

south holland now



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stronger communities
mortgage & rent assistance
crackdown on street drinking
concessionary bus pass changes
twitter



Solar panels on the roof of the Red Lion Quarter development against the Spalding roofscape

Helping your community Working together to help each other



volunteers and community organisations include development of the brand new Teenage Drop In Centre at Holbeach and provision of new equipment for the Ruby Hunt Centre at Donington.

Coun Gary Taylor is Portfolio Holder of Place for Sutton Bridge and chairs Sutton Bridge Multi-Agency Group, a 'hub' of local organisations working for the common good of the whole village.

Puttick. She has supported the purchase of equipment for the Ruby Hunt Centre, the youth club and Flinders Founders.

You can do your bit too, get involved, meet new people and develop new skills by volunteering.

To find out about volunteering please see box below.

To work in projects organised by Portfolio Holders of Place please contact:

▶ **Holbeach** - Coun Nick Worth, tel: 01406 701420, email: nworth@sholland.gov.uk;

▶ **Sutton Bridge** - Coun Gary Taylor, tel: 01775 718659, email: gtaylor@sholland.gov.uk;

▶ **Long Sutton** - Coun Paul Espin, tel: 07900 378073, email: pespin@sholland.gov.uk;

▶ **Donington** - Coun Amanda Puttick, tel: 01775 820731, email: aputtick@sholland.gov.uk

You can also contact your Local Ward Member - for contact details please go to: www.sholland.gov.uk/council/democratic/councillors/district

You can do your bit too, get involved, meet new people and develop new skills by volunteering.

For more information contact:

▶ South Holland District Council's community development officer, Karen Johnson, tel: 01775 764868, email: karenjohnson@sholland.gov.uk

▶ South Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service, tel: 01775 718008

SOUTH Holland is in great shape to weather tough economic times because more and more volunteers are stepping forward to make their own community a better place to live.

We already work very closely with enthusiasts who freely devote time to community projects - and with South Lincolnshire Community and Voluntary Service, an 'umbrella' organisation that matches volunteers to opportunities to help.

There is a suggestion from Government that we need to be more willing to do things for ourselves and not always expect the public sector to provide things for us.

As Government cuts begin to bite into local government budgets, we will have less money to do things - but we are confident we can build on the work we have already started so the 'big society' is alive and well in each of our small communities.

We have already appointed Portfolio Holders of Place to look after Donington, Sutton Bridge, Holbeach and Long Sutton.

Projects resulting from Portfolio Holders of Place working with

As Portfolio Holder of Place for Long Sutton, Coun Paul Espin is heavily involved in developing a community-led plan - a kind of blueprint outlining improvements residents want to see.

Coun Espin's partnership working saw the restoration of the common pit as a valuable public amenity and boosted Long Sutton In Bloom's award-winning efforts to spruce up the town and provide majestic floral displays.

The Teenage Drop In Centre - beside South Holland Boxing Academy - is one of the latest projects to benefit from the work of Coun Nick Worth, Holbeach Portfolio Holder of Place, and his partners in the community.

Donington has seen many benefits from partnership working with the community by Portfolio Holder of Place Coun Amanda



▶ **Our priority: Care of our villages and towns**





You're not on your own

How we can help if you are struggling to make ends meet

There's no place like home

A LOCAL woman has become the proud owner of her own home - thanks to us.

Lucinda Roberts (29) has waved goodbye to her council home at Holbeach St Marks and moved to a £70,000 two-bedroom property.

Her end-of-terrace house is one of eight that we put on the market in line with our number one priority, providing affordable housing.

Lucinda said: "I saw it advertised in one of the council newsletters. I thought it was a good opportunity. You don't see many houses around for that price.

"I went and had a look and I liked them.

"It's hard to afford something by yourself and this is affordable for me. I am really excited."

Lucinda said: "I like everything about it - I really like the fact that it's got a living room and a dining room - but the main thing is that it's just so affordable. It's also in a nice, quiet area."

Council tenants are the 'primary target audience' for these homes - and next are those on our housing waiting list.

