

CLERK'S REPORT 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Playing Field.

Outstanding matters.

- Mr Phil Cooper has sanded down, repainted and cleaned the play area sign near the Church. Thanks have been sent to Mr Cooper for his work.
- Dips in the ground around the playboat. Mr Cooper offered to rectify in the spring. The Clerk has contacted Mr Cooper to chase this up.
- Grass reseeding. Mr Cooper has checked and this is not necessary currently.
- Dog Fouling. The Clerk has ordered and received laminated copies of the children's posters and will discuss with Council placement in the play area.
- Older children's swings. Kompan have attended site and advised required lubrication in mechanism. Engineer has repaired and added further cable ties to the frame. Swings performing satisfactorily.
- Top of sensory spinner. Clerk has inspected and advises this is not an issue. Material is hard plastic and holes are from manufacture.

Clerk and Councillor inspections.

Cllr Clarke has inspected weekly, however there was an issue with the app, and these have not been recorded. Does Council wish the Clerk to retrospectively complete these reports?

The Clerk has performed monthly inspections and has not identified any new issues.

Rospa report not yet available for August yearly inspection.

Playing Field signage.



Prices:

1 sign (A4 size) Aluminium (post mounted) £20.84 (plus vat)

Clips (pair) 76mm £5.19 (plus vat)

First aid/Defibrillator training/Bleed kits.

First aid/defibrillator training.

Brandon Shaw is available to conduct evening sessions from 1700 hrs onwards. Decision required from the Council on dates/times.

Bleed kit.

The Clerk had contacted W.L.D.C. to request the bleed kit is put in the defibrillator cabinet at the Village Hall. Mr. Carl Knight requested information on make and model to see if it can be registered on the scheme. There

may not be sufficient space in the cabinet to house it but will investigate. The Clerk has responded with information required and is awaiting a response. 20th Aug - Emailed WLDC to chase. 1st Sep reply: Carl Knight "Good afternoon, there is no problem with putting in the cabinet however we are not sure if that kit can be registered on the national circuit as they have their own official branded kits that they use, this means that in a situation where the bleed kit is required they would not have it registered to that address / location on their system. I will contact them and get further information on the kits they use and get back to you." Awaiting reply.

Highways.

Blocked grating between 3 and 7 Northfield Lane.

29th June 2026 - Cllr. Reeve provided updated from highways "– It's been pushed back again by flowline – and currently given a date of Nov 26 – I will push back to find out why".

Road surface Hollowgate Hill.

Contacted Martin Snaith for update. Was advised to submit "Fix My Street" report requesting information. Report submitted.

Speed Indicator Devices data.

Data previously circulated to Councillors.

Safety review A15/B1398 roads.

The Clerk has chased again 24th August for information on when the proposed average speed survey will take place. No reply.

Daffodil planting.

Cllr Phillips will calculate how many bulbs and obtain. Planting suggested between Sep & Nov. Post added to Facebook/website to request volunteers. One volunteer come forward to assist.

Village entrance fencing.

Quotation for installation received from Mr Adrian Hall. Prices for speed signs obtained. Funding bid submitted to WLDC. LCC Highways have reviewed entrance positioning and provisionally given approval for the following locations:

Vicarage Road



Templefield Road



Hollowgate Hill



Policies and Procedures.

Complaints procedure.

Salt bins.

Bins require checking for damage/level of salt. LCC have offered one tonne bags of salt for Councils to request free of charge, however, will fill empty bins if they are reported.

Emergency/Flood plan.

Plan finalised and submitted to Kimberley Pickett. Replied will review and respond in due course.

Old Chapel, Hollowgate Hill.

Message from resident "Would it be possible to approach the owner of the old chapel on Hollowgate Hill with a view to tidy it up? It used to be a building that was something that you could look upon as being part of the village to be proud of, now it is something to be ashamed of. There is so much going on in and around the village at the moment that is so positive that is being let down by this building."

