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Isle of Axholme AONB

CPRE Northern Lincolnshire is supporting a move to have the Isle of Axholme officially designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).



North Lincolnshire Council will soon be consulting on the proposal to protect areas across the Isle of Axholme including Crowle, Belton, Epworth, Haxey and surrounding villages.

The area has a unique landscape and is home to many rare and valuable ecological and cultural landscapes, including England's largest areas of lowland raised mire, some of the most extensive surviving medieval strip field systems in the country, and the first landscapes in Britain to be drained by Dutch engineer Cornelius Vermuyden in the 1620s.

The aim of an AONB is to protect the character of the landscape but at the same time meeting the



need for quiet enjoyment of the countryside and having regard for the interests of those who live and work there.

Cllr Rob Waltham, leader of North Lincolnshire Council, said: "The unique landscape across the Isle of Axholme should be protected now and into the future – it is an area of outstanding natural beauty, and we will now press ahead to ensure it is properly recognised as such."

David Rose, Chair of CPRE Northern Lincolnshire commented: "we are delighted to support this bid along with the bid for the extension of the Lincolnshire Wolds, that is currently being considered by Natural England. Both bids are important steps to protect and enhance our natural environment."



Proposed Brigg Eco Market

CPRE Northern Lincolnshire are convening a meeting to discuss the development and setting up of an Eco Market in Brigg. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, 30th November at the Brigg Methodist Church, 7.00pm. Anyone interested in this initiative is welcome to attend.

Eco Markets are already in existence and run very successfully, locally and nationally. David Rose, Chair of CPRE commented: "this is an opportunity to showcase local eco-friendly businesses and entrepreneurs that can help people shop sustainably,



and encourage an environmentally and socially responsible lifestyle".

The intention is for the proposed market to offer an extra dimension to the existing market in Brigg and hopefully attract additional visitors to the town.

A number of local traders, including Totally Locally Indie Market, have already expressed an Interest in this initiative and the venue for the inaugural meeting, Brigg Methodist Church, has recently been awarded a Silver Eco Award. For further details please contact CPRE Committee member Jane Kitching on 07442160785.

AXHOLME LINE NATURE RESERVE

A popular nature reserve in the Isle of Axholme has been transformed.

The reserve is a 2 km stretch of the former Axholme Joint Railway line consisting of areas of grassland, woodland and scrub.



In a dramatic makeover, tree works and scrub clearing have created areas for wildflowers to flourish at the popular, Axholme Line Nature Reserve in Haxey.

Access to the seven-hectare site has also been enhanced, making it easier for more families to enjoy the wildlife.

Local CPRE Committee member Arthur Franks commented: "this is a very welcome investment which has helped to improve an already attractive reserve, making it easier for more people to walk among this haven for birds, small mammals, insects and butterflies."



A view at the southern end of the Nature Reserve at Haxey

Annual General Meeting 2022

The well-attended 2022 Annual General Meeting of CPRE Northern Lincolnshire was held on Saturday 15 October in the Buttercross, Brigg.

The AGM was preceded by an excellent talk by Dr Kevin Leahy called, '**The Lost Valley: Anglo-Saxons in Winterton Vale.**'

Dr Leahy (pictured right) entertained a large audience with his talk focusing on the area between the Ancholme and Trent which contains a remarkable sequence of archaeological sites. These included two Iron Age/Roman settlements, two major villas, a Roman fort, two Anglo-Saxon monasteries and a group of four Anglo Saxon cemeteries.

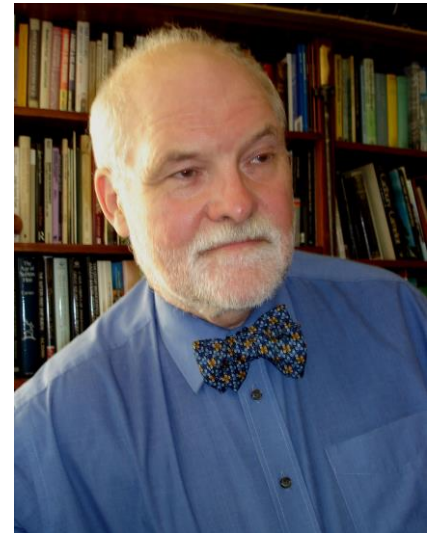
This puts a new light on the story of Anglo-Saxon England.



