

18 March 2021

## **CIL FUNDING APPROVED FOR WHEATSHEAF CROSSROADS ACCIDENT REDUCTION SCHEME**

Huntingdonshire District Council has approved the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding of up to £500,000 towards the B1040 Wheatsheaf Road/Somersham Road crossroad, St Ives Accident Reduction Scheme. The decision was made by the Cabinet at a meeting that took place on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

The funding will be used to support Cambridgeshire County Council's proposed scheme to signalise the junction to allow for better management of traffic flow and to significantly reduce the risk of accidents in the area. The project is set to be co-funded by the District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council who recognise that there is an existing issue of highway safety at the junction.

Executive Leader of the Council, Cllr Ryan Fuller, said: "I am pleased that the Cabinet has agreed to approve this funding for a project to support Cambridgeshire County Council in rectifying what has long been an area of concern for local people and a hotspot for accidents. Local councillors and residents have been campaigning for improvements to this junction and our offer of this additional funding to the County Council means that they finally have a deliverable funded solution. This junction is the worst in Huntingdonshire in terms of accident data and I can think of no better use of Community Infrastructure Levy funds than tackling issues such as this and saving lives."

Cambridgeshire County Councillor for Somersham and Earith, Councillor Steve Criswell, said: "As the local member I'm aware of the frustrations and concerns about this junction, which is why I have been working with the County Council's highways team and talking to local parish councils about how the junction can be improved and trying to secure funding."

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“I’m really pleased Huntingdonshire District Council has approved this funding towards a scheme which involves traffic lights at the junction. We are fully committed to delivering this already approved scheme and the final scheme budget will be reported to the County Council’s Highways and Transport Committee in the summer”.

CIL is a planning charge placed on developers that allows local authorities to assist in the funding and delivery of infrastructure development within the local area. The use of CIL funds highlights the District Council’s commitment to supporting the development of infrastructure that enables District-wide and localised growth as well as improving the supply of new and affordable housing, jobs and vital community facilities.

ENDS

**Notes for Editor:** Nil.

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