

North Norfolk District

Personal Details:

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Comment text:

Dear Sirs, i write to voice my concern that it has been recommended that the number of District Councillors in Fakenham (Lancaster) North be reduced to one rather the the current two. Your web-site gives the current population as 4290 with a forecast population of 4507. An increase of only 280. This is a bizarre figure as we already have permission for 66 assisted living units; 13 general needs and/or supported living flats; 14 general needs flats; 6 two-storey and one three-storey general needs houses and permission has been granted on Rudham Stile Lane for 78 houses at Brick Kiln Farm. In addition to this a development of 900 or more houses is likely to start next year and continue over the next ten years in Lancaster North (the only area of Fakenham in which such a development is possible). Fakenham (Lancaster) North is due to see a rise in population of some 2000 people over the coming years and these people will need representation. Today's news also sees a large investment in our Secondary school with the Sixth form relocating to the the Academy site in Fakenham (Lancaster) North. Both the development of the Academy site and the future use of the old Sixth Form site will require a great deal of input from our District Councillors. Not a job for one person. In effect all major developments (on a scale unprecedented in Fakenham in recent years) will be happening in Fakenham (Lancaster) North. A decision to reduce Fakenham (Lancaster) North's representation would make a farce of so-called strategic planning. I would also like to add that it is not news that small Market Towns throughout the country are struggling against increased competition from supermarket and other chains. Charity shops are the norm in many of our high streets. Reducing the number of representatives our Town has on the local council would be yet another nail in the coffin of our attempts to re-generate Fakenham which suffers, alas, from this national malaise. I would like to add that I was brought up and educated in Fakenham (I was born in 1955) when it was a thriving community with a large Printing Works and a vibrant economy plus excellent schools and amenities. I returned to Fakenham in 1988 and have watched with growing concern the Town's decline. Now, having retired, I am a Town Councillor and have been a co-signatory of the Town Council's letter to urge that we retain our 4 councillors. This personal letter is to re-enforce that view. I ask you to please consider my opinions on this matter. We must not allow further rural decline. Removing one of our Councillors would be, as they say: 'the thin end of the wedge' somewhere we in Fakenham do not want to be. Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded