



Photograph courtesy of Brenda Langton

STOW BUGLE

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF STOW PARISH

Stow, Normanby by Stow, Coates by Stow, and the surrounding rural area.

Welcome to our Winter 2022 online edition.

Welcome to this edition of the Bugle. Take a look at some of the photos of the Christmas activities in Stow. Read about opportunities to volunteer – or perhaps even be a councillor – and get the update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Please circulate the Bugle to anyone you know in the Stow area and if you know someone who does not have access to a computer, please print them off a copy. There will be a copy placed on the Stow village noticeboard, in St Mary's and on our website. We try to circulate the Bugle and also periodic Stow updates via email as well as publishing it on our Parish website and on the Stow Community and Event page on Facebook. If you did not receive this directly and would like to be on our mailing list, please send your name and email address to Clare on stowvillage@outlook.com as she has kindly offered to co-ordinate the list for us. Your email address will be kept securely and will not be disclosed to third parties.

If you know of someone new who has moved into the Parish (Stow, Normanby, Coates and the surrounding rural area), please let the Parish Clerk know on stowparishclerk@gmail.com and we will arrange to deliver a Welcome Pack to them.

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council website can be found at: <https://stow.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>

The next meeting is scheduled for **7pm Monday 21st February** in St Mary's. The agenda will be posted on our website, on Facebook and a copy will also be on the village noticeboard. The current regulations do not unfortunately allow us to meet by zoom at the present time.

Volunteers needed

If you see something in the parish you think needs doing and would like to volunteer to help, please contact the Clerk to the Council on: stowparishclerk@gmail.com.

Would anyone be interested in volunteering to do minor repairs to play park equipment as and when required? If so, please contact the Clerk.

Councillor vacancy – what about you?

Soon there will be a vacancy on the Parish Council as Norman Read has decided to step down. We thank Norman for the time and commitment he has given to the role over the last three years. Do you want to make a contribution to your community? Have you ever thought about being a councillor? On pages 4 and 5 you can read more about the different councils in Lincolnshire and, in particular, about the role the Parish Council plays. If you are interested or would like to hear more please contact the Parish Clerk or one of the councillors for an informal chat.

PLANTING TREES

In the autumn issue we asked for views about where we should plant a tree to replace the one lost from the village green. Following the November Parish Council meeting and further discussion, we are planting two silver birch in the cemetery; some trees in the Parish Field; and, in February, will be planting a tree donated by West Lindsey District Council on the village green to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

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Stow Recreation Fund Update

If you have been down Stow Park Road in the last few weeks you will have seen that the final bench has now been installed. For those of you asking why it is facing the way it is – the residents' poll, which was publicized here in the Bugle, and on the village Facebook page, received 21 votes, 11 for South facing towards Sturton and 10 for North facing towards Willingham. It is hoped it will be a welcome resting spot for those out walking. **Would anyone like to offer to be responsible for cleaning that bench?** We have a group of volunteers who already wipe the Green Lane bench and those in the playpark and cemetery, but a new volunteer for this bench would be great.



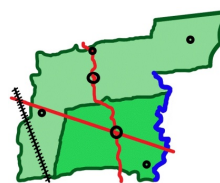
(Photo courtesy of Pete and Jill Garton)

The CPR and defib training sessions held by LIVES at St Mary's in December were very well received and it was great to see so many residents taking part and benefiting from the free advice and demonstrations. Hopefully the defib will not be needed too often but it is comforting to know that so many of you will have the confidence to use it, or direct others.

Further to the article in the Autumn Bugle about a public meeting to sanction the winding up of the Fund when all of the projects are completed, the village signs are still not yet completed. We hope that a few issues with bringing parts of the design to fruition on the metal will be resolved very soon, so that we can chase the contractor to confirm a date for them to be installed on the verges. Meanwhile we are unable to organise a definite date for the public meeting. **Monday 21st March at 7.30pm** has been pencilled in, but more information and the report to residents will be circulated via the Bugle or village email list nearer the time. As no one responded to the original article requesting an 'in person' meeting, it is currently intended to be by way of Zoom, with joining details provided to all those who express an interest.

If you are a resident who would like to be kept updated about the public meeting, and you are not on the village email list, please contact stowrecreationfund@outlook.com with your details.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING GROUP



The Independent Examiner appointed by West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) is now considering our draft Neighbourhood Plan.

He commenced his examination on 17th January. This stage should be completed by 17th March, but he is aiming for a five week completion. This will involve negotiation on any contentious points and then he will identify changes we need to make.

Once completed, it will not be too long before the Plan will go out to referendum in Sturton by Stow and Stow parishes.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Stow Parish Council is asked by WLDC to comment on planning applications in the parish. Residents should make their own comments direct to WLDC, but if there are issues you wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council regarding a specific application, please let the Parish Clerk know at least ten days before the closing date, so that the Parish Council is aware of your comments before submitting their response.



