

NKDC Report
September / October
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Right Thing Right Bin reflections, two years on!

Two years ago NKDC were working out how the first District-wide collection of clean and dry paper and cardboard only had gone... and NKDC were amazed by the results.

98.5% of purple-lidded bins in that first wider collection in September 2021 had exactly the right things which was massive thanks to households' efforts to put only the right things in, and through the support of Members and colleagues in sharing #RightThingRightBin messages.

Two years on and residents are still doing amazing things for recycling in North Kesteven, with a fantastic rate of 98.62% perfect quality paper and cardboard collected last year. We'll be sharing more information again on Right Thing Right Bin as we approach Halloween and Christmas, and generally over the coming weeks, to help keep up this amazing work together. Thank you for your continued support. You can find a video [HERE](#) to share on social media, if you wish.

Please do also keep pointing residents towards our Right Thing Right Bin leaflet, which is available online [HERE](#) together with our A-Z of recycling. Both of these are great resources to ensure only the right things go in across all the household bins at home and ensure good recycling is not contaminated by wrong items. We'll also keep sharing #RightThingRightBin information together with Lincolnshire County Council, including Alistair from their waste engagement team who was at Sleaford library this week as part of Green Libraries Week.

Go-ahead granted for £8.9m scheme to meet housing need.

An £8.9million investment providing much-needed extra-care housing for independent living in Sleaford is also making room for more wildlife habitat and biodiversity gain.

Described as a well-designed scheme, that contributes to the carbon net zero aspirations for the area, the North Kesteven District Council-led plan for 1.8 hectares of land at the old highways depot at The Hoplands has now been given planning permission.

Working in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council, the development will include 40 extra-care apartments for older people and 12 maisonettes community-supported living accommodation specifically for adults with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and those who are autistic – all 52 offered at affordable rents – plus 20 houses to further expand local provision.

The landmark extra-care block will include a roof garden as well as enclosed private garden space and the broader development will support an estimated 10% increase in biodiversity, with tree planting, protection measures for existing trees, bird nesting boxes for swifts and sparrows, bat roosting boxes and hedgehog holes within the fencing.

North Kesteven's planning committee was enthusiastic in its support for the scheme, after hearing that it made a significant contribution to meeting the accommodation needs of three

distinct cohorts of people within the District: those aged over-55 with care and support needs; working-aged adults with learning disabilities, physical disabilities and those who are autistic; and those looking for smaller local market properties.

It will all be built in line with North Kesteven's CO₂-sy Homes standard of Net Zero Carbon in use and potentially to its higher Passivhaus level, which is a highly energy efficient way of living.

There will be solar panels for renewable energy generation and design specifics which maximise potential for solar gain without overheating of the accommodation.

There will also be public open space, associated landscaping, contribution to footpath enhancements and almost £30,000 towards capacity expansion within local healthcare.

Delivered in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council, the 40 self-contained extra-care apartments will be flexible and easily-adaptable to meet the residents' needs as they change and allow residents to remain independent as their needs increase. The accommodation is designed to create an 'enabling environment' and to adapt and facilitate the delivery of care and support services, considering the dynamics of ageing over time, including disability and complex health needs. Eleven will be two-bed apartments and there will be dedicated dining facilities on site.

At present, there is no extra-care accommodation within the District, which has been a long-held aim of the Council. Based on current projections there is presently a need for 43 units to meet the needs of the Sleaford area's population of 1,711 over-75s alone. With expectations for the number of over-75s to increase by 32% up to 2035 and 63% up to 2040, this points towards a growing issue for accommodation for older people and demonstrates an explicit need. This new provision of 40 units championed by the two councils working in partnership was seen by the planning committee to 'make a significant contribution towards a current shortfall for people with care and support needs'.

For more information visit [HERE](#).

Annual Household Canvass – Visits to non-responders

All households within the North Kesteven District have now received a canvass communication form which requested residents to inform Electoral Services of any changes to occupancy.

Those households that have not yet responded and were required to do so will either receive a phone call from the Electoral Services Team or have a visit from an appointed NK Electoral Services Canvasser. The Canvasser will encourage the householder to either inform of any changes at the doorstep, complete the online response or to return the paper form to Electoral Services. Canvassers will be 'door-knocking' from 2 October and will always be carrying ID.

North Kesteven building projects to be recognised nationally.

Two North Kesteven building projects have been singled out as among the best in the East Midlands and put forward for national recognition in the Local Authority Building Control Awards.

A windmill conversion at Scopwick and a school extension at Norton Disney were considered as the best in their categories against others submitted from across the five counties of the East Midlands.

As clients of the North Kesteven District Council Building Control Service they had already won the Council's Building Excellence Awards and are now set for national consideration.

Lincoln builder Rob White also won the regional category for Best Residential & Small Commercial Builder and the Council's showcase scheme of eight Passivhaus council homes built to the highest energy efficiency standards at Potterhanworth was highly commended as Best Small Scale Housing Development.

The Windmill in Scopwick is a self-build conversion and extension to an historic windmill which was last used a century ago. The applicant had a vision and with architect David Parish, delivered on that vision. With the use of old photos to restore listed features and innovative approaches to meet modern safety standards the skill, craftsmanship and approaches employed in this self-build project ensure its completion to the highest standards.

Witham Prospect School in Norton Disney is a classroom extension which incorporates a student dining area, designed by Ryland Design Services. The multifunctional educational space has resulted in a comfortable, spacious, bright facility with all of the amenities needed to enhance opportunity for a brighter start to life. The extension blends seamlessly into its surroundings and is overall a very aesthetically-pleasing functional design. The proactive management of the site, maintained by a thorough approach to health and safety, led to an outstanding project delivery.

Rob White has 20 years of experience in the trade, the last seven working for himself. He is an excellent builder who shows an enormous amount of customer care and pride in his work with a mantra that the work he produces should be good enough for his own home.

In Potterhanworth – Lindum BMS's construction of eight highly energy-efficient homes for North Kesteven District Council, designed by Low Carbon Box, have been built to the international Passivhaus standard of airtightness. Their design and exceptional execution stops the unnecessary movement of air, avoiding loss of warmth.

Feedback from the Passivhaus inspector was exceptional, placing these advanced homes within the top 1% for air tightness in the UK. The properties are an example of what can be achieved through innovative thinking and exceptional foresight and engagement.

By placing trust in the excellent, professional and good-value services of North Kesteven District Council's Building Control Team, customers are also automatically eligible for their projects to be nominated for the LABC Awards. Architects, designers, builders, sub-contractors and property owners working alongside the Building Control team contribute not only to a better built environment but also one that is contributing positively to North Kesteven as a place where climate concerns are acted on.

The national final will take place in London on Friday 19 January 2024 with the Scopwick and Norton Disney projects and Rob White all set to be championed and celebrated.

For more information visit [HERE](#).

New sources of funding for energy projects

Community Energy Fund

This funding for energy generating projects (e.g. solar panels, EV charging, wind and water-based energy) has been announced and guidance is expected in the near future.

You may wish to begin preparations and/or keep an eye on DESNZ channels for further details to be released, as it is expected that the timescales for applications may be short.

Local Authorities such as North Kesteven District Council cannot apply, but community groups and Parish Councils can, and the projects should be community-based.

More details [HERE](#).