

Prime Minister

Visit to Lincolnshire - Thursday 11th and Friday 12th February 1982

I attach a possible itinerary.

I do not need to tell you of the difficulties involved in covering the County, in relation to travelling.

1. The reason for moving on to Lincoln after the reception in Stamford is that the Central Office Agent is particularly keen to start off in the Gainsborough constituency which is under threat from the SDP and will be changed adversely by the Boundary Commission plans. If we stayed in Stamford or its environs there would be a very long journey on Friday morning.
2. The reception for Party workers on Friday lunchtime would be at the Lincoln showground which is three miles north of Lincoln.
3. In the afternoon you could:

(a) EITHER

Visit Kesteven and Grantham girls school to unveil a plaque which has been specially made in your honour

and

visit an old people's complex (attached is a letter from Douglas Hogg about this).

(b) OR

Call upon the Mayor of Lincoln

and

take part in a chat show compered by Denis McCarthy, who Brenda Lowe assures me is a friend. This would take approx 1 hour.

4. On balance I believe that if you did go to Lincolnshire for a day it would cause some comment if you did not go to Grantham. *Amend*

Equally, I do not see an opportunity for you to return to Grantham, once you have been to the County, for some considerable time.

Would you be content to proceed on Plan A (above) for the afternoon? *Yes*

5. Willie Rickett has checked up with the Departments on all these engagements.

We are still trying to find a suitable industrial visit near Gainsborough.

*Derek*  
Derek

18th December 1981

DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR VISIT TO LINCOLNSHIRE

Thursday 11th - Friday 12th February 1982

Thursday 11th February

- 16.45 DEPART London
- 18.30 ARRIVE Stamford for Party reception for South Lincolnshire constituencies
- 20.15 DEPART for Lincoln
- 21.30 ARRIVE Lincoln - dine privately and overnight stay

Friday 12th February

- 08.30 DEPART Hotel
- 08.45 VISIT Ruston Gas Turbines
- Formerly Ruston Hornby. Successful firm, just received £35m order for gas pipeline in Russia. Exports 95% of products. Employs 2,500. Part of GEC group.
- 10.00 DEPART for Gainsborough
- 10.40 - Industrial Visit - to be arranged
- 12.00
- 12.30 Arrive Lincolnshire Showground for reception for Party workers from Lincolnshire and South Humberside constituencies
- 14.00 Depart

(See Page 1 for afternoon engagements)