

February 19, 2018. Report to Nettleham Parish Council. Angela M White.

To prepare revision of the existing constitution, councillors were involved in a workshop on January 18, 2018. I thought this was extremely useful and I hope that it will simplify and clarify some of the previous terms. The Health Commission continued to develop links with the various health providers in West Lindsey with their roundtable event on January 19, 2018. My thought after this was that there does seem to be some overlap of provision.

The following Monday, I met with the Lincolnshire Show Committee to plan the theme for our marquee. We are looking at the differences between life in 1918 compared to life now, continuing the theme of the centenary of the end of World War 1. We are looking at the schooling, industries and local government.

At the full council meeting on Monday January 22, 2018, the council voted to keep the tripartite system of three directors running the council, therefore not replacing the Chief Executive. This seems sensible, as there is a closer relationship with the councillors and many projects are in the process of developing.

The Riseholme Parish Council had their first meeting in Riseholme Hall. Harvey Dowdy and the site manager attended. A local resident had complained about the felling of some trees. This was explained as part of work on the estate which also involved planting many new trees. The heritage trail was discussed. Giles and I are donating some of our councillor initiative fund to support this.

We were invited to a breakfast briefing by Lincoln University staff on January 24, 2018. The main topic was how knowledge of the weather is being used to help farmers. There was an extremely detailed lecturer by a meteorologist. This was followed by a shorter presentation on the work being carried out on the water flow through the beck.

That evening I attended a briefing by Larkfleet, the building company which includes Allison's. There was a government representative there who gave a presentation on garden villages and towns. This was probably in view of the proposed development south of Grantham. The C.E.O. of Larkfleet was asked whether the government's ambition for 300,000 new houses each year could be fulfilled. He replied 'Before Brexit, possibly, after Brexit, no. Over 50% of construction workers in the London are from outside the UK.' This emphasised to me the need for more vocational courses to be set up for young people. Gainsborough should be a prime area for this.

On Friday January 26, 2018, I attended the Leader's panel and we reviewed the progress of the corporate plan and proposed budget for the next three years. The payment for green bins is going well and many residents have applied on line.

The following week, as vice-chair of the Challenge and Improvement Committee, I was a member of the briefing group which went over the agenda items for the next committee meeting. We have prepared some questions for the ACIS representatives who will appear before the committee. ACIS control the housing stock of West Lindsey.

Finally, on February 7, I was again at Riseholme. This occasion was for the planting of a yew sapling. It came from a cutting of the Ankerwycke Yew, which grows near the site of the signing of the Magna Carta. The event was to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the Charter of the Forest. Professor Carenza Lewis gave a short talk on the importance of the charter. The new Charter for Trees, Woods and People developed by the Woodland Trust was outlined by a representative. She invited those present to sign up to this charter online. The planting of the yew was quite amusing, and it would obviously be replanted later.

