



North Hykeham Annual Town Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Town (Parish) Meeting
held on Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7pm
at Sir Robert Pattinson Academy, Moor Lane, North Hykeham LN6 9AF

Town Councillors Present: K Sampson (Chairman), M Bennie, N Blanchard, C Briggs, A Cruickshanks, R Johnston, G Killingsworth, FW Lee, M Lofts, A Marshall, C Nnamdi, T Ogden, S Roe, YS Sampson and P Wray

Also in Attendance: Mrs G Culverwell (Deputy Clerk),
Mrs L Appleyard (Assistant Clerk)
NKDC Cllrs T Dyer and J Pessol
LCC Cllr A Briggs
Mr S Dunderdale – guest speaker
PC J Bathie-Drexler – guest speaker
93 members of the public

1. Welcome from the Mayor of North Hykeham, Cllr Keith Sampson, and presentation of the Mayor's Community Shield.

Cllr Sampson welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He said that staff at the Town Council had spent a lot of time organising the Town Meeting and it was good to see so many people in attendance making the event worthwhile. He said that whilst everyone uses computers to communicate – talking to each other should be the way forward.

Cllr Sampson announced that he had chosen Rev Peter Collins to be the winner of the Mayor's Community Shield. Rev Collins had been ordained in 2007 and had been in the Parish of North Hykeham for over ten years, looking after seven churches, six parishes and supporting over 20,000 people.

Rev Collins thanked Cllr Sampson for his support by choosing him as the winner of the Shield. He said that it had been an honour and privilege to serve the North Hykeham community. He had been very impressed how people came together during the pandemic and asked everyone to reach out to their neighbours to help tackle loneliness. He thanked the Hykeham Pastoral Team, the Food Bank and Churches Together for their support and help.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the notes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 11th April 2024 as a true record of the meeting and accept them to be the Minutes. These were signed accordingly.

3. Community Presentation: North Hykeham Neighbourhood Policing Team - local issues.

PC Jordan Bathie-Drexler, Community Beat Manager for North Hykeham, informed the meeting that the North Hykeham team now included Sgt Alex Taylor, on a permanent basis, as well as temporary support from PCSO Sarah Lingard. The team worked closely with local organisations in North Hykeham including the Council, schools, Social Services and in particular, tried to engage with young people as much as possible. Priorities for the team were set every quarter and the priority for April to June 2025 was anti-social behaviour and shoplifting. PC Bathie-Drexler said that the Anti-Social Behaviour Team (ASB) at North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) worked well with the Police team and were good at sharing information. He recommended the public to report anti-social behaviour issues to the NKDC ASB team, if they didn't feel comfortable talking

to the Police. PC Bathie-Drexler said that under-reporting of problems was an issue in North Hykeham and stressed that members of the public were not wasting police time by reporting incidents.

Rev Collins raised concerns about recent scam calls to local elderly people, in which callers pretended to be the Police, and asked for money. PC Bathie-Drexler confirmed that the Police never phoned residents to ask for money and advised members of the public to disconnect the call and report the incident to the Police.

4. Community Presentation: North Hykeham Community Emergency Plan.

Cllr Matthew Bennie gave a presentation about the North Hykeham Community Emergency Plan being drafted by the Town Council. An emergency plan does not replace the emergency services' role in a major emergency - such as flooding, major road crash, air crash, etc, - but provides local support and knowledge to the emergency services. There are currently two Councillors who had volunteered to be the local co-ordinators in the event of a major emergency – Cllr Rawson and Cllr Wray. More volunteers were required. Cllr Bennie reported that the draft Plan had been submitted to the Lincolnshire Emergency Resilience Forum and the Council was awaiting feedback. Once finalised and agreed – the Emergency Plan would be published on the Town Council's website.

5. Guest Speaker: Mr Sean Dunderdale, BBC Radio Lincolnshire.

Mr Dunderdale said that he had been at BBC Radio Lincolnshire for five years, initially hosting the breakfast show. He was currently presenting shows at the weekend, including the station's farming programme "Farm Watch". Prior to working at the BBC - he had been a presenter at LincsFM for many years.

Mr Dunderdale said that the BBC is part of the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum, as communication is a key role in times of emergency - the BBC is always at the centre of major incidents. Mr Dunderdale said that he had been proud to be broadcasting during many major events over the years including the death of Queen Elizabeth II, during COVID and more recently during the Ukraine conflict. Local radio had been a companion to the public during these events and provided a way for people to connect, sometimes to ask for help. Mr Dunderdale said that he believed that local radio was a powerful tool in bringing about a sense of community spirit. There had been quite a lot of changes and improvements to local radio over recent years which had improved connection with other services within the BBC, including the tv channels and website.

