



**Gainsborough Crematorium**  
**Statement of Community Involvement**  
*19<sup>th</sup> October 2017*

## Contents

|  |   |           |
|--|---|-----------|
| <b>Executive Summary</b>               | - | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Background</b>                      | - | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Methodology &amp; Response Rate</b> | - | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>Feedback</b>                        | - | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>Analysis of Key Comments</b>        | - | <b>18</b> |
| <b>Conclusion</b>                      | - | <b>20</b> |
| <b>Appendices</b>                      | - | <b>21</b> |

# Executive Summary

## **Background**

West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) is seeking to develop a site adjacent to Gainsborough Road in Lea Parish. The proposed development will take the form of a crematorium with memorial gardens. This is to address the high level of community need for such a facility; cremation is becoming an increasingly popular mode of funeral and the demand for funerals in our district is rising exponentially. This has been driven by demographic change – we have both an aging population (the national proportion above 70 years is to grow from 11.7% in 2012 to 18.4% in 2037) and a growing population, with the population of West Lindsey expected to grow to a projected 102,000 by 2037. The latter figure is likely to be considerably higher in ‘real terms’ due to Gainsborough’s recent designation as one of the ten housing ‘growth points’ outside London, which has resulted in a 46% planned increase in the number of housing units by 2036. With the availability of grave plots across the district diminishing and waiting lists at surrounding crematoria expanding, the need for a new crematorium in West Lindsey has become an economic and social imperative.

## **Summary**

West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) has been consulting widely upon the development of a new crematorium and associated memorial gardens on land at Gainsborough Road in Lea Parish. The consultation was undertaken using a wide variety of media:

- A public consultation event, held at Lea Village Hall on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017.
- Meetings with the parish councils most impacted by the development of a crematorium facility (Gainsborough Town Council, Lea Parish Council, Knaith Parish council).
- Direct engagement with industry stakeholders through a consultation event which was specifically targeted at religious groups, celebrants and funeral directors.
- The consultation event was featured in the online Lincolnshire Reporter.
- Newspaper coverage was broadly positive, with the crematorium and the crematorium consultation featuring in both print and website form. The consultation was featured in the Lincolnshire Reporter (online), Gainsborough Standard (online and in print) and the Market Rasen Mail (online and in print).
- A full radio campaign, which included two radio interviews on BBC Radio Lincolnshire. One live radio interview was given on 13/09/2017 to launch the consultation and another on 12/10/2017 to remind residents to submit their responses to the consultation. This was followed by an article on the BBC website (see appendix two), which was of substantial assistance in disseminating knowledge of the consultation. The story was also covered by BBC Look North on 19/09/2017.
- Engagement has been sought on social media, through promotion on the council’s Facebook and Twitter accounts. There has been a specific

consultation webpage created on the West Lindsey District Council website (link: <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/my-council/have-your-say/consultations/current-consultations/proposed-gainsborough-crematorium/>) which contains a direct link to the standard feedback form (replicated at appendix three). The page also contains the published consultation boards and images that were available at the public consultation event.

West Lindsey District Council have engendered the aspirations of the Localism Act (2011) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) through seeking the widest possible engagement from both stakeholders and members of the general public.

Engagement with the community's local representatives has largely been very positive, with council officers giving formal presentations to the parish councils most affected by the proposed development (Gainsborough Town Council, Lea Parish Council, Knaith Parish council).

There was no formal opportunity to present to Lea Parish Council as the consultation period did not align with their meeting schedule. However, the Clerk brought together all but one of their Parish Councillors to a meeting on the 31st August. The Councillors present were very positive about the prospective development both in terms of the design and location. The Councillors present expressed a desire to understand what the key concerns and potential myths around crematoria were so that they could assist in addressing any concerns within their local community.

At a meeting of Gainsborough Town Council on the 5th September, the proposals were very well received and although it was not requested one Member moved a motion to vote in order to offer full Council support. Matthew Gleadall, Clerk to Gainsborough Town Council made the following comment in an email the following day:

*"Please use this e-mail as confirmation that my Councillors voted almost unanimously in support of the plans for the Crematorium at their recent Full Council meeting.*

*I also felt personally that the plans looked fantastic, the site is a great choice for such a project and I sincerely hope that the development will eventually come to fruition. It will be a valuable asset to Gainsborough and surrounding areas."*

The minutes from Knaith Parish Council meeting held on the 11th September are attached at appendix four. At this meeting residents specifically expressed concerns around the speed of traffic on the road from where the potential development will be accessed from and whether the crematorium development would open up the village to large residential housing applications, which is consistent with some of the on-line feedback and face to face feedback received at the community consultation event.

Our engagement allowed for the local community to view and comment on the emerging proposals, providing feedback for consideration by the project team. This was done through the medium of a written consultation response form (see appendix five). Participation was generally very good, with 71 written responses being

submitted through both the online consultation and the written response form provided at the Lea Village Hall public consultation event on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The public consultation event was well attended, with 85 attendees. Responses were largely positive and reflect the tenor of the feedback given in the written consultation submissions.

## Methodology & Response Rate

The consultation questionnaire was structured into a series of open questions around core components of the development:

- The proposed facility – or ‘overall’ opinions on the proposed crematorium.
- The design of the proposed crematorium.
- The location of the proposed crematorium.
- Access to the proposed crematorium.
- Any other comments – This question was created to gauge any issues which did not neatly fit within the given categories above.

This was followed by a closed question seeking to identify the nature of the attendance by stakeholders, assessing whether consultees were:

- A local resident.
- A member of an Access Group.
- A funeral director.
- A Faith Group member.
- Or ‘other’

The combination of these questions allowed us to assess both the identity of attending stakeholders and their views on specific aspects of the development.

