

Report to Downham Market Town Council 2nd February 2021

Councillor Josie Ratcliffe

Vaccination Centre

Downham Market is expected to get a new vaccination centre in February; however at the time of writing (31 Jan), Borough Councillors haven't been informed of the venue. The decision will be formally announced by the CCG and NHS. In the meantime I've heard good feedback about the efficient service at Swaffham's Manor Farm Medical Centre where many local residents have received their first vaccination jab.

Borough Council

With the ongoing lockdown and need to support the response to Covid, many Borough Council meetings have been cancelled or postponed. Council staff are being allocated to other duties including the contact tracing service, supporting community testing and vaccination centres and also covering administrative roles at the QEH.

However please do let the Borough Councillors know of potential projects for Downham Market that could be discussed at future meetings when they restart, in particular for the 'Environment & Community' and 'Regeneration & Development' panels.

Borough Council information and service impacts: www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus

And Norfolk County Council: www.norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus

Downham Market's Market

My Councillor newsletters to residents include reminders that we can shop outdoors at the market on Fridays and Saturdays (as long as UK regulations continue to allow essential stalls to keep trading). I'm pleased to see proposals aimed at supporting the stallholders' businesses during these challenging times are on the agenda for Full Council.

I shop at the market weekly and promote it on social media. Fortunately the previous unpleasant behaviour on Facebook whenever the market was mentioned is much reduced these days.