Thursday 19th of Oct there was held a Referendum on Hemswell Cliff's Neighbourhood Development Plan. This project has taken a great deal of time to bring to fruition. It forms a dynamic vision for this village as secured by representatives of its residents who are on the ground. I wish to place on record my appreciation for all the hard work that has gone into its compilation .The Plan would have been approved long ago had it not been dogged by lack of support from the initial consultants. It was therefore terribly frustrating for the volunteers however, Luke Brown came to the rescue and put to shape for its next stage of the journey

In the Hemswell Ward the following villages have already completed such a Plan; Corringham, Hemswell. Glentworth, and Willoughton[which was the first one] Springthorpe & possibly Heapham are now exploring whether to commit to a Neighbourhood Development Plan. [NDP]

The NDP was part of the Localism Act introduced under the Cameron Administration in 2010 & many villages in WLD took this up with real enthusiasm some think-

ing that they could block development whereas the basis was to control development under local influence.

REFERENDUM DATA

Electorate 502 eligible to vote

77 voted 73 in favour 95%

4 Against = 5%

Its final journey is now seeking the approval of Full Council on Monday 6th of November at the Guildhall .Given a fair wind, Hemswell Cliff is in for a brighter future.

Welcome to New Headteacher of Hemswell Cliff and Willoughton Schools; Mrs K Lakin

Scampton —Temporary Stop Notice Ignored

RAF Scampton residents have rallied behind West Lindsey District Council's move to issue a Temporary Stop Notice, effectively pausing the Home Office's development of an asylum seeker camp on the base.

Locals have praised West Lindsey District Council as it continues to fight the government plans to house up to 2,000 asylum seekers at the historic Dambusters base.

Despite the upcoming judicial review on October 31 and November 1, the Home Office has proceeded with the installation of portacabins and site surveys.

However, the notice, which came into effect at 7am on Friday 8th of Sept has ordered that all work connected to the listed buildings, surveying, and ground operations be stopped WLDC is urging the government and its contractors to adhere to the notice and collabo-

rate with the authority to ensure a thorough assessment of the proposed development.

Director of Planning, Regeneration and Communities Sally Grindrod-Smith commented:

"Unfortunately, we have been left with no alternative but to issue a Temporary Stop Notice."

'Thank you and keep fighting for us'

Mandy Horwell, 55 expressed her strong support for the move from the council. She said: "I live here by myself with my kids and I don't want to be a prisoner in my own

home. I want to be able to walk about and walk the dogs without having to worry about who's hanging about."

In a message to WLDC, she added: "Thank you and keep fighting for us."

Watch this Space!

Wetherfield in Essex was subject to an article in the Lincolnite which gave the impression that the locals were much content however there were only 50 asylum seekers on that camp, Scampton anticipates several thousands.

There is a call for CCTV cameras in the satellite villages to provide reassurance to those residents fearful of the consequences.

The result of the Judicial Review is expected on 31st of Oct /1st of Nov

MPs overturn House of Lords on remote meetings

On 17 October, MPs debated the amendments made by the House of Lords to the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill. Disappointingly, the government has disagreed with the amendment (22) that would have enabled the option of remote meetings. The official response is that local authorities should continue to meet in-person to ensure good governance. Though the vote was

passed to overturn the amendment, it's encouraging that during the debate, there was still much cross-party support for the change. The full debate can be read in Hansard or on parliamentlive.tv.

I am delighted that remote meetings are not

to go ahead. I am happy to participate in working groups using remote but not formal Council or Committee meetings, Remote has a place but I think during Covid it was a 'novelty' but there is nothing like face to face meetings!

Community Grants—leading the way

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Corringham Village Hall was successful in securing £11k to address the sound quality in its large hall which has dogged them for years

The Village Church has also submitted an expression of interest in having conservation work done but requires monies for a condition report before it can apply for grants. This would form a heritage project drawing on the

school and wider community to take part. The Conservation Dept at the University of Lincoln has given the project its thumbs up!

Hemswell Cliff Residents Association

This project widens certain roads of the estate improving the road safety for all residents and visitors of the estate and village facilities. It allows im-

proved access to the village green and parks encouraging people to exercise and use the large village green more for social events. This project creates more areas for cars to park near their houses and reduces animosity between residents helping to establish more community spirit.

The HRA was awarded £10.068 to complete the project which has already invested over £60k to bring to fruition

Grayingham Church has received £30k towards building a community space onto the south aspect of the church and now has secured all its money for this project.

Willoughton is also pro active in its plans for a refurbished play area for its children and is seeking external grants including a grant from WLDC.

Levelling Up Fund.....

I struggled to understand the Levelling Up Fund however, WLDC was successful in being awarded £10 million to focus on Gainsborough.

The areas to be improved are the Bus Station which will be given a 'Spring Clean' with an additional cycle store along with enhanced CCTV.

The site of the former Baltic Mill [which produced provender food for cattle] located on the riverside is to be landscaped, providing extra green space within the town.