## Feedback

71 written consultation questionnaires were returned. In response to the questions posed:

**Q1. Please give us your thoughts on the proposed facility.**

**Number of Responses: 56**

**Did not answer: 15**

### Summary of Feedback

| Category                                  | Number (Percentage)* |
|---|----------------------|
| Positive                                  | 43 (76.8%)           |
| Positive, with reservations expressed     | 2 (3.6%)             |
| <b>Net Positive</b>                       | <b>45 (80.4%)</b>    |
| Ambiguous (Neither positive nor negative) | 3 (5.4%)             |
| Objecting                                 | 8 (14.3%)            |
| <b>Net Negative</b>                       | <b>8 (14.3%)</b>     |

\*Percentages may add to marginally more or less than 100% due to rounding.

| <i>Positive Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
| A crematorium in West Lindsey is a great idea  | 11                         |
| Excellent  | 4                          |
| OK   | 1                          |
| I would fully support the building of a crematorium facility in Lea. I have had several experiences of having to travel to Ordsall because of the lack of availability at our nearest crematorium at Scunthorpe and Lincoln. | 1                          |
| The provision of a crematorium in the Gainsborough area would relieve pressure on those at Scunthorpe and Lincoln  | 2                          |
| Brilliant news and a great idea  | 1                          |
| I think it is a brilliant thing  | 2                          |
| I applaud the decision of West Lindsey District council to provide a crematorium, as a local undertaker I have been advocating this for many years.  | 1                          |
| Just what the area needs, the journey to Scunthorpe gets worse, timings must be a nightmare for funeral directors  | 1                          |
| So badly needed. Having to go either to Scunthorpe or Lincoln can take all day (without the funeral!)  | 1                          |
| Gainsborough needs this facility, as travelling to either Lincoln or Scunthorpe can put extra stress on bereaved families.   | 1                          |
| It would take pressure off the facility in Lincoln   | 1                          |
| Desperately needed for local and surrounding area residents.   | 1                          |
| A very sensible proposal   | 1                          |
| The facility looks good and I agree is much needed   | 1                          |
| This is a much needed facility and is very sympathetically designed.   | 1                          |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| I think this is a very welcome idea and will I am sure be appreciated by the older population. As I am of the age when the thoughts come to mind how difficult it can be for my age group to travel to Lincoln or Scunthorpe for the cremation of family and friends. I hear constantly about the delay to cremation of loved ones. | 1         |
| The facility is much needed in the local area.  | 11        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>42</b> |

| <i>Positive, with reservations Feedback Comments</i>   | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
| The site is OK but in or around the town cemetery would be better for the townspeople to visit | 1                          |
| Ok, as long as there is no atmospheric pollution or noise.                                     | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>2</b>                   |

| <i>Ambiguous Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| Why is this not a privately run facility? Will it have an energy recovery scheme?       | 1                          |
| Not enough information to enable me to comment. Need to know where it would be located. | 1                          |
| Better than a load of houses  | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>3</b>                   |

| <i>Objecting Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| I am opposed to the proposal to build a crematorium in the village of Lea. One of the attractions of the village is the access to the fields and woods in the area. It is popular with residents who enjoy walking there. If the crematorium were built there it would spoil our beautiful countryside. | 1                          |
| I'm unsure as to the need for a crematorium, particularly the ovens.  | 1                          |
| I could see that a crematorium could work in some ideal world, but feel that the planned location is just as unsuitable as if it was in the centre of Gainsborough. Is it really needed?  | 1                          |
| As these facilities run on gas, what happens when gas runs out, will this become another white elephant, costing a lot of money initially.  | 1                          |
| This is not needed  | 2                          |
| Object to a commercially run for profit facility run by WLDC – run for profit with a big impact on local community  | 1                          |
| Object is a commercial run facility that will end up being a conveyor belt system purely for profit gain and will have a big negative impact on the rural community – 8 funerals a day – really!  | 1                          |

|              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| <b>Total</b> | <b>8</b> |
|--------------|----------|

**Q2. Please give us your thoughts on the design of the facility**

**Number of Responses: 54**

**Did not Answer: 17**

**Summary of Feedback**

| Category                              | Number (Percentage) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Positive                              | 35 (64.8%)          |
| Positive, with reservations expressed | 5 (9.3%)            |
| <b>Net Positive</b>                   | <b>40 (74.1%)</b>   |
| Ambiguous                             | 8 (14.8%)           |
| Objecting                             | 6 (11.1%)           |
| Net Negative                          | <b>6 (11.1%)</b>    |
| Did not answer                        | 17                  |

| <i>Positive Feedback Comments</i>   | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| Looks Pleasant  | 1                          |
| Good design   | 10                         |
| Absolutely fine   | 1                          |
| In keeping with Lea   | 1                          |
| Looks peaceful, lovely location   | 1                          |
| Excellent   | 1                          |
| The design is lovely  | 2                          |
| Very sympathetic to purpose and role. Good choice of mixed natural materials and natural lighting.  | 1                          |
| Looks good to me. I would not mind going through there on my last journey   | 1                          |
| Looks amazing!  | 1                          |
| I consider the design of the proposed crematorium is excellent and in keeping with construction of modern crematoriums whilst allowing adequate parking facilities and a good sized chapel. | 1                          |
| Very pleased with the design and proposed landscaping   | 1                          |
| Looks tasteful and appropriate  | 2                          |
| Appropriate   | 1                          |
| OK  | 2                          |
| Looks fine, should blend into the landscape   | 1                          |
| I think the design is impressive  | 1                          |
| Pleasing to the eye   | 1                          |
| Very modern but it's not too obvious what the building is for, which is nice.   | 1                          |
| Modern and tasteful   | 3                          |
| It is a lovely design, modern and up to date. It should suit all faiths and religions. First class, well done.  | 2                          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>35</b>                  |