All proceeds raised from the sale of the Flaxmill Lane properties will be invested in further affordable housing for local people.

► Our priority: Affordable homes

For more information contact:

- Customer Services
- tel: 01775 761161



TOUGH economic times - with families suffering job losses and reduced working hours - are making it more difficult for people to pay mortgages and rents.

But we can often help you out of a crisis if you fall seriously into arrears.

Through our Repossession Prevention Fund, we can lend up to £5,000 to help people keep their homes.

Kim Warren, who heads our Housing and Property Service, says: "It is important that people seek our advice before things get too bad.

"Solutions can include coming to an arrangement with a mortgage lender, removing the need for court action, and finding the right Government schemes, such as Mortgage Rescue, which can help people stay in their own homes."

A couple sought our help after falling on hard times - and now know they can keep their house for at least the next year.

The couple, who do not wish to be named, worked closely with us to sort

their finances and found they could save £80 per month by cutting out things they didn't need.

The mother of three told us: "We were allowed an interest free loan of £1,350.

"Our landlord agreed to the council paying off the arrears and has allowed us to stay in the house for the next 12 months.

"We watch our money more carefully and budget. We feel much better knowing that, as long as we pay the rent on time from now on, we will be staying put for the next year at least."

“ Our landlord agreed to the council paying off the arrears and has allowed us to stay in the house for the next 12 months. ”

► Our priority: Affordable homes

For more advice contact:

- South Holland District Council
- tel: 01775 764601

Crackdown on street drinking and anti-social behaviour



Police Sector Inspector for Spalding Paul Timmins said: "Since December 2009 the centre of Spalding has been subject to a Designated Public Place Order. This means that we have had certain powers when we find people drinking and causing a nuisance on the streets of the town centre. This has certainly worked but not to the extent we would have liked.

"This operation has been launched to look at the reactive and proactive sides of this issue.

"We will be working with the district council and other agencies to tackle the root causes of these problems to make sure that the long-term prognosis for Spalding town centre will be better. We want to work together to support the individuals concerned to make sure they stay off the streets."

WE are working with Lincolnshire Police on Operation Matrix to put a stop to street drinking and anti-social behaviour in Spalding town centre.

There are police officers specifically dedicated to Operation Matrix and they are working with us to deal with incidents as they happen - and to establish long-term solutions for the people involved so they stay off the streets.

“

We will be working with the district council and other agencies to tackle the root causes of these problems...

”



South Lincs Community Safety Partnership
Helping to make your community safer



► Our priority: Care of our villages and towns

For more information contact:

- Anti-Social Behaviour Team
- tel: 01775 761161



It makes good sense to fill it in

PREPARATIONS are under way for the 2011 Census and forms will arrive at homes across South Holland in time for the big day on March 27

The Census is a key tool for many agencies as they plan services for communities like ours - and an accurate 'head count' means this area will receive the right amount of Government funding for the people living here.

On a seasonal note, there is nothing new about the Census - one of the first ever Censuses formed the backdrop to the Christmas story, when Joseph and Mary travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem to register in the Census ordered by Caesar Augustus.

UK households have been taking part in a once a decade Census since 1801.

Census area manager Colin Davison said: "The Census provides an excellent source of information about the population.

"This enables central and local government, health authorities and many other organisations to identify the need for housing, education, health and transport services for years to come.





“Did you know that supermarkets use Census statistics to work out the kind of foods they need to sell to keep local communities stocked up with their favourites?”

“Water companies use the Census data to plan the pipes for clean and waste water.”

All individual Census forms remain confidential - so no one will see your personal information - whether you reply by post or complete your answers online.

The online service is new this year and you will find your individual online code on the front of your Census form.

“

This enables central and local government, health authorities and many other organisations to identify the need for housing, education, health and transport services for years to come. ”

Leaflets to explain the Census have been printed in 56 different languages and there are large print and Braille Census forms as well as telephone and internet helplines.

Colin said: “If you need help and advice, you will be able to find everything you need online at www.census.gov.uk and on the Census Helpline.”

