amberhillpc@gmail.com

From: LCC parish council community newsletter

<Lcctownandparishnews@lincolnshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 November 2025 09:57 **To:** amberhillpc@gmail.com

Subject: Town and parish council newsletter November 2025

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Town and parish council update

Latest information for town and parish councils in Lincolnshire

Welcome to the November issue of your Town and Parish Council Newsletter

This month's edition includes updates on the 'Your Lincolnshire' proposal and introduces the new Chief Executive who will take up the role next year. We're also inviting you to take part in engagement and consultation activities - plus discover how resilient your community is and have your say in the annual policing survey.



Strengthen. Simplify. Save.

'Your Lincolnshire' proposal sets out clear case for change

The county council's proposal for the reorganisation of eight Lincolnshire councils, recommends one unitary authority for the county area to make things simpler, smarter, and more joined-up.

One new council would continue to deliver outstanding services and provide opportunities for transformation, streamlining services so they are more efficient, using opportunities to embrace new technologies and simplifying planning processes to maximise economic growth.

The 'Your Lincolnshire' proposal went through the <u>Overview and Scrutiny Management Board</u> on Thursday 20 November before being taken to <u>Full Council</u> on Friday 21 November.

The final proposal will be submitted to government before the deadline of 28 November.

What you told us

Over the past few months, the council has been talking to residents, staff, businesses, community groups and you – our town and parish councils.

Here's what people liked most:

- Better value for money
- More joined-up services
- Easier to understand who's responsible

And here's what people were worried about:

- A bigger council might feel too remote
- Will the savings really happen?
- Could services be disrupted?

The deadline to submit proposals is **28 November**. After that, the government will take a closer look and launch a formal public consultation. A final decision is expected by **summer 2026**, and if all goes ahead, elections in **2027** could kick-start the new council structure.

To find out more information visit our website.



New Chief Executive

Andrew Crookham, the current deputy chief executive, will take up the role as the county council's new chief executive next year.

Following the <u>announcement by Debbie Barnes</u> of her intention to retire in March 2026, a recruitment process was carried out during the autumn. The decision to appoint Andrew was approved at the full council meeting on Friday 21 November. More information can be found on our <u>website</u>.



Have your say on coastal cycle hubs

We have exciting plans to create a network of cycle hubs in coastal towns and villages across East Lindsey. The proposed key locations include Mablethorpe, Skegness, Chapel St Leonards, and Sutton on Sea but we want to hear where you think they should be.

Thanks to funding from the Active Travel Fund, we have an opportunity to improve cycle parking, making it easier and safer to leave your bike while enjoying the coast. Local residents say that secure cycle parking is lacking in coastal communities, so these new hubs would support walking, wheeling, and cycling, for both locals and visitors.

You can help shape the future of active travel in East Lindsey by taking part in our survey and by dropping a pin on the interactive maps to suggest cycle hub locations.

Visit Let's talk Lincolnshire by 12 December to share your thoughts.



Share your views on how Lincolnshire is policed

The annual Crime and Policing Survey gives you the opportunity to have your say on crime, policing and community safety where you live. The data is used to inform policing priorities for the next year, and to understand whether people are willing to pay more council tax to fund policing services.

Access the survey **here** and please share with your local communities. The survey closes on 7 December.



How resilient is your community?

Kimberley Pickett is the council's Community Resilience Coordinator for Lincolnshire. She's on a mission to empower every community to be prepared, responsive, and supportive in times of need. Lots of parish and town councils or local groups have already started this work - whether it's forming a team, drafting a plan, or testing it with an emergency scenario.

Community resilience is about neighbours helping neighbours—before, during, and after emergencies. From floods to power outages, resilience means being ready.

Earlier this year, members of Horncastle's **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** carried out a live community exercise to test their plans. And groups in **Wainfleet** and **Boston** have stepped up during real incidents in the last few months to support their communities – showing the power of resilience planning!

Ready to get started? Tell Kim about your community's resilience efforts, register your interest, or tell her what's holding you back **through this form.**

Ways to get involved could be:

 Start a Community Resilience Team: Perhaps raise it at your next Parish or Town Council meeting. Just 3 volunteers can make a huge difference.

- Become a "Ready for Anything" Volunteer: Support communities across Lincolnshire during emergencies.
- Building Your Emergency Plan: Reflect your community's unique needs and consider past emergencies in your area; look at your local skills and resources.

You can use the **self generating template** to get started. Once submitted, Kimberley will review it, give feedback and help you test it. Then you will get a Community Emergency Kit to support your efforts.



Share your views on Housing Related Support Services in Lincolnshire!

Lincolnshire County Council is reviewing how Housing Related Support (HRS) is delivered to ensure public funding is used effectively. We want to hear from people who have used the service and who could be affected by future changes.

We want to ensure this funding is used in the most effective way to support people across Lincolnshire.

Your feedback will help inform decisions about the future of HRS, which could include continuing the service or stopping some or all the service and reallocating funding to other areas of the council.

Visit Let's talk Lincolnshire by 9 February to have your say.



How can you keep your cool this winter?

To stay cool and calm this winter it is important to keep your home maintenance up to date; doorstep criminals may use maintenance jobs to target your home.

If you know your home maintenance is up to date or at least what condition your property is in, you can feel confident to say No to those knocking on your door offering to do maintenance work. You can visit **Good Home Lincs | Connect to Support Lincolnshire** to learn about looking after your home.

If you want to find a trader to work on your home it is always advisable to obtain multiple quotes from different companies, more details can be found at <u>Trusted tradespeople | Connect to Support Lincolnshire</u>.

If you experience doorstep callers offering to do work on your home say No and please **report it** or call 101. You can get advice by calling 0808 223 1133.



Have your say on our permit scheme fees consultation

If you're planning street or road works in Lincolnshire, you'll need a permit. We're currently consulting on proposed increases to permit fees under the Lincolnshire Permit Scheme (LiPS).

Since LiPS launched in 2016, fees have remained unchanged. However, rising operating costs have led to significant losses. Previously, Lincolnshire County Council covered the shortfall using reserves and other income, but this is no longer sustainable.

To keep the scheme effective and support well-managed roadworks, we're proposing a fee increase.

Visit <u>Let's talk Lincolnshire</u> to read the consultation document and take part in our survey. You have until 10 December to share your views.

Don't forget to let us know if you have a change of clerk details by emailing:

dev parishdb@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Corporate Directorate

Lincolnshire County Council
Communications and engagement
Newland
Lincoln LN1 1YL

Email: Icctownandparishnews@lincolnshire.gov.uk



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