| <i>Positive, with reservations Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| The design generally looks OK. I assume DDA is a disabled toilet! Why is the door into this around the other side of the building from the waiting room and general public toilet? The entrance to the disabled facility should be nearer the waiting room and not further away. It looks like its been added as an afterthought.   | 1                          |
| Chapel and crematorium design looks a little imposing, but like the use of light. Not sure brick and wood colours will blend with the environment very well.  | 1                          |
| Good, but not on the right site   | 1                          |
| The initial architect's drawing of the crematorium is a little misleading. It appears to show the building as open to winds from both opposite directions. Also when compared with drawing number two it appears to be somewhat stretched. These apart, the design appears to be most pleasing. The interior layout is well thought out, and the ceiling looks most attractive. The layout of the grounds looks pleasant. | 1                          |
| Looks OK and I should imagine that with some good landscaping it will look good.  | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>5</b>                   |

| <i>Ambiguous Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| Needs to be welcoming and subtle. Well lit inside with a central plinth for coffin. An entrance and an exit into the committal room beneficial but preference would be both at the top of the room and out onto a courtyard (covered/wooden gazebo with planting around for people to view floral tributes afterwards). Stained glass windows? Perhaps members of the local community could design them? Competition? Or maybe even feature some of Gainsborough's past heritage. | 1                          |
| The proposed design appears to be acceptable to the cross faiths that would want to use the facility  | 1                          |
| The artists impression looks appropriate  | 1                          |
| In keeping for this facility  | 1                          |
| Not too worried about the design as long as a peaceful setting is provided for this building  | 1                          |
| I would imagine the design is proved and tested as one crematorium is very much like another in terms of appearance and facilities within.  | 1                          |
| Doesn't phase me, as long as it gets done   | 1                          |
| Looks very modern.  | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>8</b>                   |

| <i>Objecting Feedback Comments</i>   | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
| <i>This needs to fit in with the rural setting and not look so modern and concrete on the outside</i>  | 1                          |
| <i>There needs to be a much larger waiting area where people waiting have better protection from weather than the present design offers.</i> | 1                          |
| <i>I'm not keen on the proposed design. It looks like an old wartime bunker or nuclear fallout shelter. I think it should be altered.</i>    | 1                          |
| <i>Building could look better.</i>   | 1                          |
| <i>Grey bricked building does not fit in with the rural nature of Knaith &amp; Lea. No environmental glass roof.</i>                         | 1                          |
| <i>Disappointed with the materials and colour chosen for the building. It is not in keeping with the rural landscape.</i>                    | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>6</b>                   |

### **Q3. Please give us your thoughts on the location of the facility**

**Number of Responses: 63**

**Did not answer: 9**

#### **Summary of Feedback**

| Category                              | Number (Percentage) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Positive                              | 32 (50.1%)          |
| Positive, with reservations expressed | 9 (14.3%)           |
| <b>Net Positive</b>                   | <b>41 (65.1%)</b>   |
| Ambiguous                             | 4 (6.3%)            |
| Objecting                             | 18 (28.6%)          |
| <b>Net Negative</b>                   | <b>18 (28.6%)</b>   |
| Did not answer                        | 8                   |

| <i>Positive Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
| The location of the proposed crematorium is ideal.   | 4                          |
| A great place  | 1                          |
| Good location  | 6                          |
| Good/Very good   | 8                          |
| Fabulous!  | 2                          |
| Suitable   | 1                          |
| Close enough to town and easy to reach   | 1                          |
| I am in complete agreement   | 1                          |
| Nice calm and relaxing location  | 1                          |
| The location is good as it is sited in a quiet area of Gainsborough.   | 1                          |
| Great. Just off the main road, it will be easy to find and I am sure it will not inconvenience anyone. I wish to be cremated when my | 1                          |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| end comes, and not having to make my family travel will make that a lot easier. In fact, it will be walking distance to my home. |           |
| Seems to be an ideal location that doesn't affect neighbouring villages.   | 1         |
| Between Lea and Knaith – Perfect   | 1         |
| Ideal – away from housing and making the most of the local countryside   | 2         |
| Ok, brilliant. Will be better than houses.   | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>32</b> |

| <i>Positive, with reservations Feedback Comments</i>   | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
| Please consider public transport routes for those who do not have transport and location for those walking from the nearest bus stop. Lea is good because it is served by the 100. Lea is also good because it is situated with views over the fields. | 1                          |
| Good location, maybe traffic lights at the turning point?  | 1                          |
| I am happy with the location provided all the landscaping shields the surrounding area and ensure it sits well within the environment  | 1                          |
| The location is just about, maybe some road noise, people need peace and quiet. Love the grounds.  | 2                          |
| The proposed location is sufficiently removed from residential areas of Lea and Knaith Park not to be a distraction or make residents feel uncomfortable. The traffic will place additional pressure on Willingham road at peak times.                 | 1                          |
| Shame there isn't a location in Gainsborough – can't you use the silver pearl site on the waterfront? Lea isn't too far though.  | 1                          |
| On periphery of parish and boundary with Knaith – OK, borders on woods – woods to be fully preserved and integrated with crematorium grounds. Footpaths in woods to be preserved.  | 1                          |
| The location to the south of the town seems ideal. Although it should be borne in mind that it is located in an area often subjected to wind-blown sand, particularly during the spring.   | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>9</b>                   |

| <i>Ambiguous Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| Fields at either side of the proposed land could be used?   | 1                          |
| Concerned about housing. This was objected to. If planning OK'd for crematorium then it makes it hard to say no to housing. | 1                          |
| My only concern is the busy road  | 1                          |
| At proposed location.   | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>4</b>                   |

