

Cllr Christopher Cushing

Fakenham Lancaster North District Council Report – 27th March 2024

1. Urban Extension - A148 Roundabout & Nutrient Neutrality

- In my last report I mentioned that Martyn Fulcher, Director for Place, has submitted a bid for DLUHC funding amounting to £1.4m to cover the additional funding required for the new roundabout. This was supported by County Council officers.
- Martyn does not have a timeframe on the outcome but continue to liaise with colleagues at NCC on a) finalising the design works to allow the roundabout works to start this Autumn and b) in relation to the bid.
- In terms of nutrient neutrality, the developer is working on providing mitigation measures, and until Martyn hears otherwise, the landowner remains confident that this will be achieved. He does not know the details of the proposed mitigation measures due to commercial sensitivity, but he has been informed that a plan is in place to allow delivery of the housing.
- The focus at present is around determining the variation of condition application (RV/24/0277) which seeks to enable the submission of details of the highway works (as specified under each part of the original condition (namely parts i to viii) which are to be undertaken on a phased basis and with minor alteration. Effectively this is to allow the roundabout to come forward at the earliest opportunity without having to provide details for all other elements of the wider scheme at this time. Deadline for determination is 10th May 2024.

2. FLASH Project - Swimming Pool & 3G Artificial Pitch

- The second FLASH Project Steering Group on 25th March. A lot of activity is underway with the external consultants to get the project initiation underway. The key action is to find a developer to build the facility with a view to beginning the work towards the end of the summer.
- There is an agenda item for the FLASH project at the 27th March NNDC Full Council. The following recommendations will be discussed and hopefully approved:
 - Progress on the Fakenham Leisure and Sports Hub Project to date is noted.
 - Members note the predicted inflationary costs of £450,000 since the bid was submitted and agree to make budgetary provision to meet these additional costs not covered by the Levelling-up Funding.
 - That Members note that no formal confirmation of funding has been received from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.
 - Members agree to the use of a Two Stage Design and Build procurement process for the delivery of the Fakenham Leisure and Sports Hub project via a direct award to 'Contractor A' through a Framework.

- Members agree to make additional budgetary provision in respect of the Framework fees to a maximum of £330,000.
- Members delegate to the to the Director of Communities, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and Portfolio Holder for Finance, to make the award through the framework which is felt delivers the best cost benefit, considering the cost of access and additional services provided.

3. Speeding at Field Lane, Rudham Stile Lane and Claypit Lane

- Several residents have raised concerns with me about speeding along Field Lane, Rudham Stile Lane and Claypit Lane.
- I invited PC Jessica Elliott to walk the area along with local resident who is member of the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP). We both explained our concerns and showed her a particularly dangerous area along the narrow stretch of Rudham Stile Lane.
- Jessica said she would draft an action plan to determine what extra measures the police can take to help reduce speeding in the area.

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