



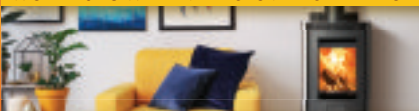
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Thursday, February 26, 2026

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Helping out after cyclone

Page 6



Wedding feature special

Pages 18, 19 & 20



Isaac hits all the notes

Page 12

Paying a high price

BY DONNA SEMMENS
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A mighty £118m is going to be spent on maintenance of roads in Lincolnshire over the coming year and a large part of that budget will go to fix pot holes.

Drivers are spending thousands of pounds with wheel repairs and tyre replacements being sought on an almost daily basis.

And there are fears that as people swerve to drive the 'pot hole chicane' a fatal accident could be the result of failing road surfaces.

Both the A16 and the A17 are heavily criticised for being peppered with deep holes, while many more rural roads are also under fire. The county council has been trying out the Pothole Pro machine and if it is added to the armoury, there will be plenty of work for it.

With trials lasting a year, it hasn't been approved, but the JCB-manufactured machine is said to be hi-tech help for highways.

It has been in use across the county since late last year and results of its trial will be known later this year.

The state of the roads in Lincolnshire is reflected nationwide – with reports of an 18 per cent rise in pothole damage from the AA. And the RAC has reported significant increases in damage to tyres, wheels and suspension equipment.

It estimated that each mile of council-controlled roadway currently has an average of six pot holes.

But Lincolnshire County Council has a huge work plan of road maintenance and has received an unprecedented 5,000 reports of pot holes so far this year – more than double the usual amount during January and early February.

Jonathan Evans, head of Highways at the county council said: "Freezing conditions combined with intermittent rain created numerous freeze/thaw cycles that hit the roads hard and with the relentless wet weather recently, the road network condition has naturally suffered.

"As a result, the amount

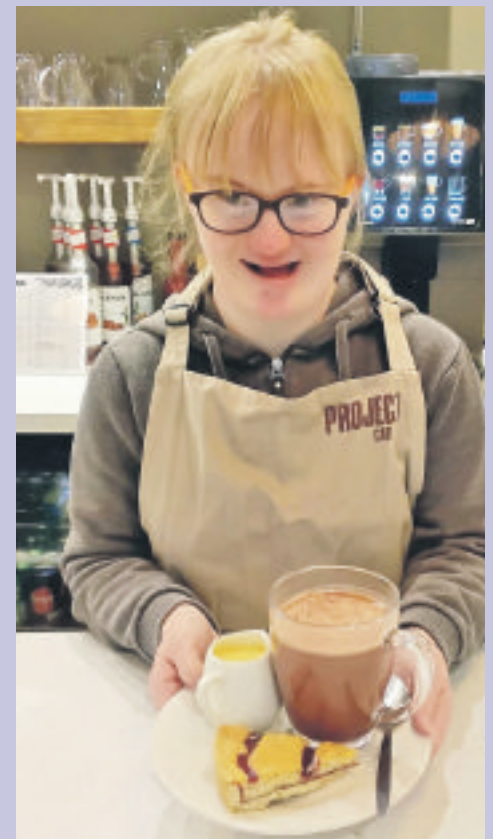
of fault reports received via the Customer Service Centre and FixMyStreet has been extremely high throughout January and the first few weeks of February. We raised around 5,400 pothole repairs this January alone. For context, that's over 2,000 more than January 2025, showing how devastating this winter has been.

"To deal with this fluctuating demand on the roads, we've adjusted our resources accordingly. Right now, to ensure that we don't get behind in fixing the pot holes, we've brought in an additional 21 gangs to ensure that our roads remain safe.

"However, we know that the long-term solution to improving the roads in Lincolnshire is resurfacing schemes and preventive maintenance to extend their life."

The issue of 24-hour pothole repairs was one of the subjects of a marathon council meeting on Friday when members were in a total of seven hours of discussions – mostly budgetary.

• More on page three.



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• See page four for the full story

fsb^{CS} MEMBER



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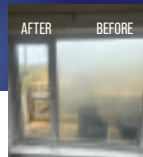
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PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice of Application for Hazardous Substance Consent

The Planning (Hazardous Substance) Regulations 2015
(Regulation 6)

Roadgas Ltd gives notice that it is applying to South Holland District Council for hazardous substance consent to store 34T of Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) at premises on West Marsh Road, Spalding, PE11 2BB.

Members of the public may inspect a copy of the application at Roadgas Ltd, Colwick Industrial Estate, Colwick, Nottingham, NG4 2JW, during reasonable hours until 4th March 2026.

Anyone wishing to make representations about this application should write to South Holland District Council, Priory Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire, PE11 2XE.

Planning Applications have been made to the Council for the following proposals:



H14-0083-26 Ashwood Homes RESERVED MATTERS
Reserved Matters application providing details of appearance, landscaping layout and scale. Erection of 218 dwellings including roads, public open space, drainage, infrastructure and landscaping - outline approved under Hybrid application H14-1218-21
Kendall Grove Pinchbeck Spalding

H15-0133-26 Salboy Construction SECTION 73A CONT
Management Ltd.
Erection of 59 dwellings & associated works - approved under H15-0014-22. Modification of Condition 18 to amend wording relating to Biodiversity Net Gain Plan to demonstrate a minimum of 10% on-site gain.
Land Adj. Crossroads Nurseries Main Road Quadring Spalding

The following proposals involve, or affect the setting of, a building listed by the Secretary of State for the Environment as a building of special architectural or historic interest, and/or affect the character of a Conservation Area.

H08-0036-26 Mr M VerdegaaL FULL
Erection of one agricultural polytunnel for horticultural production
Risegate House Hedgefield Hurn Gosberton Spalding

H16-0122-26 Mr & Mrs A Piccaver ADVERTISEMENT
Proposed shop front signage and hanging sign along with directional lighting to illuminate signage
2a Sheep Market Spalding

You can inspect the applications and plans by visiting our website at www.sholland.gov.uk. Access to our website is also available at the Council Offices during normal opening hours. Comments can be submitted online via the website or made in writing to the Planning Department, Council Offices, Priory Road, Spalding, Lincs PE11 2XE within 21 days of this notice (excluding Bank Holidays), (or within 10 days if application has an amended description or amended plans have been received), quoting the relevant application reference number. You should note that any comments submitted will be open to public scrutiny and cannot be treated as confidential. Please note that the plans may change as a result of discussions with the applicant.

Phil Norman
Assistant Director - Planning and Strategic Infrastructure
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26th February 2026



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