

Cllr Christopher Cushing

Fakenham Lancaster North District Council Report – 22nd May 2024

1. Urban Extension - A148 Roundabout & Nutrient Neutrality

- Martyn Fulcher, the NNDC Director of Place, is still awaiting the outcome of their bid for additional funding which will enable the roundabout to be built. He is hopeful of hearing in the next couple of weeks. He is quietly confident although he has no official news to report on this just yet.
- The variation of condition 31 application RV/24/0277 (refers) was approved last week, which essentially allows for the roundabout to come forward in advance of other works. This is an important step.
- Norfolk County Council (NCC) are currently working with Tarmac, their company that will build the roundabout, towards a start of construction in September 2024. This involves but is not limited to:
 - Completion of roundabout civil and drainage works, including sign off of the Road Safety Audit Level 2.
 - Meetings with Tarmac as the Construction contractor to price works and undertake all site investigations as required.
 - Liaison with Utility companies to ensure all diversions and new installations are programmed – Virgin Media, Anglian Water & UKPN.
- The detailed design phase is generally progressing well, and the landowner is finalising discussions with NCC around the S278 agreement, which is an agreement between the developer and highway authority and relates to works within the highway. This will be another key step once agreed. My remaining work stream is to complete the funding agreement between NNDC and the landowner, which details how any grant funding received is to be managed etc, which will be easier when we know for sure whether the latest bid is successful.
- With regards to Nutrient Neutrality, I am attending a NNDC member briefing this Thursday which I requested. I hope to determine from this what options are available to the council to mitigate the Nutrient Neutrality requirements for the urban extension site.

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

- Last week we received the excellent news that the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has sent a formal letter offering the nearly £10m funding to NNDC. This removes key risk to the development.
- Planning work has continued utilising the funding the NNDC will contribute to the project.
- Another key risk will be completing the swimming pool and 3G pitch by March 2026 which is stipulated in the DLUHC grant funding. This is tight for a development of this size. It is too early to say whether any negotiation will be required to extend this.

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

- Jessica Elliott, the Fakenham Beat Officer, has confirmed that hand-held speed camera checks will continue to be undertaken in the Rudham Stile Lane area. This approach was confirmed by the Safer Neighbourhood Action Panel (SNAP) when it met on 8th May.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

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