| <i>Objecting Feedback Comments</i> | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|

|  |   |
|--|---|
| What about somewhere more central for the district, Gainsborough is on the very edge of the district and on the county boundary. Market Rasen would be more central. This would be more accessible for the isolated Wolds villages. It would be nice if planners remembered that West Lindsey is bigger than Gainsborough!   | 1 |
| Pity it is not more central like Market Rasen instead of being Gainsborough centric, this is a long way for those to the east of the county.   | 1 |
| The majority of West Lindsey's population live in the Lincoln Fringe with less than a quarter in Gainsborough. Why there?  | 1 |
| I do not agree with the proposed site as it is too close to a residential area and shopping facility. It should be sited on the outskirts of Gainsborough, for example on land to the south of Thorndike Way past the Lincolnshire Otter public house.   | 1 |
| It is very unfortunate that the proposed development will be situated near Gainsborough and not in the centre of the West Lindsey area...perhaps Hemswell? As this would be much more accessible to all residents of West Lindsey. The proposed development will only be of help to those in Gainsborough, Saxilby and Nottinghamshire and of no use to those of us who live in the Caistor and Market Rasen areas, though I expect we will be expected to help pay for it. Please use a more accessible site for all West Lindsey residents.  | 1 |
| Think a better location could be found within the whole of West Lindsey  | 2 |
| Not happy with Lea as a location...There are plenty of empty brownfield sites in Gainsborough which could be used.   | 2 |
| I feel that it is ill thought out for a crematorium to be accessed from a main road, regardless of where it is in the country...A main road is too invasive – people are sensitive to such things and extremely unlikely to want to be reminded of their loss when making regular routine journeys to Lincoln for work or shopping on a road that cannot be avoided.   | 1 |
| The proposed location is on a very busy road. We do not need the extra traffic which would inevitably ensue if there were a crematorium built on the proposed site. It will spoil the views over the woods and fields. There will be an inevitable impact on wildlife. There will be risks with flooding. The drains of Lea have been known to overflow when there has been heavy rainfall – a facility such as this would put extra strain on the already overburdened drainage systems. If a crematorium were built here it would have a detrimental effect on house prices in this popular small village. | 1 |
| The amount of cars at 60mph traffic.   | 1 |
| This is an extremely poor location being on a major arterial trunk road...For the past 10 years to date, residents of Knaith have been trying to get the County Council to reduce the speed on this very fast, very bendy dangerous road. The County council   | 1 |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| will not entertain reducing the speed from 60mph and stated this on numerous occasions.  |           |
| Wrong location – The proposed site is on a very busy road, consideration should be given to waste land lying east of ‘The Lincolnshire Otter’, why take good farming land when there is so much unused waste land around Gainsborough.                             | 2         |
| Commercial development here not in Lincolnshire Local Plan for the Parish of Lea. Will it open up potential for development between here and the village of Lea?   | 1         |
| Not needed   | 1         |
| A site closer to Gainsborough would be more cost-effective for the provision of services and would be more easily accessible for people without private transport. There is also the possibility that it will set a precedent for future development in this area. | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>18</b> |

#### Q4. Please give us your thoughts on access to the facility

Number of Responses: 56

#### Summary of Feedback

| Category                              | Percentage (Number) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Positive                              | 25 (44.7%)          |
| Positive, with reservations expressed | 3 (5.4%)            |
| <b>Net Positive</b>                   | <b>28 (50%)</b>     |
| Ambiguous                             | 8 (14.3%)           |
| Objecting                             | 20 (35.7%)          |
| <b>Net Negative</b>                   | <b>20 (35.7%)</b>   |
| Did not answer                        | 15                  |

| <i>Positive Feedback Comments</i>                     | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| No problems with the proposed access                  | 6                          |
| Good/Very Good  | 9                          |
| Fine  | 1                          |
| Easy  | 2                          |
| Adequate  | 2                          |
| Brilliant   | 1                          |
| This facility is good for the local community         | 1                          |
| Easy to get to  | 1                          |
| Very appropriate                                      | 1                          |
| People will get used to it – it will work in the end. | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>25</b>                  |

| <i>Positive, with reservations Feedback Comments</i> | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
|  |                            |

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Access is good from both directions, but it must be borne in mind that travelling from Gainsborough this is the first clear stretch of road where many motorists overtake. So I suggest that double white lines should be considered. | 1        |
| This will be OK if they move the speed limit. Visibility is good and the exit has a good view in both directions.   | 1        |
| The access wasn't detailed but as long as the entrance is wide enough with a form of slip road, it shouldn't affect traffic.  | 1        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>3</b> |

| <i>Ambiguous Feedback Comments</i>   | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|--|----------------------------|
| Access by public transport needed. Pick up and drop off points for disabled mourners, elderly and those arriving by taxi. There needs to be plenty of parking. | 1                          |
| Not enough information to enable me to comment   | 1                          |
| This needs to be accessible to all   | 1                          |
| Must be sufficient to allow easy access and exit for long wheelbase hearse and stretch limousines and accompanying entourage.                                  | 1                          |
| There will need to be slip roads from the A156 into the crematorium to ensure that traffic is free flowing and that there is ample parking on the site.        | 1                          |
| Access would be good if measures were taken to slow the traffic through Lea. A right turn lane is needed for coming from Knaith.                               | 1                          |
| Only problem is (and would be) terrific amount of cars coming and going at school times.   | 1                          |
| The installation of a roundabout would alleviate queuing on a busy main road for those turning right into the facility.  | 1                          |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>8</b>                   |

