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Pylons threaten the local landscape

CPRE Northern Lincolnshire have strongly objected to National Grid's proposed new high voltage electricity transmission line and associated works, between a new substation at Creyke Beck in the East Riding of Yorkshire and a new substation at High Marnham in Nottinghamshire.

National Grid's proposed upgrade is apparently required to increase the capability of the electricity transmission network between the north of England and the Midlands. This will facilitate the connection of proposed new offshore wind that is planned in the North Sea.

The existing power lines do not have sufficient capacity for all the new sources of electricity that are expected to connect to the network in the future. However, the proposal to run more power lines, supported by pylons, across the area, has met with a storm of protest. CPRE Northern Lincolnshire have strongly objected to the plans, especially the proposal to run power lines across the Isle of Axholme, which is being promoted as a potential Area of



Outstanding Natural Beauty (or National Landscape). We are arguing that if the new line has to be constructed, then the impact on the landscape needs to be mitigated by running the power lines underground across the Isle of Axholme.

The first period of consultation on the initial proposals has now finished and National Grid have recently published a summary of the responses, which include:

- *Requests to use or upgrade existing overhead lines as much as possible and to bury the new line underground in places.*
- *The visual impact of the proposed overhead line was a common concern.*
- *Ensure a new overhead line would not spoil rural landscapes and potential candidate Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty*

There was further concern expressed about cultural heritage assets, ecology and construction issues. National Grid are now developing the proposals in more detail ahead of a Stage 2 consultation later this year.

ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

2023



The countryside charity
Northern Lincolnshire

There were three worthy winners of the CPRE Environment Awards for 2023.

James Elliott 'Grimsby's Canoe River Cleaner' (receiving his award - below). James started clearing the River Freshney of litter (including a large number of shopping trolleys!) on Boxing Day in 2020. His dedication over the past 3 years has resulted in a much more pleasant environment for local residents as well as the local wildlife.

When he received his award, James was typically modest about his achievements. However, the sight of his canoe piled with sacks of rubbish has inspired others to deal with the scourge of litter, and CPRE are pleased to give him further recognition for his efforts.



Carl Beacock – Parks and Green Space Manager at North Lincolnshire Council can be seen right, receiving his award from David Rose (Chair CPRE Northern Lincolnshire) in Kingsway Gardens.

Carl has led many planting schemes across the county with wildflower displays, and he can take much credit for the six Green Flag Awards for parks in Scunthorpe, Barton and Woodlands Crematorium. He has also developed sustainable planting in many locations and his enthusiasm and knowledge is exceptional.



Jane Kitching, CPRE Committee member presented the Environment Award to Sir John Nelthorpe School. Shown here with Jane are two students, Mrs Peck, Deputy Head, and two members of staff Mr Smith and Mrs Almond.

Sir John Nelthorpe School, Brigg gained recognition for their excellent environment work with a thoroughly well-deserved CPRE Award.

The inspiration for the focus on the environment at the school has been the work of Mr Smith, the Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator. He has channelled the enthusiasm of the students to improve the school grounds.

Students have been involved in a range of initiatives, fitting 12 bird boxes, creating a wildlife garden, pond, and bird hide. They are also planning to display hanging baskets, grow wild flowers and create a garden allotment and an apple orchard. It is also commendable that students have been involved in local litter picking events.



Best Kept Village 2023

Presentation Evening

The Best Kept Village competition was celebrated at our well-attended Annual Presentation Evening on Monday 2 October 2023. The event was kindly hosted by Winterton, and the venue and refreshments were both excellent and much appreciated by all.

The 2023 competition attracted a new sponsor. **InternetTY**, the hyper-fast broadband provider, who generously agreed to sponsor the best community planting in each category, as well as the best kept playground, churchyard and cemetery.

InternetTY also sponsored the annual CPRE Environment Awards, with three winners this year (see page 2).



Low Burnham were small village winners for a record fifth year in succession, with a stunning display of planting, on a bee and sunflower theme.



East Lound were joint winners of the small village category and impressed the judges with their excellent display of planted wheelbarrows.

CPRE Northern Lincolnshire is proud to organise an event that encourages communities to improve their local environment. In such a supportive forum it was great to watch the prize-winners receiving their certificates, plaques and prize vouchers. As always, it was interesting to hear about their success and the efforts of volunteers who work hard to make our villages and market towns so attractive and free of litter.

It was a splendid occasion and there was certainly a determination from prize-winners to achieve even higher standards next year. We can therefore look forward to a great competition in 2024.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023



CPRE Northern Lincolnshire's AGM was held at the Buttercross in Brigg on Saturday 11 November 2023. The well-attended event enjoyed an excellent talk by Dr Kevin Leahy FSA MCifA, who entertained us by recounting his experience as an archaeologist over the past 40 years.

Committee members elected for 2023-24 are as follows:

Mary Allen (Secretary), Arthur Franks, Sue Franks, Jenny Haynes (Treasurer), Jane Kitching and David Rose (Chair).

GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE DEVOLUTION DEAL

Whilst the main focus for the devolution deal is on transport, skills and training, homes and communities and economic growth, there is also a significant emphasis on the environment.

The deal gives the opportunity to adopt innovative local proposals to deliver action on climate change and the UK's net zero targets. Greater Lincolnshire is committed to establishing one of the UK's first net zero carbon industrial clusters by 2040, which aims to capture and store carbon dioxide emissions as well as developing blue and green hydrogen infrastructure and production.

Managing water as an asset, is important to the



area's communities in mitigating the threat of coastal erosion and flooding across our area. Greater Lincolnshire has ambitions to become a rural innovation testbed for energy and water management and Defra will endorse the creation of an Enhanced Partnership to support this ambition.

The deal will boost the Local Nature Recovery Strategy and there will also be the creation of a Coastal Partnership which will include the Humber and key wildlife sites.

The proposals for the Greater Lincolnshire devolution deal are currently out for consultation until the end of January and the relevant details and consultation form can be found at

[Have your say: Greater Lincolnshire Devolution | Let's Talk Lincolnshire](#)

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 65,000 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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