

Farthinghoe Bypass Update

As advised in March 2022 edition of the Farthinghoe Chronicle, we have been notified that West Northants Council have “paused” work on the development of the Farthinghoe Bypass until Government funding (that they would have a good chance of securing) becomes available.

At the same time we were also advised that WNC intended to focus their future efforts on developing a robust solution (Interim solution) to alleviate the issues on the A422. This was to include Traffic Lights on Main Street (A422), a one way system on Queens Street and one way traffic up Chapel Lane & Baker Street.

We felt that these Interim proposals would not benefit the Village as we were extremely sceptical about the effectiveness of traffic lights and requested WNC to reassure us that this would not cause traffic tailbacks and increase noise and pollution. We were informed this information was not available.

We requested WNC to investigate the possibility of an HGV weight restriction on the A422, which would avoid the financial expenditure and physical resource associated with the Interim solution. WNC responded that this would only be possible if the A422 and the B4525 were re-categorised. A meeting was then scheduled for the 28th February, 2022, to discuss the proposed Interim solutions. Subsequently, a caveat was added that we should not raise the subject of the HGV weight restriction during the meeting on 28th February, 2022.

We strongly feel that an HGV weight restriction is the only viable and acceptable alternative to a Bypass so we dis-engaged from any further meetings or discussions until we received a detailed explanation of the reason why an HGV weight restriction could not be imposed on the A422 through Farthinghoe.

We have also elevated this situation to our MP, Dame Andrea Leadsom and a meeting is now scheduled with WNC officers for 9th May, 2022, and Dame Andrea Leadsom will chair the meeting.

We will keep you notified of the outcome of this meeting and we refuse to lower our long term objective of securing a Bypass for Farthinghoe.

Farthinghoe Parish Council