| <i>Objecting Feedback Comments</i>  | <i>Number of Residents</i> |
|---|----------------------------|
| <i>May need a speed limit!</i>  | 1                          |
| <i>Access to the site will cause extra problems on the A156, which is already a very busy road</i>  | 1                          |
| <i>I am concerned that there is only one access/exit and I am concerned about the impact of cars on a busy road, which is the main route into and out of Gainsborough and Lincoln</i> | 2                          |
| <i>This is off a fairly congested road</i>  | 1                          |
| <i>140 car parking spaces. Even if only 50 cars each arrive and leave. 100 cars on an opening is very dangerous indeed. Even at a 30mph limit.</i>                                    | 1                          |
| <i>I don't consider signage and access from a main are fit for the purpose</i>  | 1                          |
| <i>Very concerned about access. 150 parking spaces, cars leaving, people in an emotional state. Very fast, busy road, often a blackspot for accidents</i>                             | 1                          |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <i>The 60mph speed limit is a concern and the road is treacherous.</i>   | 2         |
| <i>Extremely poor bearing in mind the fast moving traffic on a main road to Lincoln and bearing in mind how a funeral cortege is slow moving. It is quite ridiculous to even consider this site.</i>                                       | 1         |
| <i>Funeral corteges entering from the south may be held up due to the volume of traffic.</i>   | 1         |
| <i>The access appears to be off a minor road from Willingham Road. It is not an ideal site from this perspective. The roads leading to and away from the facility need to be widened and improved.</i>                                     | 1         |
| <i>Concerns over access due to the proximity of Knaith bends</i>   | 1         |
| <i>The road must be widened, it is a fast road. Safety is not a priority. See the sketch I made (Sketch available in appendix six).</i>  | 1         |
| <i>Potentially dangerous. Also de-restricted at this point. Should be lowered to 50mph. Will need widening to provide turning-in centre lane on approach from Knaith.</i>  | 1         |
| <i>It is hard to see how safe access can be achieved from this stretch of busy road with fast moving traffic.</i>  | 1         |
| <i>This could cause problems as it's the main road out of Gainsborough. The speed limit needs to be looked at as cars do drive fast on that piece of road.</i>   | 1         |
| <i>I am concerned. Parking, 120+ cars, entrance/exit – Access over Trent Bridge from Beckingham – congestion during school rush hours – Pre-existing safety of the A156</i>  | 1         |
| <i>The current site has been chosen to help Lea Lincs properties develop housing, the area contains both deer and Great Crested Newts, the bends are a death trap and this will increase congestion, particularly around school times.</i> | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>20</b> |

**Q5. Are there any other comments that you wish to make regarding this consultation?**

**Number of Responses: 53**

**Did not Answer: 18**

There was a great variety in the responses given here. Some used this section to express support, while other used it to comment further on elements which were assessed in other portions of the form. Below is a summary of the defined nature of the comments contained in this section and a selection of quotes offered in answer to this question:

| Comment Type     | Number of Comments | Percentage of Comments |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Broadly Positive | 27                 | 50.9%                  |
| Broadly Negative | 16                 | 30.2%                  |
| Ambiguous        | 10                 | 18.9%                  |
| Total            | 53                 | 100%                   |

|  |
|--|
| Comment  |
| 'I've looked at the photos submitted and I am a little concerned about how clinical it looks. I appreciate the modern design, however, there's no 'warm' feel for a place which will already be a sad experience.'   |
| 'We are currently waiting to attend Scunthorpe crem for my dad's committal. He died on the 23 <sup>rd</sup> August and the 12 <sup>th</sup> September was the earliest slot. This is a long time to wait in-between. Personally, I am struggling to come to terms with the reality of the situation, probably due to the time between...I feel that it is a long time to wait. I used to work for a Methodist minister some four years ago and he said always allow two weeks to be able to get into the crem at Scunthorpe and Lincoln was usually a longer wait. It has got longer since as we have a three week wait. Getting a Church Service is not a problem, getting a crem slot is...Therefore a crem in Gainsborough would allow more people to be able to attend. I do hope this comes to fruition.' |
| 'As far as I'm aware, there is no further burial ground available in Lea, but the crematorium would certainly serve the wider community'   |
| 'We desperately need this for the area'  |
| 'Design of the building is poor and looks ugly. Considering the increased amount of traffic with people coming to the cremation it's the location off a busy road does not look a good one, and what about those who use public transport and if people walk, provision of foot paths. Could it not be located using a brownfield site...Is this really needed would be my other question. It states waiting times as being an issue, my experience is most funerals are booked in a timely way and delays are caused by administrative issues or at a family's request.'  |
| 'I would like to register my opposition to this proposal, as it would bring nothing but negative effects to this small village and all the inhabitants. If a crematorium is needed then it should be built in an alternative location – not despoiling the village I have lived in for twenty four years'  |
| 'I think we need this facility, Gainsborough is growing...and waiting times are increasing at other crematoria, so it makes sense to have our own'   |
| 'Is this going to be an attempt to build more houses and agreeing planning permission for housing near this site'  |
| 'Good idea and project, provided it remains in the council's hands'  |
| 'Main concerns: Safety on road access. Planning for housing'   |
| 'I am pleased the local council are pursuing this venture, having had to travel on a number of occasions to Scunthorpe or Lincoln, does not make the experience of the occasion any better, and to have this facility locally can only be a good venture.'   |
| 'Well done to whomever came up with the idea. Gainsborough seems to be moving forward.'  |
| 'Is a rural village really the best place for a large town crematorium?'   |
| 'Get it done soon – I'm eighty seven'  |



## Profile of respondents

In response to the question assessing which stakeholder group was responding to the questionnaire:

| Group               | Number        |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Local Resident      | 66            |
| Access Group member | 0             |
| Funeral Director    | 0             |
| Faith Group Member  | 7             |
| Other*              | 3 (See below) |

