

Cllr Bunney's report:

1. The WLDC Community Facilities and Activities Fund. I know the parish is aware of the schemes and would urge you to at least submit an expression of interest for any project that you might have in mind. Funds are limited and demand high! The links are: www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/funding funding@west-lindsey.gov.uk 01427 676676
2. WLDC Budget Consultation. Once again WLDC are wanting to consult widely on residents' views towards council tax collection and council spending for 2023 – 2024. They are particularly interested in peoples' comments about the frequency of green bin collection. They would like as many surveys completed as possible. The online link is: budget consultation 2022all (snapsurveys.com) <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/interview/5eae19f1-3201-48ae-9d60-d451439c9672>

Highways continues to dominate my agenda. The constant response to legitimate concerns is that it is a matter of finance and priority.

- There is a great reluctance to introduce further weight limits around the County – the argument being that the increasing size of agricultural vehicles and Lorries mean that most restrictions are meaningless as local farms and businesses are granted exemptions!
- The increasing size and width of vehicles is causing damage to the road edges and verges on the area's narrow roads. Highways have acknowledged this as a potential problem and are exploring ways of changing their policies to increase the importance of keeping road sides to a standard – the current policy is focused on the carriageway. However, the suggestion to widen the carriageway, where possible, is constantly batted back as being too expensive.
- Highways are developing a mapping system that categorises the condition of the county's roads. They use this to prioritise non-emergency repairs. As councillors we have asked for access to the data so that we can share it with residents and parishes as an explanation of why work is being scheduled or not. Unfortunately, despite several requests and promises we are still waiting for the information to be rolled out.
- Speed issues are still constantly being raised and batted back.
- A major review of the winter maintenance and gritting routes and schedules is planned for the winter of 2024 and 2025. I have been told that Parishes will be consulted on this – details of how have not yet been given.