The Census also provides temporary part-time job opportunities and you can apply by visiting www.censusjobs.co.uk

► Our priority: Democratic community leadership

For more information visit:

► www.census.gov.uk



Roaring into 2011

EXCITEMENT is building as the £6.5 million Red Lion Quarter in Spalding heads for completion next month.

The multi-use complex will house a training restaurant run by Boston College and backed by one of its former students, Michelin star chef and TV regular Jason Atherton.

The training restaurant will be on the ground floor with a food court and three 'high visibility' retail units available for rent by independent specialist food producers.

These retail units have space for small-scale production and we hope visitors to the Red Lion Quarter will enjoy seeing how particular delicacies are made.

Upstairs the building will house a range of public meeting spaces and 12 fully serviced offices for small and start-up businesses.

The building is due to open in the spring.

The Red Lion Quarter is one of the most exciting developments ever in South Lincolnshire and we are delighted to be offering a permanent

home to a prestigious training restaurant as well as a showcase for food, South Holland's leading industry, and opportunities for the local business community.

Boston College is a major funder for the project as well as being a key tenant. Funding has also come from East Midlands Development Agency, Lincolnshire County Council and this council.

As well as incorporating 'cutting-edge' design, the building has many green features - and these include eight 6 square-metre roof lights, which bring natural light into the building to cut running costs, provide solar hot water, rain-water harvesting and a green roof.

Most of the construction work on Red Lion Quarter has been carried out by companies within a 60 mile radius of the building site - and this is evidence of the partners' determination to do all we can to boost the economy where we live.

► Our priority: A Secure and Diverse Economy

For more information visit:

► www.redlionquarter.co.uk

Plea for volunteer drivers



YOUNG people in rural areas like ours find it difficult to visit friends and places of interest in the evenings and at weekends.

South Holland Youth Council is working with Lincolnshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services (LCVYS) and Lincolnshire County Council Accessibility Team on a new scheme to enlist volunteer drivers to give youngsters a lift to where they want to go - and at the time they want to go.

We want to try it first in the Sutton Bridge area.

The scheme works by having volunteer co-ordinators and drivers who take bookings and transport young people from their homes to the places they want to go to. The passenger pays the driver 40p per mile but if there are four passengers they would only pay 10p each.

To make it work we need more volunteer drivers and another co-ordinator.



Drivers will not need extra car insurance but they will all be CRB checked to make sure that the young people are safe.

A message from the Youth Council: "Please help us to get out and visit our friends in the evenings and to go to special events at the weekends. The bus service is simply not good enough and it does not run at the time we need it.

"We need help from older people but perhaps in a few years time we will be the volunteers who help with the older people's voluntary car schemes.

"Please help us now."

If parents or other people would like to help make this scheme work in the Sutton Bridge area, please contact Bex Mezzo on 07595 893723. You can also email bex.mezzo@lcvys.com or nina.lightfoot@lincolnshire.gov.uk

Concessionary Bus Passes

Guidance from Lincolnshire County Council

Disabled and Older Persons Concessionary Travel Scheme (Bus Passes) Did you know....

From 1 April 2011 responsibility for the Disabled and Older Persons Concessionary Travel Scheme (Bus Passes) will transfer from the District Council to Lincolnshire County Council.

From this date the County Council will be responsible for issuing new passes, renewals and replacing lost passes.

Due to reduced public sector funding, it is likely that some of the discretionary elements available in some parts of the county will not be affordable within next year's scheme. It is hoped however, to be able to continue with pre - 09:30 concession that is currently available.

Merger of all district schemes into one County led scheme will also require changes to where and how you can apply for your pass. Full details of the new arrangements will be available by early next year, along with full scheme details available on the County Council's website.



For more information visit:

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

benefit & council tax tweets



Help us save your money by reporting benefit fraudsters - phone 0800 0851 737 or visit www.sholland.gov.uk/benefitfraud.