Celebrating the Platinum Jubilee
Thursday 2nd - Sunday 5th June 2022

How do you want to see Stow celebrate? Do you have ideas for particular projects or events? Have you got some time you could give to help organise an event? Stow Parish Council and Stow Fun Raisers would like to hear your suggestions - no promises we will be able to do anything people want, but we would like to hear your ideas.

Stow Fun Raisers are thinking of organising a Family Bike Ride, BBQ and tea and cakes - could you help with baking a cake? On Facebook, suggestions have included a street party, a gala and ringing of the church bells. Do you have another idea of an event you think could work? Could you help organise events?

Let us know by emailing stowparishclerk@gmail.com if you can help or if you have ideas of events or projects people would enjoy and that we might be able to organise.

Carols round the Christmas Tree

Friday 17th December

The annual community singing of carols and Christmas songs around the village Christmas tree at the crossroads took place on Friday 17th December. A magnificent 90 people gathered to sing Christmas songs and carols and to enjoy warm mince pies and hot drinks.

An even more magnificent £150 was collected for St Barnabas hospice.

There was a fantastic atmosphere with people of all ages coming together to celebrate. A big thank you to everyone who came along, to Willingham Band for their excellent playing and to all those who helped to organise the event especially Carolyn Turner, Clare Ella, Nigel Curry and David Justham plus those who helped on the night.

Sturton and Stow market

In the run up to Christmas there was the highly successful Sturton and Stow walking Christmas Market organised by Gail Adams of Sturton with over 50 stalls. Stalls include: stained glass gifts, knitted items, cards, Christmas wreaths, scarves, plants and so much more. Starting with freshly cooked burgers on Saxilby Road, there were stalls throughout Sturton and Stow. Freshly made sausage rolls at the Cross Keys where they will also had stalls in the marquee, onto Church Road and dried flowers at East Farm in Normanby!

Stow Christmas tree



Photo courtesy of Doug Garner.

The tree looked great as usual. Our thanks to Doug Garner, aided by Charlie Marshall, for putting the tree up and decorating it. Our thanks also to Limestone Farming, who donated the tree this year and, specifically, to Nigel Sneath and Paul.

Stow Living Advent Calendar

“As organiser of the Stow Living Advent Calendar I would like to thank everyone who took part this year. Your enthusiasm to sign up, and the fantastic creations that were enjoyed by residents, their family and friends, and those just passing through the village, were a great credit to Stow and its community spirit. I’m sure there are lots of you who were inspired as you walked round and will want to sign up again next year. Thank you. Clare”

Our thanks also to Clare for organising the event.

Here are three examples of the great windows on display:



Photo courtesy of Gemma Fox Roberts

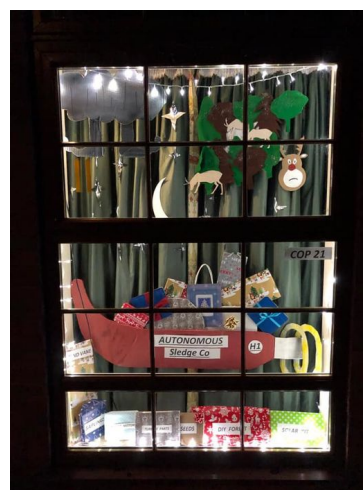


Photo courtesy of Doug and Sheila Garner



Photo courtesy of Helen Allen

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS

In Lincolnshire there are three tiers of local government:

Lincolnshire County Council

Tel: 01522 552222 www.lincolnshire.gov.uk
 County Councillor Gainsborough Rural South
 Cllr Richard Butroid
 Mobile: 07545916604
 Email: cllr.butroid@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Lincolnshire County Council responsibilities include

Archives
 Children's services and Education
 Fostering and adoption
 Economic regeneration
 Emergency planning including Flooding
 Highways and transport including gritting and grass cutting of some verges
 Library provision
 Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue
 Public health
 Registration and celebratory services
 Social care for Adults
 Some street lighting
 Trading standards
 Waste management

West Lindsey District Council

Tel no: 01427 676676 www.west-lindsey.gov.uk
 District Councillor Stow ward (Stow, Sturton and Willingham)
 Cllr. Mrs Tracey Coulson
 Tel: 07967626342 or
 01427718243
 email: cllr.t.coulson@west-lindsey.gov.uk

West Lindsey District Council responsibilities include:

Anti-social behaviour
 Building control
 Control of advertising
 Collection of council tax
 Dog fouling, dog waste & litter bins
 Elections
 Environmental issues
 Fly-tipping
 Food inspections
 Household waste collection
 Housing
 Licensing
 Planning applications
 Street cleaning
 Street names and numbers
 Tree protection collection
 Electoral registration
 Kerbside bin collection