19th August - Cllr Howitt-Cowan emailed conservation @ West Lindsey "The Chapel on Hollowgate Hill is causing serious concerns and I would be obliged if you can visit the site. I am starting to get emails from residents who are also upset/concerned at the condition of this building."

Reply from WLDC:

From: Chris Bradley
Sent: 01 September 2026 12:48
To: Paul Howitt-Cowan
Subject: RE: Former Chapel on Hollowgate Hill. Willoughton

Dear Cllr Howitt-Cowan,

Thank you for emailing me and apologies for not getting back to you in February on this one.

I previously contacted the owner earlier this year who confirmed they have someone living in it and are intending on doing the works to the building but they were going through serious health concerns at the time. They have an LBC approved currently and were very keen to get the works done. Outside of this I cannot enforce them to do the works approved in the LBC or maintain the property unless it becomes a serious concern for the building.

If you believe the current state of the property is harming the amenity value of the area, then enforcement may be able to assist with a section 215 notice. You can open a case for them at <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning/planning-enforcement> and they will be able to assess the situation.

Kind regards,
Chris Bradley
Conservation Officer

Accounts.

NALC pay settlement.

Increase on Scale 12 from £14.82 to £15.31



t: 020 7637 1865
e: nalc@nalc.gov.uk
w: www.nalc.gov.uk

24 August 2026

2026-27 NATIONAL SALARY AWARD

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has agreed the new pay scales for 2026-27 to be implemented from 1 April 2026. Employers are encouraged to implement this pay award as swiftly as possible.

Backpay for employees who have left employment since 1 April 2026. If requested by an ex-employee to do so, we recommend that employers should pay any monies due to that employee from 1 April 2026 to the employee's last day of employment.

The attached Annex lists the new pay scales for clerks and other employees employed under the terms of the model contract including SCPs 50 and above. These should be retrospectively applied from 1 April 2026.

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ANNEX 1

SCP	1 April 2025	1 April 2026			Scale Ranges
	£ per annum	* £ per hour	£ per annum	* £ per hour	Based on SCP
1	Deleted w e f 1st April 2023				Below LC Scale (for staff other than clerks)
2	£24,413	£12.65	Deleted w e f 1st April 2026		
3	£24,796	£12.85	£25,614	£13.28	
4	£25,185	£13.05	£26,016	£13.48	
5	£25,583	£13.26	£26,427	£13.70	
5	£25,583	£13.26	£26,427	£13.70	
6	£25,989	£13.47	£26,847	£13.92	LC1 (5-6) (below substantive range)
7	£26,403	£13.69	£27,274	£14.14	
8	£26,824	£13.90	£27,709	£14.36	LC1 (7-12) (substantive benchmark range)
9	£27,254	£14.13	£28,153	£14.59	
10	£27,694	£14.35	£28,608	£14.83	
11	£28,142	£14.59	£29,071	£15.07	
12	£28,598	£14.82	£29,542	£15.31	

Christmas tree.

To supply and deliver a 350-400cm Norway Spruce

Strawsons for £119.00 plus £77.00 carriage. Previous year was £80.00 plus £20.00 carriage. Have queried increase.

Fillinghams £175 plus vat.

Lamp post poppies.

Poppies now ordered and received. Mrs Bev Cooper is storing. LCC Highways initially gave approval requesting list of numbers from lamp posts and time frame. Mrs Bev Cooper made list and sent to Clerk. Clerk received phone call from LCC advising approval would be required from WLDC as they understand they own the assets. Officer took list of lamp posts, including advised duration and will inform WLDC permission had been given. Did not consider an issue and expected they would approve. Mrs Cooper aiming to install last week October and remove mid November.



Correspondence received.

- LALC Councillor campaign – Have responded to the questionnaire.
- CareHomeGuide UK – Request for Council to add link to their website which lists guide to care homes in the area with CQC rating.
- NALC Neighbourhood Plan Survey
- Elan City. Warranty for Speed Indicator Devices expires 6th January 2027. To extend is £199 each device per year.