

## **District Councillors report February '22**

### **Langcliffe Hoffman Kiln development**

The project continues to progress with the delivery schedule of phase 1 set for spring this year. There has been substantial interest expressed by potential tenants with our appointed agent.

Each unit is being built as shell and core only (there will be a toilet and brew point in it but it'll otherwise be just a shell) and it will be up to the tenant to fit out the unit according to their own business requirements. Units 1-3 & 6-8 have a mezzanine level inside, units 4&5, 10 & 12 are single storey.

Units 1-8 are expected to be complete in Spring 2022 and we hope to start marketing the units by the end of January.

Atkinson Associates have been appointed as the letting agent. We've already had some enquiries from potential businesses/tenants, if you have anyone who is interested in leasing a unit please can you let me know and I'll ask Atkinson Associates to contact them direct prior to the units formally being advertised.

There will be a Rural Business Development Officer based on site located in unit 9 (Stefan Sykes). Unit 9 is a business hub where offices, meeting rooms, a short term lease unit and some admin facilities can be hired. Stefan or Sharon Sunter (Economic Development Manager) can give you more detail on this if required, although the full details are still be finalised and will be published as and when the units are formally marketed later this month.

There have been some delays with the implementation of the B4RN high speed broad band, but these should be dealt with in the coming weeks. There will also be full fibre broadband on site provided through Openreach, giving a range of options on site.

- images of the site attached for information

### **LGR**

As part of the ongoing process of Local Government Reorganisation, the Structural change order has now been submitted for parliamentary approval as set out below, with the provisional date for the elections for the new authority to be 5<sup>th</sup> May.

This draft Order will be considered and debated by both Houses of Parliament in the coming weeks, and provides for:

- there to be a single unitary council – North Yorkshire Council – providing both county and district services across the existing county area;
- the new unitary be a continuing authority – that is the body corporate of the existing county council with a new name and new membership;

- May 2022 elections for the new unitary council, which will assume its full powers from 1 April 2023, to be held on the basis of a 90 member authority with 88 single member electoral divisions and one two member division and subsequent elections to the unitary council to be in May 2027 and every four years thereafter; it is expected that the Local Government Boundary Commission for England will undertake a full electoral review before the May 2027 elections;
- parish council elections due in May 2023 and May 2024 to be brought forward to May 2022 to align with the unitary council election cycle;
- an implementation executive to be the transitional decision-making body until members take office in the new unitary authority on the fourth day after the May 2022 elections. The implementation executive is to have a membership of 17: the leader of North Yorkshire County Council to be chair; nine additional county council members and seven members, one from each district council. There is to be provision for the councils to name substitute members of the executive;
- there to be an officer team driving implementation with the leader of the officers' Implementation Team to be Chief Executive of the county council and a deputy leader to be a Chief Executive from one of the district councils;
- the powers needed to do necessary preparatory work, if North Yorkshire Council so wishes, relating to the establishment of a combined authority;
- a duty to be placed on the existing councils to co-operate during the transitional period until 1 April 2023; and
- Charter Trustees to be established in the unparished areas of Harrogate and Scarborough ensuring that any historic rights and privileges of those local government areas which will be abolished can be maintained.

## **Spatial Planning**

At the most recent meeting of the Craven District Spatial planning committee, we recommended the updated Playing pitch strategy be recommended for approval. This assessment of the availability and condition of facilities across the district in key sports will help bring forward funding where available from S106 monies as well as other potential funding streams.

## **Ward Member Grant scheme**

The current ward member grant scheme has now nearly completed its current cycle. I am hopeful that the scheme will be run for the final year of CDC.