Stow Parish Council

www.stow.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk
 Stow Parish Clerk:
 Email stowparishclerk@gmail.com
 Tel. 01522 704687

The Parish Council has responsibility for a wide range of local issues, for example:

- Maintenance of the village playpark, which includes funding an annual health and safety inspection
- Cataloguing, mapping and registering with the Land Registry all the land that the Parish owns or has responsibility for.
- Maintenance of Stow civil cemetery
- Maintenance of grass and trees on Parish owned land
- Taking a view on planning applications submitted to West Lindsey District Council and submitting that view to WLDC.
- Preparation of the Joint Neighbourhood Plan with Sturton.

The Council operates on a tight budget, but tries to gauge local needs and work with the District and County Councils to fulfil them. We report faults such as damaged highways signs, drains, furniture, though villagers can report such things directly. The Council endeavour to work with the Highways department with regard to improvements such as speed management and road safety.

The Council has also in the past funded the purchase of the Christmas tree by Doug Garner, who also organises its decoration. The Council has also received grants to provide facilities for the parish such as benches, speed management and the village signs.

In order to fund the above and any other expenditure, the Council receives what is called a Precept. This is an amount of money included in the Council Tax we all pay. The Precept for 2022/23 will be £5000.

Further information about the role of councils can be found at:

www.localgov.co.uk/Parish-council-responsibilities/29135

There is an annual Parish Meeting in May, which all residents are welcome to attend. The Parish Council meets every two months, but between meetings conducts business by email, phone and in person.

In March 2021 the Parish Council adopted a number of **objectives**:

1. Keep the precept as low as we can whilst continuing to provide an appropriate level of services. ✓
2. Complete the Neighbourhood Plan, and propose it for acceptance in a referendum of those eligible to vote on it. *It is currently with the Independent Examiner.*
3. Review the 'Community Aspirations' in the Neighbourhood Plan, make plans for fulfilling those that we are able to, and publish explanations for those, which we are unable to. *Yet to be done.*
4. Appoint individuals to monitor various areas of SPC's responsibilities, develop proposals and draw SPC's attention to the need for action when necessary. By doing this, expand the participation of parishioners in SPC's activities. *In part.*

5. Monitor performance of the service provision to the Parish by local authority service providers, and take action to improve same as appropriate. *Have worked closely with Highways on a number of issues. (Likewise with Acis). Further work needed with Northern Power and Anglian Water.*
6. Establish the extent of land ownership by SPC, and grey areas. Create a plan for resolving the grey areas. *David Justham has done detailed work on behalf of the Parish Council, which will enable registration as it can be funded. Our thanks to David.*
7. Form a plan for the use of the space and renewal of the Playground equipment with input from parents and children, and renew those items for which we have the funds. *The large piece of equipment has been replaced and is proving popular. There are some smaller pieces, which require replacement.*
8. Expand the use of digital communication between SPC and Parishioners. *The Bugle is issued for special items eg the solar farm proposals as well as on a regular basis. Facebook is also increasingly used.*
9. Conduct our own activities, and respond to planning consultations, in line with the relevant aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan. ✓
10. Issue 'The Bugle' newsletter approximately 4 times per year. ✓

It was appreciated that realising these objectives would take some time, and that the Council may need continued and/or additional support from parishioners to do so.

Are you the person to come and join us to help meet these objectives or do you have ideas of what the council could or should be doing and want to have a go?

There will be a vacancy on the council for the year 2022/23. If you are interested and want to know more about what is involved contact the Parish Clerk stowparishclerk@gmail.com. or one of the councillors.

To be a councillor you must be: British or a citizen of the Commonwealth, at least 18 years old, registered to vote in the area or have lived, worked or owned property here for at least 12 months before the election.

Update from Cottam Solar Power Project

"We are writing to provide you with an update on next steps for the Cottam Solar Project and West Burton Solar Project.

In December we concluded our phase one consultation on early-stage proposals for the projects. The aim was to:

1. introduce ourselves and share an early overview of the projects;
2. receive initial feedback from the community, which alongside our technical assessments will help us to better understand any potential environmental impacts and be used to help us develop the detail of our proposals; and
3. begin to identify opportunities for these projects to benefit the local community.

All feedback has been logged and we are taking the time to consider the comments received as we develop our proposals further. Alongside this we are also undertaking a full Environmental Impact

Assessment (EIA) for the Cottam Solar Project and the West Burton Solar Project.

As you may be aware, EIA is a detailed process to study likely environmental effects by carrying out surveys to establish the environmental impacts of the projects, and identify mitigation measures where required. The EIA will inform our design for the layout, appearance, and operation of each project, but importantly, also provide answers to the many detailed questions raised by members of the local community and other stakeholders during our initial phase one consultation.

