

# FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

## PRESS RELEASE

October 01, 2020

### Station car park plan steams ahead after approval

Work is well underway to design and construct a new car park at Manea railway station after plans for the much-needed project were unanimously approved.

Proposals for the 112-space car park, which will be built on land at Fodder Fen Road immediately to the north of the station, have been given the green light by Fenland District Council's Planning Committee.

The car park is among the raft of improvements for Fenland stations being delivered through the Council's Railway Station Masterplans scheme, funded by £9.5 million from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority.

The Combined Authority has appointed Highways UK to complete the detailed design of the car park, allowing for planning conditions relating to lighting, drainage and a footpath from the car park access to the station.

Highways UK has now commenced the design work, with a view to completing the final design in November. Building work is expected to commence on site in early 2021.

Cllr Chris Seaton, Fenland District Council's Cabinet Member for Transport and Chairman of the Fenland Stations Regeneration Project Board, said: "A car park for Manea station has been talked about for many years, so I'm delighted that it can finally get underway.

"We're excited to be working alongside the Combined Authority, train operators and other partners to bring improvements like this forward, for the benefit of people across the Fens."

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Mayor James Palmer, who leads the Combined Authority, added: "It's another step towards getting Fenland better and greener transport with rail at its heart – this car park will help people cut road travel and use trains instead. We're investing heavily in Fenland and I'm determined that our investment in railway stations and their car parks must be matched by train companies laying on the more joined-up and frequent services people need and deserve."

Meanwhile, villagers in Manea are planning a time capsule project to mark the completion of the car park scheme. It is hoped the capsule will be buried as part of the ceremony to formally open the car park in 2021.

**ENDS**

**For more information contact Fenland District Council press office on 01354 622226**