Whitton's Garden is to be refurbished and the large toilet block possibly re opened along with a coffee facility for visitors.

The most controversial aspect is Gainsborough's 800 year old Market Place — should it receive water features outside the former Town Hall or a fountain in the centre thereof along with trees and re seating. At the moment nothing has been decided. It is thought that with a successful cinema audience there is an opportunity to develop a 'coffee culture' which will en-

hance the town centre. I give little credence to the stats suggesting that the cinema is going to attract thousands of people as suggested.

My comments are that we should forgo water features and what will enhance that area will be to revitalize the shops within the market place that will attract the punters. This is the challenge, especially in these dire economic times. I cannot see the public being attracted to the Market Place to experience water features with a backdrop of closed shops, which look in a forlorn state. I do not wish to see taxpayers money wasted but spent prudently

Let's see more grant applications coming from the Hemswell Ward as areas such as Caistor and Nettleham are well ahead in applications!

New tool for reporting Fly Tipping



A new fly tipping reporting tool has gone live following a collaboration between the System Development Team and Operational Services

[Report it | West Lindsey District Council \(west-lindsey.gov.uk\)](https://west-lindsey.gov.uk)

The new tool provides a much slicker process for reporting fly-tipping and following the link to 'Report a Fly Tip' takes users to a mapping tool where the status of all current fly tips can be viewed and a pin can be dropped in the location where they wish to report a new incident.

The system will also allow us to build up a picture of hot-spots and hence, where to concentrate our enforcement activity. This new tool has been developed as part of the implementation of the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM).

Free Parking for 2023 Christmas Events

- Gainsborough 18 November, Market Rasen 9 December

At Prosperous Communities Committee on 1st November, 2022 it was agreed (Minute 38) that one day of free parking be granted in Gainsborough and Market Rasen when Christmas events are to be held for the years 2023, 2024 and 2025.

The Event Organisers, which for Market Rasen is the Town Council and for Gainsborough is the Town Council and West Lindsey District Council, have confirmed that the dates for the Christmas events for 2023 are as follows:

Gainsborough – Saturday 18th November

Market Rasen – Saturday 9th December

Kirton in Lindsey Civic Service



Paul was warmly invited to the Civic Service which inaugurated the new Mayor, of Kirton in Lindsey, Cllr Hazel Fox, who happens to be the excellent Clerk of Willoughton Parish Council. The weather blessed the happy occasion.

The service was in St Andrew's Church led by the new parish priest, Rev

David Swannack who gave an interesting address. The Church was packed and the local Rock Choir were wonderful; my first experience of these Rock choirs that have mushroomed up throughout the country. Afterwards there was a reception in the

Parish Hall which was a splendid occasion. It was good to have had the company of Mr & Mrs Peter Baldwin who, like me, were honoured guests. I hope that Hazel's mayoralty will be full of joyful & happy memories.

Those affected by Flooding

Council Schemes Available to residents affected by the recent flooding Following the flooding experienced by some residents over the last few days, we wanted to inform you of the Council schemes that are available to residents who have been flooded.



Council Tax reduction:

Please find enclosed a link to our webpage which details when and how much discount we can award subject to receiving evidence of the flooding

Support for Vulnerable Households with no home insurance

If vulnerable residents **do not** have home insurance to cover damage from flooding we may be able to award Household Support Funding. This support is awarded as vouchers to contribute towards the cost of white goods or replacing carpet, flooring and furniture. We cannot advertise this support

online as there are limited funds, however we are happy to take referrals from Members or Parish/Town Councils. Additional criteria may apply so it is important not to promise support when making a referral.

Flood Damaged items

Where residents need to dispose of flood damaged belongings and furniture it is the responsibility of the insurance company to take away damaged goods. If you are aware of specific instances where the homeowner has no insurance in place please contact us and we will provide the bulky waste service to remove items.

Sadly WLDC does not have the capacity to provide this service to those that are insured or provide funding to those that already have the means to pay for items. Please be assured this is purely because we have limited resources and the Government does not provide funding to us to provide this service.

The National Rural Conference this year wants to see a change for rural voters. The rurality of



which WLD is but one, have gigabit issues and challenges One is the lack of public transport especially at the weekends. Rural areas have much to offer, there are more than 500,000 rural businesses yet productivity and gross value added are lower than in urban areas.

Unlocking the digital potential could add up to £26 billion

annually to the national economy and grow turnover of £15 billion. Yet only 36% of rural voters have gigabit capability & 4% do not receive mobile coverage indoors. Too few housing developments fail to meet the building of affordable homes if 10 were built in the villages that could boost the economy by £1.4 million costing £1.1 million to build. Without investment the rurality will flounder.

Over 10 million people live in the rural areas of England. That is more than live in Greater London And the benefits of living in rural England are challenged by the need for better healthcare, schools, and a reliable transport network. Moreover our young like Dick Whittington, seek the city as it seemingly offers jobs, the bright lights, leaving the villages with an aging population many of whom are asset rich, but pocket poor.