*\*Of those specified as other, these included a monumental stonemason (1), a Civil Celebrant (1) and a member of the parish council (1). Some of the residents appear to have answered both 'local resident' and 'faith group member'.*

## Analysis of Key Comments

### **The crematorium will have a negative impact upon the natural environment and wildlife surrounding the proposed development site.**

Some respondents raised the issue of the impact of the crematorium upon the natural environment. Prior to the submission of the planning application, West Lindsey District Council commissioned a suite of topographical, ecological and arboriculture surveys to assess the impact of the development upon the local landscape. These surveys advised that the site provided diverse habitats and species of bat, reptile and Great Crested Newt (GCN) were observed on the site. As GCN are a European Protected Species, West Lindsey District Council will undertake a population study during March and June 2018 and will thereafter provide a full newt mitigation strategy for the development and will fully regard the condition of this species during the construction of the new crematorium.

We recognise the public appreciation of both the wildlife on site and the adjoining Norbury Hills woodland. As our development will feature a substantial memorial garden (which will occupy the majority of the site), we have liaised with our landscape architects in order to ensure that suitable habitats are provided for indigenous wildlife. The memorial gardens will represent a substantial augmentation in the ecological status of the site (currently arable agricultural land) through the provision of ecological features such as bat boxes, newt-friendly ponds and a diverse array of flora. West Lindsey District Council is highly committed to the Gainsborough crematorium development being sustainable, wildlife-friendly development.

### **The A156 is not an appropriate access road for the crematorium and it will only become busier as a result of the development, resulting in unacceptable levels of traffic and accidents.**

Representatives of West Lindsey District Council were present at the community consultation event on the 19/09/2017, where this concern was raised with officers of the council and with Haverstock, the architect responsible for designing the scheme. As part of this process, West Lindsey District Council have raised the issue of traffic and access on the A156 with Lincolnshire County Council (the authority responsible for Highways) and have commissioned a full Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA, conducted by Atkins).

Atkins advised that Department for Transport (DfT) guidance on setting speed limits emphasises the importance of speed limits being appropriate to promote compliance and aid enforcement.

*“A principal aim in determining appropriate speed limits should, therefore, be to provide a consistent message between speed limit and what the road looks like, and for changes in speed limit to be reflective of changes in the road layout and characteristics.”*

Atkins advised that subsequent to the development of the crematorium, the A156 would not meet the DfT criteria for formal speed calming measures, as the fatality profile of the road (upon which the need for speed calming was adjudged) was not significant enough to merit such an intervention. Therefore, these would not be required. However, the TIA did advise the implementation of appropriate signage and visibility measures, which we shall account for within the development.

**The location of the crematorium is not at the centre of the district and therefore, difficult to access for some of the residents of West Lindsey.**

In planning for this project, West Lindsey District council undertook a needs analysis and appraised a number of sites in the district and took account of population statistics and demographic profile of Gainsborough. The results of this appraisal demonstrated that demand for a crematorium was greatest in Gainsborough. Gainsborough is the district's largest Built Up Area (BUA) and the planned growth in the housing stock (with Gainsborough being designated one of the ten housing Growth Points outside London) reflects a major increase in future pressure on local burial services. The site selected was the most appropriate for the council in terms of both community need and value for money and was selected as the result of a robust options appraisal.

**The council is using the crematorium planning application to assist Lea Lincs properties in developing housing on the surrounding land.**

Allocations for housing have been determined by the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan and the Lea Village Neighbourhood Plan. The Local Plan clearly highlights housing allocations provided for across the district and the Neighbourhood Plan in Lea compliments this. West Lindsey District Council is aware that there was previously an application for a substantial number of houses on this site and that this was rejected. This development is in no way associated with future housing development and is not intended to act as a catalyst for further housing development either at the present time or in the future. Indeed, the provisions of the 1902 Crematorium Act requires a crematorium facility to be a significant distance away from housing.

## Conclusion

In line with the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) and the Localism Act, West Lindsey District Council has committed to this open and transparent consultation on its development proposals, which enabled all parties to view, comment and provide feedback on the proposals.

Feedback indicated that a clear majority of the community offered support for the proposed development – with an average of 67.4% offering complete or qualified support over the four categories assessed.

The main areas of critique centred on the access arrangements and road network adjacent to the proposed development. We have addressed these points within this document and within the documentation supporting this report and the wider planning application.

