

Parish News



Regular news

As part of our communications engagement with town and parish councils across West Lindsey, we send a monthly email brief to you with key information, which we hope you will find useful. Please let us know if you want more information and we will do our best to help. Thank you for your ongoing support sharing key updates.

Have Your Say – Current Consultations

We have a number of planned consultations scheduled throughout the year, and we encourage everyone to stay informed and get involved.

The following consultations are currently live:

Cultural Activity Survey - Parish Council Survey

The West Lindsey arts and culture team are working to deliver the recently adopted Cultural Strategy [Driving Impact: A Cultural Strategy for West Lindsey](#). A key part of this is mapping the existing cultural infrastructure and activity in the area. We know culture makes West Lindsey a great place to live in and visit, with regular arts groups and occasional events being hugely important to our communities and economy.

We are asking all Town Councils, Parish Councils and Parish meetings to please take a few minutes to fill out this survey about their parish. This work will help the team understand where they can support cultural activity that's already happening and where new initiatives might be most needed. The survey can be found at: <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/yjlf5r>

Car Parking Consultation 2025

West Lindsey District Council owns and operates 10 Pay & Display car parks across the two market towns of Gainsborough and Market Rasen with 2 public EV charge points, 1 in Gainsborough and 1 in Market Rasen.

All our car parks are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are long stay excluding Roseway in Gainsborough which is short stay. Free parking is available after 6pm and on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

We are asking our residents, businesses and visitors to the district to help us understand how these are currently used. This information will help the council to develop a Parking Strategy which will direct the plans for the future of the car parks and any associated infrastructure and support services. To take part in this consultation please click: www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/carparkconsultation2025

Local Council Tax Support Scheme Consultation 2025

The Local Council Tax Support Scheme (sometimes known as Council Tax Reduction Scheme) is to help people on a low income to pay their Council Tax. Local Council Tax support schemes were introduced from April 2013 when Council Tax Benefit was abolished and replaced by locally agreed schemes.

Customer who have reached state pension age are protected by the prescribed regulations set out by central government and are therefore not affected by any changes made to the local scheme. Each year councils need to approve a scheme for the following 12 months.

The only change proposed for the 2026-27 scheme is that the premiums and allowances used in the calculation of entitlement are uprated in line with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) new figures as at 1 April 2026.

Uprating of premiums and allowances would ensure that the scheme continues to benefit the most vulnerable and low-income households using nationally recognised rates of DWP income rather than continuing with the 2025 rates. This survey can be found at www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/LCTSS2025

If you would like to speak to someone regarding any of these consultations please contact our Corporate Governance Officer on engagement@west-lindsey.gov.uk.

Connecting with Communities: Coffee Mornings Across West Lindsey

Over the past few weeks, members of the Enforcement Team, and Customer Services, have been attending coffee mornings across West Lindsey, engaging directly with residents to listen, advise, and build stronger community connections.

These visits have taken place in Sudbrooke, Caistor, Scotter, Upton, and Lea, with each event offering a unique insight into local concerns and a chance to strengthen relationships between the Council and the communities it serves.

In Sudbrooke, around 15 people attended and spoke with the team about dog fouling, noise complaints, and other residential concerns. Leaflets were handed out, and Councillor Baptiste Velan joined the session to show support. Caistor's coffee mornings, held over two days at the Heritage Centre, attracted around 20 attendees. While fewer people raised specific issues, many appreciated the Council's presence and the opportunity to engage informally.

Scotter's event was particularly well received, with nearly every one of the 20 attendees speaking to the team. Concerns ranged from dog fouling in church grounds to road maintenance, with some matters passed on to Lincolnshire County Council. Councillor Karen Carless also attended and praised the team's efforts.

In Upton, around 25 people from both Upton and Kexby took part. Littering and local initiatives were the main topics of discussion, and the team gathered contact details for future collaboration and potential social media features. Finally, in Lea, the team was joined by a representative from Citizens Advice's energy team. Around 20 people attended, raising concerns from dog fouling near the village hall to questions about flood risk areas. Although only a few residents raised issues directly, the overall response was warm and welcoming.

The feedback from these events has been overwhelmingly positive. Residents appreciated the proactive approach, and the collaboration between Enforcement and Customer Services proved invaluable.

The team will be continuing this initiative, ensuring teams remain visible, approachable, and responsive to the needs of our communities.

If you are interested in having the team attend a coffee morning in your area please email: Bryan.Gash@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Environment & Sustainability Grants Round up for West Lindsey

Trees and nature

Trees Outside Woodland Fund (England) – up to £40,000

For local authorities and larger charities to establish trees outside woodlands (streets, parks, greens). Rolling EOI window through **31 Oct 2025** (or until allocation). [The Tree Council](#)

Branching Out Fund (UK) – £250 to £2,500

For parish/town councils, community groups and schools to plant trees, hedges and orchards during the 2025/26 season. **Closes 14 Nov 2025.** [The Tree Council](#)

International Tree Foundation – UK Community Tree Planting (UK)

Grants for community-led planting (100–10,000 trees/yr typical). **Closes 12 Dec 2025 (noon).** [International Tree Foundation](#)

Heritage and Place

National Lottery Heritage Grants (UK) – £10,000–£10m

For community, natural, and built-heritage projects (partnerships encouraged). EOIs for large grants include **12 Nov 2025** round; grants under £250k are rolling. [The National Lottery Heritage Fund](#)

Heritage Revival Fund (England)

New DCMS/Historic England programme delivered by AHF to rescue and repurpose neglected historic buildings. **Running to Mar 2026.** [Find a Grant](#)

Climate, Environment, and Environment and community action

Awards for All – Environment (England)

Small grants for projects helping people connect with nature or improve the local environment. **Rolling to 17 Dec 2025.** [The National Lottery Community Fund](#)

Climate Action Fund – Our Shared Future (UK) – up to £1.5m

Partnership projects that involve more people in climate action; local authorities can partner. **Open to 17 Dec 2025.** [The National Lottery Community Fund](#)

Stobart Sustainability Fund (UK)

Supports community-led sustainability projects (non-profits, community groups, schools/colleges). **No fixed deadline.** [Stobart](#)