

# **CLlr Christopher Cushing – September 2025**

## **Fakenham Lancaster North Ward District Council Report**

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*Lancaster North ward covers all dwellings in the parish of Fakenham that are east of Wells Road, and north of Highfield Road, Greenway Lane, Pensthorpe Road and the A1067.*

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### **1. Speeding in north Fakenham**

- This is still a major concern as I have received more reports of dangerous driving on roads around north Fakenham.
- Sarah Taylor, the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner, has accepted my invitation to visit north Fakenham in either October or November to hold a session with residents so that she can hear firsthand their concerns.
- I am waiting the date to be confirmed. I appreciate she has no power to address these issues, but she might have some suggestions which will help and perhaps will be able to influence policy that can put more officers on our beat.
- Mrs Taylor attended the NNDC Overview & Scrutiny Committee last week of which I am a member. I did raise speeding in Fakenham with her as a prelude to her visit.

### **2. Swimming Pool**

- Construction work is on schedule to start in October. I understand equipment will be moved to the site in the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> October with the development commencing a week later.
- NNDC have drafted a communications plan for local residents, but this has not been published to my knowledge. I will chase for this.

### **3. Fakenham Medical Practice**

- I attended the FMP's Health & Wellbeing Community event on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September. A lot of local organisations had stalls which demonstrated the wide range of activities that are available to Fakenham area residents.
- I am meeting Linda Kelly, the Fakenham Practice Manager on 6<sup>th</sup> October to get an update on the Medical Practice.

### **4. Meadow Walk Visit**

- Jerome Mayhew MP and I visited the Meadow Walk with care home on 18<sup>th</sup> September. We had a discussion with the Brian O'Neill, the manager, and a tour of the building.
- Then Jerome held a question-and-answer session with about 30 of the residents.
- They expressed concern about the infrastructure around the site, particularly access to Morrisons. There is a steep slope to the road crossing which the less mobile find a

challenge. I discussed this with Tom FitzPatrick who said he will arrange a meeting for the local Highways Manager, Jerome and himself to determine if there are any solutions to this. I have raised it previously with Highways, but they said no action is required.

## 5. Hedge, Verge and Road Maintenance Issues

- **Completed since the last update:**
  - **Enterprise Way** – Highways have filled in a large pothole at the turning into B&Q.
  - **Grove Lane** – This is path from Rudham Stile Lane up to the bypass has now been cleared by the farmer who tenants the land. I am grateful for this as it required a lot of work.
- **Still outstanding/new:**
  - **Copper Beach Close** – I am chasing Anglian Water who agreed to cut an overgrown area on an Anglian Water Pumping station which borders Lee Warner Avenue.
  - **Rudham Stile Lane** – Also chasing Flagship Housing to trim a tree at the back of one of their properties on Lee Warner Avenue.
  - **Toll Bar** – Noise pollution from cockerels, and rat infestation from the field on the left-hand side of Toll Bar. The tenant has been given until the end of the month to resolve the issues by the NNDC Environmental Protection team.
  - **New** – Hedge is overgrown at the **crossing to Morrisons** on the Medical Centre side. I have written to Morrisons asking them to cut this back.
  - **New** – The streetlight at the entrance to the **Meadow Walk path** from Thorpland Road is not working. I have asked Housing 21 who manage Meadow Walk if they are responsible for this, and they have referred to their Head Office. I am trying Highways too.

## 6. Claypit Lane / Southgates

- There is a small parcel of land which is part of curtilage of the Southgates estate that runs along the Claypit Lane pavement. According to the Land Registry, this still belongs to the developer, Taylor Woodrow.
- This area is covered in brambles. I asked the FTC Facilities and Amenities Committee if the Town Council would be prepared to look after it, as I doubt Taylor Woodrow will do anything now. The committee said unfortunately it was unable to do so as it has large estate to look after as it is, and they are unsure who owns and maintains the wall at the back of the site which could cause problems. I understand this as it's a perfectly fair approach.
- Cllr Jim Rockett kindly volunteered to clear the brambles back from the path, which he subsequently did with his son Chris. They did an excellent job and I'm extremely grateful to them both.