



Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council

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April 2020 Newsletter

A brief update on activities and news from Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council.

As the restrictions put into place by the government continue, the Town Council supports the need for everyone to follow the rules and keep themselves and others safe.

The restrictions are under continuous review, however no relaxation of them is yet in place and the message remains to: Stay at Home, Protect the NHS and Save Lives.

Taking risks by making unnecessary journeys in any form increases the chance of greater pressure on essential services including the NHS and all keyworkers, who everyone is relying on at this time. So if it's not essential, don't do it.

Once the restrictions are lifted and a safe environment returns, then you will be able to again do all the things you want to, but don't need to. Now is not that time.

Remember that there is a community response in place to help you with essential shopping, prescriptions and essential errands. There are also volunteers on the end of the phone if you just fancy a chat. Full details are at the end of this newsletter.

Town Services

Throughout April the Town Council has worked closely with contractors to support the changes required to services delivered for the community at this time. Two different teams of contractors work to maintain the open spaces within the town, one team mow the grass at the Green and Grove Street Cemetery and maintain the town flowerbeds at King Edward Street, North Cliff Road, Redbourne Mere, the War Memorial, Grove Street, Queen Street, Church Street and Richdale Avenue, South Cliff Road. At this time only the mowing will take place and the flowerbeds will be attended to once it is possible - this is because the social distancing restrictions are limiting the availability of the team which also look after other locations in this area of the country.

The second team mow the other open spaces including the highway verges in an agreement the Town Council has in place with North Lincolnshire Council. This follows a trial year last year and the addition of further areas of responsibility going forward. The mowing is hoped to continue on a fortnightly basis unless the situation changes for the contractors in terms of staff availability. The map below show the areas of responsibility for this second team.

Kirton in Lindsey



North Lincolnshire Council Service Updates



North Lincolnshire Council continue to review their service provision to enable them to prioritise supporting the most vulnerable residents in the North Lincolnshire area. Many council services continue to be delivered while there is some disruption to other areas of the organisation in support of the social distancing and isolation advice. Information and updates on changes to services is published on their website and social media channels. The advice is that if you have a query about North Lincolnshire Council services during this time, make use of online guidance first and if you do not find the information or support you need, complete the new coronavirus support form. Remember that on 24th March collection of garden waste (brown bins) was suspended until further notice. Residents are urged by North Lincolnshire

Council not to take the contents of their brown bin to Household Recycling Centres (tips) but to compost them at home, further information about this can be found on their website.

Audit



As the 2019-2020 Financial Year came to an end on 31st March, the Town Councils finances and accounting come under their annual scrutiny from both an Internal (Public Sector Audit) and External auditor (PKF Littlejohn, appointed by the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd). The closing down of the financial year and preparation of the documentation required by the auditors has been one focus of the work at the Town Council office throughout this month and is a legal requirement to confirm the careful management and spending of the public money Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council receive.

Grove Street Cemetery



As mentioned in February, Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council is responding to complaints received from residents and visitors in relation to the cemetery. These complaints are primarily that Cemetery Regulation are not being adhered to in relation to what floral, planting and ornamental tributes are permitted within these regulations.

The Town Council is mindful that this can be a difficult issue to raise with cemetery users and grave owners, but are equally mindful that it is Councils responsibility to ensure Regulations are adhered to.

A phased approach is to be initiated, returning the cemetery to the prescribed standard, but wish to ensure all families /residents and grave owners have the opportunity to review the Regulations in relation to their plots, allowing time for individuals to make required adjustments where necessary.

We fully realise this to be a sensitive subject, and have no wish to create any distress to our cemetery users. We do though hope to be able to conduct this review with minimum distress. The Cemetery regulations are posted on its noticeboard, in addition we are happy to provide copies and clarification where required.

In addition, a programme of works to reinstate the level of gravespaces within the cemetery has begun and will be a process of working from the rear of the cemetery forward row by row. A number of gravespaces are in need of this work to maintain the condition of the cemetery and also to protect all visitors to the cemetery.

Please contact the Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Clerk or any of your Town Councillors if you wish to discuss this matter.

Meetings

Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council's schedule of meetings is currently suspended, however following an Extraordinary Meeting on Saturday 21st March measures were put into place and agreed to enable the Council to continue to function in a legal manner to urgent and statutory matters. Although meetings are unable to be held, engagement with residents is still welcomed and so please do raise any matters of interest or concern via the contact details noted at the top of this newsletter.

Planning

Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council is still responding to issues and all matters which impact on the town, and continue to submit responses to planning applications. Details of the most recent planning applications and planning decisions received from North Lincolnshire Council are displayed on the planning page of the Town Council's website. The Town Council encourage the community to respond to any planning applications they may have an opinion on, which can be done via the North Lincolnshire Council website.

LIVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- 442 - Traingate (comments by 7th May)
- 648 - The Green (comments by 8th May)
- 588 - Ings Rd (comments by 21st May)



VE Day

Back in June 2019, the government announced the early May bank holiday in 2020, originally set for Monday 4th May, would be changed to **Friday 8th May**. The reason for this unusual change in calendar dates is to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day, which was to be celebrated with three days of commemorative events in the UK. As the event is now likely to occur during restrictions in place to protect everyone from COVID-19, alternative ways to celebrate should be considered. Street parties and public events were planned, however the nation can still unite in marking 75 years since the end of the war in Europe.

Seventy-five years ago North Lincolnshire celebrated with street parties, but there are lots of other ways to mark the occasion while you #StayHomeSaveLives and remember the World War II heroes.

There are plenty of ideas here - <https://ve-vjday75.gov.uk/plan-your-ve-day-party/> - about celebrating in your own kitchen, from printing your own bunting to making spam hash! We are sure the town will be decorated in red, white and blue to mark this important anniversary.

And at 3pm on Bank Holiday Friday 8th May 2020, wherever you find yourselves, join the whole nation in raising a glass or cup of tea to our nation's heroes.

Thank you

Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council recognises the strong community which this town has, and the current situation is another of many examples when the residents and businesses here have come together to support, help and work together for the benefit and survival of this town. It is not possible to thank everyone who has stepped up to the challenge over the past couple of months so far, but it is hard to imagine that anyone in this town has not seen help or support from someone else during this time. Your community spirit doesn't go unnoticed and is hugely appreciated in demonstrating just how much we are all in this together.



Kirton in Lindsey Coronavirus Helplines Community Response Volunteers



If you are at increased risk of severe illness from Coronavirus because you are over 70, pregnant, have underlying health conditions or if you are self isolating, the Community Response Volunteers can help.

Helplines open every day

Text or call

Town Clerk Neil Taylor-Matson 07518 284173

Call

Mayor Cllr Pat Frankish 01652 649365

Deputy Mayor Cllr David Garritt 01652 640456

Cllr Kathy Cooper 01652 648123

Town Council Office (answer phone) 01652 648978

Reverend Kathy Colwell 01652 640595

Email

enquiries@kirtoninlindseytowncouncil.gov.uk

We can help you with:

- ✓ Essential shopping
- ✓ Transport to medical appointments
- ✓ Prescriptions collection
- ✓ Urgent errands
- ✓ Someone to talk to if you feel lonely or isolated

Sorry, we can't help with:

- ✗ Medical advice
- ✗ Non-urgent works such as gardening or DIY jobs

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

Kirton-in-Lindsey Town Council, April 2020

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Public drop in sessions at the Town Council office Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12-4pm.
The Clerk is available to meet at other times by appointment.