At the AGM, David Rose (Chair) welcomed members for the first in-person AGM for 3 years. He thanked the officers and committee for their support during the past year, especially Cath Farrell who had stepped down from her role as Development Officer.

He also reported that CPRE had still been able to maintain a watching brief on planning applications, objecting to a significant number, supporting our members and continuing to run the very popular and successful Best Kept Village competition.

The competition requires a great deal of organising and he thanked Jenny Haynes who does a superb job every year, including taking photos of all the villages and organising the prizes, plaques and framed certificates ready for our annual Presentation Evening, which was held in Broughton.



Dr Kevin Leahy FSA, MCIfA, is a British archaeologist and small-finds specialist. He is the National Finds Adviser for early-medieval metalwork for the Portable Antiquities Scheme and has published several books with the British Museum. He was elected as a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1987.

North Lincolnshire Community Energy

North Lincolnshire Community Energy (NLCE) is a community benefit society, set up this year. The scheme will help reduce energy costs for local community organisations, such as schools and community settings, with solar panels installed to roof spaces.

CPRE Northern Lincolnshire is fully supportive of this excellent initiative which will generate clean, green, renewable electricity. Mary Allen, our Branch secretary has been appointed to the Board and commented: "The North



Lincolnshire Community Energy Scheme will support the local community in benefiting from reduced energy costs, reduced carbon footprints and help to tackle climate change.

Many schools have already signed up to the scheme and I hope that we will be rolling out the programme to more schools in the near future.

This is an opportunity for the community to get involved in practical action to mitigate climate change. With the initial focus on schools, the scheme will hopefully engage young people in the opportunities and importance of renewable energy."



Annual Presentation Evening 2022



Jenny Haynes, shown above, receiving a special **long service award** for her services to CPRE since 1994. Whether as Secretary, Treasurer, or organiser of the highly successful annual Best Kept Village competition, Jenny's dedication and commitment over many years has been an inspiration to others.

Jenny, a qualified planner, has always been central to the success of the local CPRE Branch and she has also been a keen supporter of the regional CPRE group and is currently the Treasurer.

ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

There were two worthy winners this year. Di and Andrew Horner for their excellent efforts in enhancing the environment in Elsham, and a group of volunteers in Hibaldstow who have been working on a community garden at the rear of the Methodist Chapel in East Street.



Brian Brooks, Chairman of Hibaldstow Parish Council is shown above receiving the Environment Award on behalf of the group.

LITTER PICKING CHAMPIONS



Shown above are some of the Epworth Ecoists, who were proud winners of the Litter Picking Champions Award.

They have made a real impact in the past two years, working hard to keep the town of Epworth free of rubbish and litter. They also clear litter from the roads leading to the town.

Litter Champion Awards were also given to a number of individuals who regularly litter-pick around Brigg and to the 'Pride of Crowle and Ealand' for their excellent efforts in keeping their town and environs free of litter.

PLANNING HELP – If you have any concerns about local plans or potential development in your area, CPRE Northern Lincolnshire can offer professional help or advice using our planning experts. Please contact David Rose davidjohnrose@gmail.com or jenny.haynes@btinternet.com giving brief details of your issue or concern.

JOIN US

Countrywise is the Newsletter of CPRE, the countryside charity – Northern Lincolnshire. The branch is one of over 40 county branches throughout England, with 75,000 supporters nationally. Joining CPRE is open to all and we positively welcome involvement from supporters in all of our activities and campaigns.

If you would like to learn more about us, our website address is cprenorthernlincs.org.uk

If you would like to be more involved, please contact either:

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