

CLlr Felicity Cunliffe-Lister Parish Report
Kirkby Malzeard : April 26

Ripon City Investment Plan

I attended a review of the draft headline proposals recently, from the perspective of how the Ripon hinterland's interests need to be considered. I suggested the following :

- That there is a shortage of skills training in the area, and the new development at Clotherholme would be a suitable site
- That the wider area (including Fountains Abbey), as a place to visit, should be better represented within the county

Ripon LCWAIP cycle route (Ripon to Fountains)

The report is overdue, but a request has been submitted to the Public Rights of Way team to modify the Definitive Map so things are moving in the right direction.

NYC website/phone lines

I have been advised by several residents that they are having difficulties getting through on the phone or use the chatbot on the NYC website. I have reported this back to officers who are reviewing this for me.

Planning Enforcement

I have spoken to the enforcement officer about the development at Field At [423306](#) [473806](#) Laverton and raised several queries about progress. This case has been escalated and Counsel has now been instructed due to the complexities involved.

Mayor's Active Travel Fund

This £1M fund has just been launched. It is aimed at community groups who wants to improve active travel in their area. This could be an improved walking route, more dropped kerbs to improve accessibility, school streets, cycle storage etc.

Would the PC like to explore this? The deadline for submissions is 10th April. No match funding required if the project is under £30K, 10% required if above.

Henry Jenkins

I have been liaising with the action group, regarding the status of the building. I'm now aware that the planning permission to convert part of the building to residential has now lapsed. A rental auction action may be an option, and now applying to the site as a whole. This is being trialled in Scarborough.

S106 Agreement Brierley Homes development

I have asked NYC Officers to assist with establishing the status and sums involved with the s106 agreement for this site.

Pilgrimage Walks

It gave me great pleasure to attend the launch of these walks and to go on the Fisher Walk. I am now assisting with helping promote the walks and finding sponsorship.

UK Town of Culture

The Uredale Partnership have submitted a bid for Ripon to enter for this.

Housing Reform

The new Rental Act has come into effect, providing better protection for tenants. NYC are running Landlord Forums on this, there is one in Harrogate on 22nd April.

Commuted Sums

You will have been sent the latest statement for the parish, I am aware it doesn't include the Brierley Home development.

Highways

I note that the new speed limit zones have been advertised.

Nidderdale Greenway

I met with the Rhiannon Letman-Wade, the Mayoral Active Travel Commissioner, with Cllr Murday, to discuss the proposed extension to the Greenway. She is due to be convening a meeting with the various stakeholders such as Sustrans to discuss further. I have stressed to her the importance of the car park at Ripley to the Greenway.

Connectivity

I have met with Quickline who are delivering the Gigabit phase of fibre to the door broadband. I was hoping for a schedule showing the timescale for delivery of projects in the Ripon area, but I am still waiting for this.

I have also heard from Baroness Lloyd, via Julian Smith MP, advising that no further improvements to mobile coverage are currently planned. There are several Home Office masts being installed, but these are all in the Skipton/Settle area – this means that coverage in this area is not going to improve. Now that VOIP has been introduced this is of particular concern. Whilst 95% of the geography of the country as a whole might now have coverage, I suspect that more than 5% of the local geography is going without connection. I have asked Julian Smith to urge Baroness Lloyd to reconsider this position and to review where more Home Office masts could be installed.

I have now put several residents within my division in touch with Julian Smith MP, regarding their smart meters. He is the point of contact with DCC, who provide connectivity to the meters and are obliged to find solutions.

NYC Budget

The 26/27 Budget was approved at Full Council last month. Even after savings and a 4.99 per cent council tax increase, the decision was taken to use £17 million in reserves to

balance the budget. The council tax rise equates to an increase of £96.78 per year for an average Band D property to a total bill of £2,036.32.

Clotherholme Social Value workshop

I attended a second workshop with Homes England last week. This is to establish what commitments can be given by the contractors at the site to benefit local organisations and communities. It is proposed that skills training will be provided on site and I asked that transport be subsidised for those travelling from outside of the area, and resource allocated to upgrading the Ripon to Fountains cycle route. I also suggested that contractors assist with works needed at Quarry Moor and the Wetlands, and I have asked both the Quarry Moor working group and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to put forward their “wishlist”.

Community Led Housing

I am involved in setting up a CLH Trust with a view to purchasing redundant sites and buildings to convert into housing. We have submitted a bid for Kell Bank School, to purchase from the Diocese, and I am also exploring the viability of three redundant garage sites in Masham.

It has come to light that there is not adequate policy provision for CLH in the old Harrogate local plan, nor in what is proposed in the new national guidelines. I am on the Development Plan committee and will be raising this. I have also raised it with Julian Smith and he has forwarded my comments to the relevant Minister who has responded positively.

Learn, Earn, Apply, Progress (LEAP)

NYC (on behalf of the Combined Authority) is funding placements of three months to residents who are over 18 and economically inactive. The cost of wages and national insurance is covered by a grant. This provides work experience for those who want to get back into the workplace. For more information please visit

<https://nyresourcing.co.uk/leap-programme/>

Mobile Slaughter Units

I visited one of these in the Cotswolds last month. This is an abattoir that is either mobile or fixed modular one. These are currently in use in areas where there is no local abattoir, the aim being to improve animal welfare, reduce food miles, and increase yields. I am looking into how these could be viable in this part of the world, and will be asking Grow Yorkshire (from the Mayoral team) to support this.

Home to School Transport

The terms for the review of this policy were discussed recently at a Members seminar. I have asked for members to be provided with the cost/pupil before and after the policy introduction, along with an account of any savings delivered, any additional journeys introduced since the policy and an assessment of the

proportion of pupils on roll who travel by bus/car before and after. The policy was assessed to have a positive impact on climate change when it was introduced.

As part of the Post Implementation Review of the policy, there is an opportunity to give feedback on its impact. The deadline for contributions is 1st June and the report will be published in October. The link to the form is here :

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/v2rusa>

Ripon Mobility Hub

The latest draft proposal was discussed at the Area Constituency Committee this week. It was agreed that it should be more ambitious in its scope and consider the options which might not current be within reach in terms of budget. I was pleased to see that the scope included provision for an improved service to Thirsk station, but stressed that it should also cater for improved services coming into Ripon from the hinterland, and for residents changing onto connected buses. I have asked that a presentation be made on scheme to the Uredale Transport & Connectivity Working Group.

Ousewem Catchment Modelling

I am told that the report is now complete and is being prepared for presentation. I have asked for this to be considered at the next Area Constituency Committee. It will establish the benefit of natural flood measures such as leaky dams and planting trees, in terms of the extent to which they each reduce downstream flooding (and helping prevent sewage treatment plants overflowing). Once published we will be able to assess the value of these measures, with a view to supporting a funding scheme for them. This covers the four rivers that flow into the Ouse.

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