

## **GEORGE FREEMAN MP MEETING**

**FRIDAY 4th OCTOBER 18.30 St Peters Church Kimberley**

### **WESTERN ROAD LINK RAT RUN**

**Honingham, Barnham Broom, Kimberley and Carleton Forehoe and Wymondham**

You are invited to join Kimberley and Carleton Forehoe Parish Council to meet with Mr Freeman MP on 4<sup>th</sup> October.

This meeting has been convened to discuss how to reduce the impact of the rat run through our communities as a result of the new western road link.

Norfolk County Council is consulting on mitigation required by communities affected and a cohesive response is essential. The new road will have an impact on all our communities between Honingham, Barnham Broom, Kimberley, Carleton Forehoe and Wymondham as lorries and cars head towards the A11 by the shortest route.

None of Norfolk County Councils environmental or impact assessments for the new link road take into account the potential consequences for the rural roads south of the new A47. The new road and how it links with the route through Honingham to Wymondham will become a rat run unless we take action - this route is 8 miles long. The route from Honingham to the Wymondham junction via the A47/A11 is 13 miles long and Option C is expected to carry 32,000 lorries and cars a day.

The Highways England maps we have seen show the proposed roundabout at Berry's Lane/Wood Lane and a new roundabout that will connect to the A47, serve the Food Hub and the housing expansion at Easton. On this map it is possible to see the existing A47 and it is proposed that the existing A47 remains open to serve local traffic. Kimberley and Carleton Forehoe would like to make the following proposal to Highways England:

- Berry's Lane is closed to the south side from the A47 up to Dereham Road, Honingham.
- This small stretch of road is removed to prevent a traveller site being created.
- The existing A47 remains open for the use of local traffic with access to the new A47 via the new roundabout at Taverham Road/Blind Lane.

It is hoped this will encourage the majority of traffic to use the dualled A47 and not rural roads south of the A47. Kimberley and Carleton Forehoe will also be applying to Highways England and Norfolk County Council for the traffic flow in their villages to be assessed to establish a current benchmark and for mitigation within the villages such as weight limits for the bridges, chicanes and speed limits.