

Cllr Christopher Cushing – November 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.

1. North Fakenham 'In Touch' Newsletter

- I have delivered my autumn newsletter to all residents in the North Fakenham ward. This totals about 1300 deliveries.
- Happy to share copies with any Town Councillor who does not live in the ward. I will bring some to the Wednesday Full Council meeting.

2. Speeding in North Fakenham

- Sarah Taylor, the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner, visited Fakenham to discuss speeding on Tuesday 4th November. I took Sarah on a tour of the key roads in the town, then we convened for a question-and-answer session. This was attended by Police Inspector Reavey, Town Council representatives, some residents, Cllr Tom FitzPatrick and Cllr Liz Vickers.
- I thought Sarah spoke well. She has a professional background in road safety and made some useful points.
- From my perspective I hoped this would be another opportunity to highlight our concerns about speeding to the police. Time will tell if this has had an impact.

3. Parking issues around Field Lane, North Park and Rudham Stile Lane

- Excessive parking is still an issue along the top end of Field Lane, along Rudham Stile Lane and the northern and western entrances to North Park. It is worst a school picking up times.
- There is alternative parking available at the Academy and Rugby Club, depending on the time of day. Academy parents and Fitness Club members have been notified about this. To be fair some of them are using these.
- A Traffic Regulation Order has been requested from Highways to put temporary yellow lines along Rudham Stile Lane. More action may be required on the other roads mentioned.

4. New Post Office

- I attended the opening of the new Post Office. I am impressed by this. Someone I know who works there says it is extremely busy which bodes well for the future.

5. Local Government Reform Consultation

- The Government has launched a statutory public consultation on local government reorganisation proposals for Norfolk.
- This runs until 11th January 2026, can be seen at the following link – Norfolk: Local government reorganisation - [Norfolk: Local government reorganisation - GOV.UK](#)
- The District Council has proposed a three unitary option, with Fakenham being in the Eastern Council. The County Council has proposed a single unitary option.
- I am not convinced about either because whatever option is chosen, I believe our Council Tax bills will increase, council services will deteriorate, and local elected representation will halve.

6. Urban Extension

- I have chased the NNDC Assistant Director for Planning for an update from Savills who are marketing some of the land owned by Trinity College at Rudham Stile Lane. I understand a third of the land is now up for sale, but it is not clear what area this covers.

7. Hedge, Verge and Road Maintenance Issues

- **Toll Bar** – Noise pollution from a cockerel located on the field on the left-hand side of Toll Bar. The NNDC Environmental team say that this has been resolved, so have closed the case.
- **Meadow Walk path streetlight** – This is at the entrance to the Meadow Walk path from Thorpland Road. It is not working. Housing 21 are responsible for this, and they have referred the matter to their Head Office manager. I have followed this up by writing to him as well, but he has ignored my email. I have no leverage to make Housing 21 repair the light, so it will remain broken.
- **Morrisons Pedestrian Crossing** – I have written to the Morrisons Community Champion to ask them to trim back the overhanging brambles which are on their side of the hedge.
- **Field Lane path near the entrance to Wells Road** – This is worn and dangerous for pedestrians when covered by wet leaves. I reported it to Highways to ask them to resurface this. I have reported before and they have done nothing but no harm in asking again.
- **Grove Lane hedge** – I have been asked by a resident of Grove Lane if I can find out who is responsible for the hedge opposite his house to see if this can be cut. In the first instance I have written to the Town Council as they own the allotments behind this.