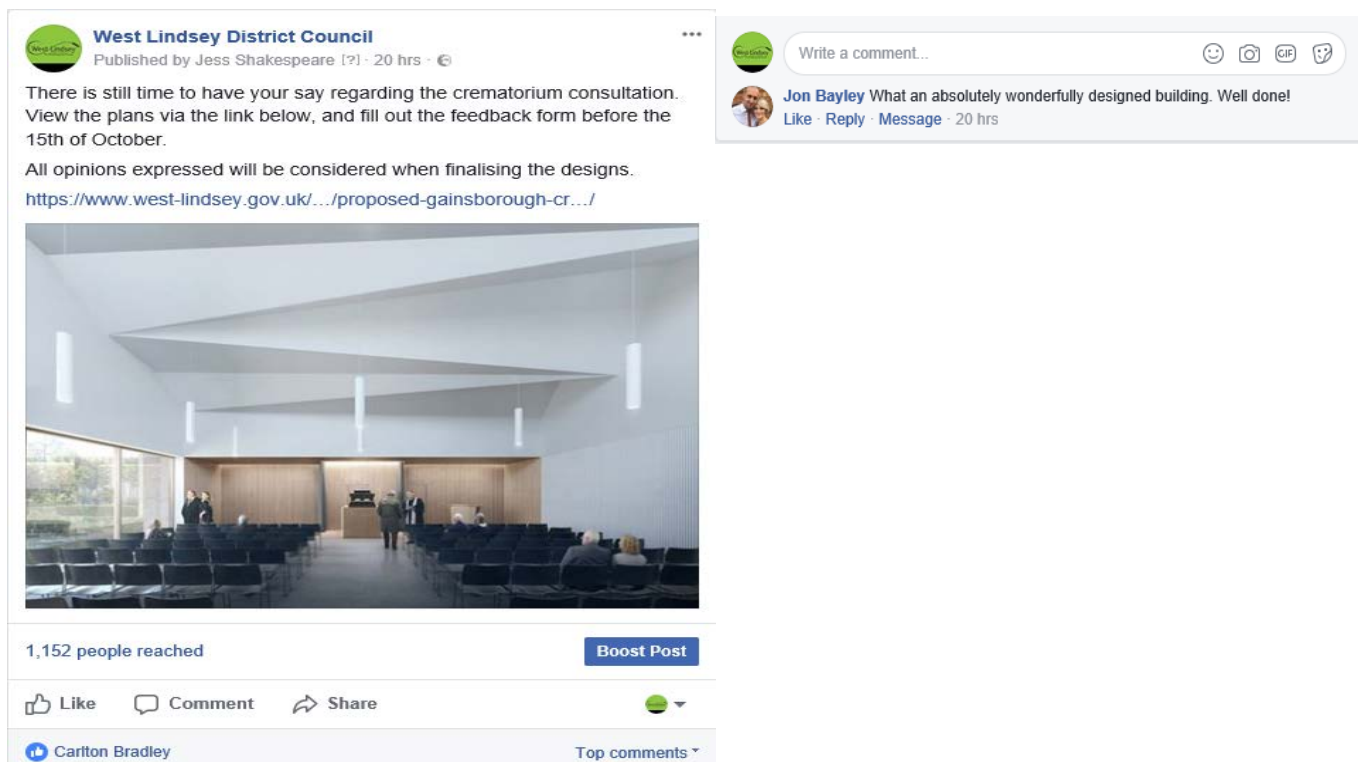
We wish to express our gratitude to all groups involved in the consultation process.

## Appendices

### Appendix One – Crematorium Social Media Posts & Feedback

#### Facebook

02/09/2017




The screenshot shows a Facebook post from West Lindsey District Council. The post text reads: "There is still time to have your say regarding the crematorium consultation. View the plans via the link below, and fill out the feedback form before the 15th of October. All opinions expressed will be considered when finalising the designs. <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/.../proposed-gainsborough-cr.../>". Below the text is a photograph of a modern, bright interior space, likely a crematorium, with rows of black chairs and a wooden wall. The post has 1,152 people reached and a "Boost Post" button. The interaction bar shows "Like", "Comment", and "Share" options. A comment from Jon Bayley is visible: "What an absolutely wonderfully designed building. Well done!".

**West Lindsey District Council**  
Published by Jess Shakespeare [?] · 20 hrs · 🌐

There is still time to have your say regarding the crematorium consultation. View the plans via the link below, and fill out the feedback form before the 15th of October.

All opinions expressed will be considered when finalising the designs.  
<https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/.../proposed-gainsborough-cr.../>



1,152 people reached Boost Post

👍 Like    💬 Comment    ➦ Share

👤 Carlton Bradley Top comments

Write a comment... 😊 📷 📄 🗨️


**Jon Bayley** What an absolutely wonderfully designed building. Well done!  
Like · Reply · Message · 20 hrs


19/09/2017

**West Lindsey District Council**  
 Published by Claire O'Neill [?] · 19 September at 10:45 · €


The crematorium consultation event is this afternoon, 3-7pm at Lea Village Hall.  
 We would love to hear your views.

**Have your say on crematorium plans!**





Proposed Landscape Plan



You are invited to a public consultation event to find out about plans for a crematorium for West Lindsey.

It will be held at Lea Village Hall, Rectory Lane, Lea, near Gainsborough, DN21 5JA. Come and have your say and meet the team.

On Tuesday, 19 September 2017 starting at 3pm to 7pm.

Alternatively go online and visit [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcrematorium](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcrematorium)


822 people reached Boost Post

Like Comment Share

Emma Redwood, Carlton Bradley and Jade Williamson

1 share

**West Lindsey DC** @WestLindseyDC · Sep 19  
 Cllr Jessie Milne is delighted to see the turn out at Lea Village Hall! If you can't make it, have your say online: [west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcr...](http://west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcr...)



1 1 3

*Local Ward member for Lea attending the consultation event*

**30/09/2017**

**West Lindsey District Council**  
Published by Claire O'Neill [?] · 30 September at 09:01 · 🌐

There is still time to take part in our consultation on plans to develop a crematorium in the district.

An option to purchase a site in Lea has been secured and the council is now working towards an application for planning permission.

We want to get as much feedback from residents as possible. View the plans and have your say by visiting [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcrematorium](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcrematorium). The consultation closes on 15 October 2017.... See more



8,516 people reached Boost Post

Like Comment Share

Graham Kirk, Liz Atherall Reed and 20 others Top comments

17 shares

Write a comment...

