

Lincoln REVIEW

karlmccartney.co.uk

Exclusive Interview

Putting Lincoln First !

Getting to know Karl M^cCartney
our local Member of Parliament

Beating the Bounds

Raising awareness & money
for great local causes

Your health matters

Providing the best local
healthcare for all

Just the ticket

Campaigning for better
rail services for Lincoln

A strong local voice for Lincoln

Next year in May is the General Election. The people of the Lincoln Constituency will be asked to make the important decision about who should represent them locally and in Parliament.

Who we choose really will be important. We need an MP who will “Put Lincoln First”. They must have a strong local voice and be capable of standing up for the City, Skellingthorpe, Bracebridge Heath and Waddington East.

We need somebody who has a record of action and a vision for the future; who has the right priorities and who has a plan to deal with them. Lincoln needs someone to champion further investment in schools, health, transport and local services.

Karl offers this; he has a strong record of working with local people to deliver improvements to our quality of life in Lincoln. He is best placed to continue to stand up for Lincoln successfully over the next five years.



Beating the Bounds “2014” with Karl M'Cartney MP

On 20th September Lincoln's Member of Parliament, Karl M'Cartney, walked the boundary of his Lincoln Constituency for five great local causes.

Joined by various individuals walking for the five charities, Karl and his fellow hikers successfully completed over 30 miles around the boundary. They raised well over £10,000 for the Lincoln

Tank Memorial, MNDA, OneMe, St Barnabas Hospice Trust and YMCA Lincolnshire charities.

Karl told us, *“I think this kind of team challenge is a great way to raise the profile of these good causes and the work that they do. I am grateful to everyone who has donated and supported us both individually and corporately. It was not an easy challenge, but our*

walkers were fantastic and they supported each other throughout the day. We set a fair pace and at the end we celebrated with a few well deserved drinks.”

Karl hopes that the success of this walk will inspire other charities to take part in similar fundraising events.

Thanks to the success of this year's event planning for “Beating the Bounds 2015” has already started with the goal of raising funds and awareness for more local charities.



Lincoln needs frequent, faster train services

The last five years have seen huge improvements to Lincoln's rail services, but they can still be better.

Rail travel is growing rapidly nationwide and demand for services here in Lincoln mirrors this trend.

After much negotiation by Karl McCartney MP, Lincoln now has a daily fast direct rail service to and from London. This is vital for the City, giving residents a direct route to London and giving both tourists and professionals easier access to Lincoln. With Lincoln playing a central role in next year's 800th anniversary celebrations of the signing of the Magna Carta, it is important that the City has a rail service that can cope with the increased demands placed on it.

While Lincoln now enjoys the benefit of a direct route to and from London, there is more work to do to secure more regular commuter and weekend services. Karl tells us *"It takes longer to travel from Nottingham to Lincoln now than it did one hundred*

years ago. This has a direct effect on investment in our City and is inconvenient and frustrating. I have been working on this issue with the Department of Transport and there is now finally light at the end of the tunnel."

Karl also said *"....positive news that the Castle Line project will go ahead has been announced by the Secretary of State. I trust that these improvements will lead to a more frequent service, a reduction in overcrowding, quicker journey times and improvements to the weekend timetable."*

This is very welcome news and will be a hugely beneficial to the people of Lincoln and in particular the local economy.

The LincolnREVIEW commends Karl for all his hard work in bringing better rail services to the City and the surrounding areas.



Putting Lincoln First !

As the 2015 General Election draws nearer we met up with Karl to find out more about who he is and what he has done to date

LR: *Karl, tell us a bit about your background.*

Karl: I am a married family man with two young sons who keep me busy. I was born in Birkenhead, grew up in the North West and went on to study Geography at St David's University College in Lampeter. I have always been willing to graft and in my youth I had many jobs: I worked as a plasterer's labourer with my Grandad, in a coathanger production plant and as a dustman. More recently, I worked

in London on the Sir Keith Park Memorial Campaign before I was elected as the MP for Lincoln in 2010.

LR: *What do you do for relaxation?*

Karl: I enjoy Hornby trains and Scalextric with our boys, walking our two dogs and I am a keen sportsman.

