District Councillors Report for Mulbarton PC March 2023

There is concern that a significant number of pupils will not be able to attend Hethersett High School this year and instead will be required to attend the Hewett School. This has been an increasing problem for some years but is particularly severe this year due to the large cohort of children involved. I will be working with the various authorities involved to seek a resolution.

Equinor has applied for a Development Consent Order for its proposed substation at Swardeston. This will be in addition to that granted for Orsted. South Norfolk and Broadland Councils have indicated their support citing employment and economic opportunities. EDF Energy has applied for planning permission for another battery bank at Dunston.

Grants of £200 are being offered towards Coronation celebrations. It is expect3ed that Parish Councils will administer these on behalf of interested groups. In addition it is anticipated that Member Ward Grants will be available as before from April onwards.

The Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill is working its way through Parliament. It is a lengthy document and will involve Local Planning Authories in housing allocation and design. It also includes a Devolution proposal for Norfolk County Council. The District Council is opposed to this as it stands.

There continues to be considerable opposition to the East Anglian Green Overhead Cabling proposal. National Grid is now to evaluate an offshore route instead.

There is a proposal for a Major Trauma Unit at Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. The rationale is that the maximum travelling time to a MTU should not exceed 45 minutes. For many in Norfolk the journey time to Cambridge would exceed this.

NHS England has been lobbied about the lack of Dental Services in Norfolk. Some changes to the Dentists contract are proposed. It remains to be seen if this will result in an increase in the numbers and retention of Dentists.

Nigel Legg