We will soon be submitting an EIA Scoping Report for each solar project to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). These will provide background environmental information and set out the parameters for the construction and operation of each project. Upon receipt of our EIA Scoping Report, PINS will consult on the contents of the report with statutory consultees including parish councils. Any responses to the Scoping Report will need to be sent directly to PINS, and PINS will determine what should be the scope of the EIA.

Our phase two consultation, which will be a statutory consultation this summer, will include sharing the findings of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), alongside more detailed design information on the proposed layout, appearance, and operation of the solar projects. At that stage we will also be seeking further feedback from both the local community and statutory consultees on the detailed environmental information measures presented in the PEIR, and the mitigation measures proposed.

Our full Environmental Statement, detailing the outcome of our completed EIA and the mitigation measures proposed, will be submitted to PINS for public examination as part of the final Development Consent Order (DCO) application for each project. A Consultation Report will detail all the feedback we have received throughout the consultation process and how consideration of this has influenced the final proposals we have submitted. In the meantime, if you have any further questions then please don't hesitate to get in touch. info@cottamsolar.co.uk"

Statement by Cottam Solar Power Project



**Sturton and Stow Agricultural and Horticultural Association
Annual General meeting
7pm Monday 11th April 2022
in the Old Schoolroom Sturton by Stow**

All welcome to come along and help begin to plan the Annual Show, which will be on Saturday 1st October

www.sturtonandstowshow.com

WEST LINDSEY MATTERSwww.west-lindsey.gov.uk**FLY TIPPING**

Every so often there are problems with fly tipping. If you see some fly tipping on roadsides you can report it to WLDC. Please note: If the fly tipping is situated on privately owned land (owned by individuals, businesses etc), WLDC are not able to remove it. It is the landowner's responsibility to remove any rubbish, so if you know who that is, you may wish to bring it to their attention. If it is not cleared after 28 days, please contact WLDC as they may be able to take enforcement action to resolve the problem. For WLDC it is important to build up an accurate picture of problems in the area. Where there is evidence to identify where the fly tipping has come from, they will investigate and prosecute if possible.

STREET NAMES

A list of street nameplates that require replacing is being drawn up for those that are rotten, damaged or faded. WLDC are asking residents to look out for nameplates that may need replacing.

Please email Anna Grieve with any requests on anna.grieve@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Right Thing, Right Bin - recycling advice:

As part of our 'Right Thing, Right Bin' campaign, WLDC have been working alongside Lincolnshire Recycles to ensure that residents are maximising their recycling and using their blue bin correctly to avoid contamination, until their purple-lidded bin arrives in the Spring.

We are continuing to remind residents they should use their blue recycling bin for all of the following items and they should be clean, dry, loose and squashed within their bin and not contained within bags:

- Glass – bottles and jars
- Metal items – drink cans, food tins, biscuit and sweet tins, empty aerosols and clean aluminium foil
- Plastic packaging – all plastic bottles, pots, tubs and food trays, with the exception of black or brown ready meal food trays and plant pots
- Paper and cardboard (although no shredded paper, tissues/kitchen roll or anything with glitter on)

Calendars for dates of the first separate paper and card collection using the purple-lidded bin will be arriving to residents shortly. Once these collections start, we will no longer accept paper and card in blue bins.

Further information is available via WLDC website - see also our A-Z of Waste Disposal on this page - <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/my-services/refuse-and-recycling/waste-services-information/a-z-of-waste-disposal/>

Love Local? Win back your spend with Local Rewards!

Shoppers are being given the opportunity to win back their spend through a new initiative supported by West Lindsey District Council. Powered by Maybe*, Local Rewards enables shoppers to connect with businesses in their area through a live online guide. The West Lindsey Local Rewards guide is the go-to place for shoppers to discover local businesses; bringing together content and sharing it in one easy to find place. What's more, it gives residents the chance to win back their local spend! It's easy (and free!) to sign up. Residents can visit www.localrewards.chat to sign up and for a chance to win back their local spend. For each £1 spent locally, shoppers earn points that can be spent on rewards through the Local Rewards guide.

**FEBRUARY 8TH**Iris Starkey – Comedy Monologue**MARCH 8TH**Annual Meeting**Litter picking**

If anyone would like to do some independent litter picking when taking their daily exercise, there are bags as well as some litter pick sticks and hoops for the plastic bags that you can borrow.

A big thank you to those of you who do so on a regular basis. It really makes a difference and is appreciated by residents.

Contact Anne on: 07836671938.

Getting in touch

If you want to raise an issue with the Parish Council, to volunteer, suggest a topic for the Bugle or nominate a local talent whom you think we should feature, you can do so by contacting the Parish Clerk: stowparishclerk@gmail.com or on 01522 704687