I was Captain of the Welsh University's First XI Football Team from 1990 – 1991 and play football, cricket, hockey and rugby in the Parlia-

mentary teams. I also now coach the Lincoln Under 8's Rugby Team.

I have been able to use my love of sport to support different sports teams in Lincoln. Most recently I was proud to present the Birchwood Colts Junior Football team with a cheque for £400.00 to secure new goalposts after theirs were sadly vandalised. I recently hosted a funding workshop for all of the sports clubs and teams in Lincoln at Lindum Association.

"I am working hard to ensure Lincoln has a strong voice in Westminster"

LR: *You are now into your 5th year as our MP. Do you think that Lincoln has changed?*

Karl: Firstly, I would like to say how proud I am to represent the City of Lincoln, Bracebridge Heath, Skellingthorpe and Waddington East.

It is a real honour and privilege to be your Member of Parliament and I have worked hard with local people and organisations on a plan of action for the City to secure money for a new Eastern Bypass, improvements for our City Centre and for improved rail links.

This will mean more jobs for local people, less congestion on our roads, and faster train journeys for commuters.

By working together we have been able to make a difference to improve our quality of life in the Lincoln Constituency.

LR: *What have you done to improve the City's infrastructure?*

Karl: In 2010 when I was elected, I promised that I would seek further investment in the City Centre infrastructure, including broadband and our transport network. I am proud of what has been achieved to date. The long anticipated

Eastern Bypass has now been secured thanks to £millions of funding.

The Canwick Road improvement scheme will soon be underway, easing congestion around the South of the City. This is in addition to the improvements that were made last year in and around the Rookery Lane, Brant Road and Newark Road junctions.

LR: *What about the areas you represent outside of the city?*

Karl: Outside of the City of Lincoln I represent Waddington East, Bracebridge Heath and Skellingthorpe. I will continue to work hard for these villages. Recently we have had the good news that North Kesteven has the lowest crime rate in the UK. I would like to thank the people of Bracebridge Heath, Waddington East and Skellingthorpe for the role they play in preventing crime.

I continue to support RAF Waddington as I know how important the RAF base is to the community.

Unfortunately due to runway maintenance, the 2015 Waddington Air Show has already been cancelled and there is no certainty it will return in

2016.

I will work with the RAF and Government Ministers to seek a reassurance that the Air Show will return in future years, especially ahead of the Centenary of the RAF in 2018.

LR: *What about the next five years?*

Karl: I will continue to work hard to secure Lincoln's future, seeking further investment in our infrastructure, securing new job opportunities for Lincoln.

I will continue to host Jobs Fairs to help find employment for those seeking either a first or new position in Lincoln. I will campaign for a new Park & Ride Scheme so that traffic congestion is further eased. New roads and road improvements will benefit Lincoln and the local economy.

As a part of my role I recently organised a day of activities to showcase our wonderful City of Lincoln to senior representatives of John Lewis as I believe one of their stores would be beneficial to the retail mix that Lincoln offers. Overall, I will continue, as I have done in my first 5 years as the City's Member of Parliament, Putting Lincoln First!



CHARITY CRICKET



BIRCHWOOD CLEAN-UP



ARMED FORCES RUGBY



POST OFFICE OPENING
& GREEN TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS





Your Health Matters

Families in Lincoln want to know that they are receiving the best local healthcare available. They want to attend a local surgery and see the Doctors and nurses they know and trust. So *LincolnREVIEW* caught up with Lincoln's Member of Parliament Karl M'Cartney to talk about the fight to save his local surgery.

Lincoln has some excellent local surgeries including the Burton Road Surgery whose patients come from the Carholme, Castle and Minster Wards. Lincoln residents were rightly outraged earlier this year when NHS England suddenly announced plans to close the surgery.

Karl M'Cartney, our Member of Parliament, helped to instigate a public meeting and a petition quickly gained 800 signatures opposing the closure of the surgery used by

over 2,700 registered patients. With Karl's help and the strong support of the local community, NHS England changed their mind and announced a further consultation on the future of the surgery. No changes at the surgery will now be made until at least mid 2015.