Together with all councils across the country we are taking part in an exercise which will match all the data we hold on record to locate any fraudulent claims or any claims that have been made in error. You can get further information on this from our website www.sholland.gov.uk or call us on 01775 761161



Looking forward to the New Year? Why not make a resolution to pay your Council Tax monthly by Direct Debit? Simple, convenient and secure.



Are you paying too much Council Tax? There's a wide range of discounts and exemptions available - check our website for details.

housing tweets



Equity Loans up to £20,000 are available for repairs to your home. If you qualify the loan will be repayable when your home is sold. Contact Community Housing on 01775 764592.

democracy tweets



District elections will be held on May 5 in 2011.



You can't vote in any elections if you aren't registered, so if you move house make sure you register. Call 01775 761161 for more information or go online to sholland.gov.uk.

healthy tweets



News Year is not far off - contact our Health Trainer on 01775 761161 and get help with those healthy resolutions.



Looking for somewhere for your Christmas meal? Look out for our 'Tulip' food hygiene ratings. Check the scores on the doors to make sure your venue is up to standard.

leisure tweets



Don't miss the 11th Open Arts Exhibition at South Holland Centre 14th - 20th January 2011.



Saturday November 27 - Christmas Super Saturday in Spalding town centre. Starts 10am until 5pm - see Santa turn on the lights at around 4.30pm.



Take part in a paranormal event at Ayscoughfee Hall Museum with the team from Spalding Paranormal Investigations. For more details call 01775 764555 or email museum@sholland.gov.uk or go to www.ayscoughfee.org



Get married at Ayscoughfee Hall Museum. A lovely historic setting, perfect for your photographs. Call our wedding coordinators on 01775 764555 or email: museum@sholland.gov.uk or go to www.ayscoughfee.org

web tweet



See major planning decisions as they are made: we webcast our Development Control meetings every month. The link is on the front of our website. www.sholland.gov.uk

Details of council and community events across the district

For details and for a full listing of events across the district, call or go online:

South Holland District Council
Tel: 01775 761161 www.sholland.gov.uk
South Holland Centre Box Office
Tel: 01775 764777 www.southhollandcentre.co.uk
Ayscoughfee Hall Museum
Tel: 01775 764555 www.ayscoughfee.org

Listing your Community Events

For listings of your community events visit www.sholland.gov.uk click on 'Leisure and Culture' and 'What's On' where local events and opportunities for getting your event listed are shown.

Using the 'Get your event listed form', you can electronically submit your event to us for listing on our website.

Contacting South Holland District Council

Telephone: 01775 761161
Fax: 01775 711253
Email: info@sholland.gov.uk
Web: www.sholland.gov.uk

Address:
Council Offices,
Priory Road,
Spalding, Lincs.
PE11 2XE

South Holland Now for the Blind and Partially Sighted

We can provide this magazine in large print form or on tape. If you, or any of your friends or family, would be interested please call us on 01775 761161 and let us know.

This magazine has been produced by South Holland District Council and printed by Classic Printers, on environmentally friendly paper. It costs under 15p per copy to produce and distribute.

I'm dreaming of a **Green Christmas!**

Thank you for the support you have given to our recycling scheme this year...



Make a New Year's resolution that you can keep - Recycle more stuff, more often

Please do not recycle:

Yes - at Christmas you can also recycle:



- Christmas decorations
- Christmas tree lights
- Broken toys
- Batteries

Don't forget to put vegetable and fruit peelings from your Christmas dinner in your home compost bin

- Wrapping paper
- Large Sweet tins
- Christmas cards
- Catalogues
- Extra bottles and jars
- Used crackers



If you're buying a real Christmas tree this year, remember there are a number of ways to recycle it in the New Year. After removing your decorations you can take it to the Household Waste recycling Centre in Spalding or please contact us for more details of temporary containers around the district.



Collections over Christmas & New Year

All other collections will be as normal	collection would have been due on:	leave out for collection on:
refuse 	Monday 27th December Tuesday 28th December	Monday 3rd January Tuesday 4th January
recycling 	Monday 27th December Tuesday 28th December	Monday 3rd January Tuesday 4th January