**Doris Turrell** Brilliant idea but a bit ugly can't it be a nicer building  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 09:17

**West Lindsey District Council** If you follow the link above you will be able to see more design pictures of the building, I hope you will find this useful.  
Like · Reply · Commented on by Emma Redwood [?] · 30 September at 10:37

View more replies

**Lee Joyce** Good idea, lets hope that as the Council, you are going to also offer a cheaper option for those of us who don't want to burden our family when we die. This should be a social service run at cost for the use of the local residents who have paid into the council (all of their lives in some cases!!) and not to make a profit from death.  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 12:36

**Jane Kostryca** People will always complain about what will be built around them. at least it should be quite and no all night party's from clients be grateful for that  
Like · Reply · Message · 2 · 30 September at 10:25

**Richard Watson** Facility great idea, location indifferent, apparent zero council consideration of traffic flow on busy road after bends or after village and respective speeds of existing traffic, suggest looking at Sutton Coldfield crem- equally busy road mitigated with wide junctions and slip roads to and from site.  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 12:33

**Vanessa Allen** Not only is it the main 999 route we'll also have the black car brigade 🚒  
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 30 September at 09:53

3 Replies

**Carol Townsend** Just what is needed, bring it on.  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 19:48

**Elaine Robinson** Whereabouts in Lea would the crematorium be?  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 18:04

**Elaine Robinson** Whereabouts in Lea would the crematorium be?  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 18:04

**Sue White** I understand that part of Lea woods would be removed!! 😞  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 17:26

**Jessica Irwin** I personally think it's a brilliant idea..  
Like · Reply · Message · 6 · 30 September at 09:03

**Neil Footitt** Brilliant idea.long over due..  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 19:13

**Christopher Daubney** Think it's a good idea save travelling to Lincoln or Scunthorpe  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 18:55

**Martyn Beckett** About tine too although better location could be easily found within the twin boundaries  
Like · Reply · Message · 2 October at 20:02

**Samantha Williams** Perfect ❤️  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 12:09

**Jon Bayley** Beautiful building. 🍌🍌🍌  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 11:35

**Gill Warrior** Brilliant idea ....  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 16:09

**Laura Anderson** Good idea 💡  
Like · Reply · Message · 1 · 30 September at 19:56

**Mick Beevers** Excellent  
Like · Reply · Message · 30 September at 12:37

Write a comment...

**Twitter**

**21/09/2017**



**West Lindsey DC** @WestLindseyDC · Sep 21

We want your views on plans to develop a crematorium in the district. Take part in the consultation at [west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcr...](http://west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcr...) until 15 Oct



## Appendix Two – Article Accompanying BBC Radio Lincolnshire Interview



### Accessibility links

- [Skip to content](#)
- [Accessibility Help](#)

### News navigation

#### Sections

[England](#) selected

- [Regions](#)
- [Lincolnshire](#) selected

Lincolnshire  
Lincolnshire

### Lea crematorium 'will ease pressure on funeral services'

- 14 September 2017
- From the section [Lincolnshire](#)





Image copyright West Lindsey

District Council Image caption If approved, the new facility is expected to open in January 2020

### **A new £6m crematorium is needed to ease pressure on existing services, council leaders have said.**

West Lindsey District Council is consulting on plans for a purpose-built facility on the outskirts of Lea, near Gainsborough.

Local residents currently have to travel to Scunthorpe or Lincoln for cremations of friends or family members.

It will also help address a shortage of spaces for burials, the authority said.

#### **More on this and other local stories from across Lincolnshire**

Community and commercial programme manager Karen Whitfield said there was a real community need to develop a crematorium in the area.

"Nationally, around 75% of funerals result in a cremation," she said.

"That's not just down to the cost, it is the lack of burial space."

She said many areas of the district were "running out of burial plots".

The new facility, which could hold up to 10 cremations a day, would also help cut waiting times, and take away the need for families to travel to Scunthorpe or Lincoln, she said.

Carlton Bradley, senior director at a local funeral directors, said families could find it a challenge to have a church service in Gainsborough, then travel out of town for the cremation.

He said having a local crematorium would make the whole day shorter, and help ease the financial burden for families on low incomes.

A **consultation event** is being held at Lea Village Hall on 19 September.

If approved, the new facility is expected to open in January 2020.

**Share this story** [About sharing](#)

## Appendix Three – Extract from West Lindsey District Council Website

Hyperlink: <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/my-council/have-your-say/consultations/previous-consultation-results/proposed-gainsborough-crematorium/>

# Consultation on plans for a new crematorium is under way!

Date published: 05 September 2017

West Lindsey District Council is seeking the views of local residents about plans to develop a crematorium in the district.

The council has been aware of the lack of crematorium provision within the district and has been conscious of the distances residents have to travel at a very sensitive time. To compound this, there are often long waiting times for services and cremations to be held.

In June 2016 the council's Corporate Policy and Resources Committee considered a business case to develop a crematorium in or around Gainsborough and approved the necessary capital budget to bring this development to fruition. The council has secured an option to purchase a site in Lea and has engaged with the necessary professional resources in order to draw up concept designs for the crematorium.

Chairman of the council's Prosperous Communities Committee Cllr Sheila Bibb said: "We are now working towards an application for planning permission and would like to share our plans with the local community in order to get valuable feedback on the proposal.

"All feedback received will be analysed and used to finalise the design. We would like as many people as possible to come along and meet representatives of the council and the design team to find out more at a special consultation event to be held later this month."

**The consultation event will be held on 19 September between 3pm and 7pm at Lea Village Hall, Rectory Lane, Lea, near Gainsborough, DN21 5JA.**

Alternatively you may also submit your feedback on the proposed scheme by visiting: [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcrematorium](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/gainsboroughcrematorium).

The consultation period is open until 15 October.

For the latest news on West Lindsey District Council visit: [www.west-lindsey.gov.uk](http://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk)

Or follow us @WestLindseyDC or find us  
<https://www.facebook.com/westlindseydistrictcouncil>

Appendix Four – Minutes of the Knaith Parish Council Meeting

See Attached Documentation

Appendix Five – Written Response Submission Form

See Attached Documentation

Appendix Six – Sketch Submitted by a respondent to the consultation