Karl commented that, "As a parent I know how important it is to have a local surgery that I trust to deliver the best standard of care for my family. I will always put the

people of Lincoln first and I am a passionate believer in local services. I was very unhappy that NHS England planned to close Burton Road Surgery as my family have experienced first-hand the excellent care provided there and I know that fellow patients feel the same way.

I am delighted all the pressure that my fellow campaigners and I put on NHS England and the Department for Health has paid off and that a review of the decision is being held.

One of my absolute priorities is to ensure all of my Lincoln Constituents continue to receive the best level of health service provision available. By working together I am sure we can achieve this."

Local infrastructure plans *explained*



Leader of Lincolnshire County Council Martin Hill, Karl McCartney MP
and Secretary of State for Transport Patrick M'Loughlin MP

With infrastructure projects underway across the city, *LincolnREVIEW* asked Karl McCartney, our Member of Parliament for Lincoln about all the exciting plans.

Karl reports, "I would like to start by saying how pleased I am that work has begun on two new footbridges across the level crossings on both the High Street and Brayford Wharf East.

Both of these level crossings were rated as a very high risk to public safety, not to mention the delays experienced by local residents and visitors to our City.

Residents across the Constituency will soon benefit from improved access to the City and can be reassured that their lives will not be further blighted by excessive delays at either level crossing."

"Secondly, £50m has been secured from central Government to build the East-West Link Road which will cut traffic congestion making the City Centre safer and allowing for the much needed regeneration of the former Coal Yard and Portland Street.

"Thirdly, work has been carried out to ease congestion around the Rookery Lane, Brant Road and Newark Road junctions and shortly work will start at the Canwick Hill junctions. This is all work to reduce traffic congestion in the South of the City too.

"And finally, working in conjunction with Lincolnshire County Council as well as the Department for Transport I have managed to secure over £100m of funding for the long awaited Eastern Bypass.

"I will now be working with local businesses to ensure that as soon as the Bypass is open we have a detailed plan in Lincoln for the future economic well-being of the City.

"It will create lots of jobs and opportunities for local people so I am determined to push this vital project through to completion."

5 political dates in our history

1265

Lincoln Constituency created. Lincoln is currently the oldest constituency in continuous existence

1885

Lincoln's two Members of Parliament are reduced to one

1979

Conservative candidate Sir Kenneth Carlisle victoriously elected as Member of Parliament for Lincoln.

1997

Lincoln returns to being a Labour constituency, ushering in Tony Blair's premiership

2010

Karl McCartney elected as Conservative Member of Parliament for Lincoln with David Cameron as Prime Minister.



The Conservatives' long-term economic plan is securing a better and brighter future for Britain and for Lincoln by:



Reducing the deficit so we deal with our debts, safeguard our economy for the long-term and keep mortgage rates low. There are now 8,000 more businesses in the East Midlands than in 2010 - a clear sign our plan to secure the economy is working.



Cutting income tax and freezing fuel duty to help hardworking people to be more financially secure. 42,363 people in the Lincoln Constituency have seen their taxes cut since 2010 with 5,061 people in Lincoln taken out of tax altogether - a £700 tax cut for each typical taxpayer.



Creating more jobs by backing small business and enterprise with an improved infrastructure and lower taxes. 4,900 more people in Lincoln are now benefiting from the security and stability of being in work, than were in 2010.



Capping welfare and reducing immigration so our economy delivers for people who want to work hard and play by the rules. Fewer people are now relying on unemployment benefit each week benefiting them and their families as well as the Nation we are proud to belong to.



Delivering the best schools and skills for young people. Millions of pounds has been invested in Lincolnshire schools so our young people can experience the best possible start in life. In the City of Lincoln, we have one of the first 15 University Technical Colleges and Karl has been proud to see the 'educational map' of the City expand and offer a plethora of opportunities for Young People. Karl is especially proud of the success he and those involved in the CityAcademy have had in working with local businesses to ensure successful opportunities for the pupils involved in his Career Academy.

Karl M^cCartney JP MP

Putting Lincoln First !