Mr Dunderdale said that he had enjoyed seeing the information about local groups at the Community Groups Fair, held before the ATM. He encouraged people who were organising local events to contact him at Radio Lincolnshire to let him know about their events so that he could, if possible, publicise them on his radio programme.

6. Presentation of the 2025 Community Awards.

Cllr Bennie introduced the 2025 Community Awards. He announced the nominations for each Award and asked those nominated to come forward. Mr Dunderdale announced each winner and the Mayor presented the awards in the following categories:

Community Business of the Year: A company or sole trader who contributes to the North Hykeham community in a positive way. This award is for a commercial organisation providing added value. Nominations: Boodles Café, Harrows Pub, The Hykeham Bike Man and the Lincoln Green pub. **Winner: The Hykeham Bike Man, Carl Wren.**

Outstanding Volunteer: An individual who has gone above and beyond as a volunteer for a community or charitable organisation serving the North Hykeham community. This person is someone who selflessly devotes themselves to a cause. Nominations: Catriona Adams, Ernie Broughton, Peter Morley, Simon West, Dawn Wilson and Geoff Woodthorpe. **Winner: Ernie Broughton.**

Community Group/Project of the Year: A group of people who have come together to make something positive happen in the North Hykeham community. Nominations: Butterflies, North Hykeham Town Twinning Association and Toddle-In. **Winner: Toddle-in.**

Contribution to Health and Wellbeing: An individual or organisation making a positive impact on residents' health and wellbeing in the North Hykeham community. Nominations: Dan Hargreaves' Community Football, North Hykeham Hedgehogs, OneNK's Healthwise Cardiac Rehab Programme, OneNK's Senior Club, Richard Barlow – Papyrus & Young Minds suicide prevention and U3A. **Winner: Richard Barlow** – Papyrus & Young Minds suicide prevention.

Young Achiever of the Year: A young person under 18 years of age who brought real credit to North Hykeham community through exceptional academic, sporting, artistic or cultural achievements. Nominations: Ellen Arrowsmith, Catherine Burt, Isabella Kerrison and Sofia Marrows. **Winner: Catherine Burt.**

7. Community Presentation: Development of the North Hykeham Community Hub.

Cllr Cruickshanks introduced the consultation on the proposed extension to the North Hykeham Community Hub. Using presentation slides, Cllr Cruickshanks showed the outline of the proposed extension plans, which would increase available community space. Cllr Cruickshanks said that the Manor Farm estate was likely to become more central to North Hykeham in the future, if long-term plans for further house-building alongside the estate were realised. The facilities available at the Community Hub would provide community space for future residents of new housing developments as well as current residents. Cllr Cruickshanks requested all to contribute to the consultation – details were available on the North Hykeham Town Council website.

8. Community Matters: Representations from County and District Councillors

Cllr Roe, councillor for Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), NKDC and the Town Council, gave a brief overview of the role of each council. He reported that LCC had opened two new children's homes and a new secure centre for young people in Sleaford. He praised the work undertaken by North Hykeham Foodbank and requested members of the public to continue to make donations to it.

Cllr Dyer, LCC Councillor, reported that the 40mph speed limit on Meadow Lane had been agreed and signs were due to be erected. He reported that there had been a good uptake in the use of the evening bus service between Lincoln and North Hykeham and that funding for this had been granted for another two years. He said that plans for the North Hykeham Relief Road were awaiting government funding.

Cllr Pessol, NKDC Councillor, talked briefly about devolution and the election of a mayor for Greater Lincolnshire and that changes were expected at NKDC. He reported that NKDC's project to regenerate council homes on Grinter Close, North Hykeham, had been completed. Cllr Pessol said that the NKDC Walking Festival was to start on 14th June with a walk at Millenium Green in North Hykeham and that he hoped all would come and join in the walk.

9. Open Forum – residents may raise any issue relating to the town of North Hykeham.

This part of the meeting allowed for residents to raise any issue relating to the town of North Hykeham. No questions had been submitted prior to the meeting.

Several representatives from local community groups spoke about a variety of forthcoming events being organised, including: North Hykeham Town Twinning Association's exchange visit from Denzlingen in September; Alive Church's Easter Family Funday in on 19th April; North Hykeham Bowls Club's Open Day on 26th April; and Lincoln U3A's Open Day on 27th May.

A member of the public said that they felt that the playground at Memorial Fields needed a revamp. Cllr Briggs responded that the Town Council was continually making improvements to play equipment in the parks and the purchase of new equipment depended upon funds available.

Cllr Bennie thanked everyone for attending the ATM and Awards Evening, SRPA for hosting the event, and all contributors to the evening. Cllr Bennie presented Mr Dunderdale with a "thank you" gift.

The meeting closed at 9pm.