

## *Frecklestone Project*

Hi Everyone,

As 2011 fast approaches I think that it is important to update all concerned with the plans I have for the Rawstone Centre and Bush Lane area. Things are slowly but surely fitting into place. Strangely enough I am quite looking forward to next year but with a lot of fear and trepidation. I need plenty of support and help in many forms if we are to achieve the goal of building a sports and social centre on Bush Lane. For a start we give it a name and I suggest we call it the Frecklestone Project.

My vision is three fold in its impetus. First of all I hope to raise awareness that the lack of sporting facilities in the village of Freckleton needs to be addressed. Secondly some capital will be raised through my sponsored cycle to kick start a fund towards any improvements. My thanks to the Club Day Committee who have already pledged £5,000.

Thirdly I intend to tap into capital funding through suitable Trust Funds and initiatives which are currently evident in partnership with Lottery Funding/Sport England. In particular the 'Iconic Facilities Scheme' is an ideal route to go down. I would rather raise the necessary funds without having to go to Sport England and meet their targets but it remains to be seen how much can be raised. The picture may be clearer by Spring 2011.

Carol Erderm has offered to run the publicity campaign. If you have any ideas please write to her at [cerderm@live.co.uk](mailto:cerderm@live.co.uk) Even though my sponsored event is now becoming high profile I don't want to blow my own trumpet and I need you guys to do that on my behalf. The other thing is that when my flyers are ready later this week I will need help posting them, even in the snow. It doesn't matter if it takes a few weeks to complete the task I want everyone in the village to know all about the Frecklestone project. Thanks to Tony Parkinson for offering to sort out all the photocopying.

The most crucial thing at this point is that I obtain some good plans and costs. Trevor Fiddler has offered to pursue this for me. I feel that if the George and Maisey trust fund trustees (Georges Garage) are presented with a professional set of plans they may well commit some finances. I am not concerned if the plans are fairly agricultural at the moment but all of us agreed at the Rawstone Centre meeting the other night that they are essential to progress. My drawing, though painstakingly long to construct, only serves as visual motivation at this point.

I do have a couple of other concerns but they are standard with any building proposal. Namely planning permission and local resident objection. I am sure when things are fully up and running these issues will be dealt with. The other concern is that of height restriction with regard to the BAE runway. It would be good to establish exactly what height will be tolerated so that we don't have to address the matter at a later date. Please let me have your thoughts on this.

My sponsored event is taking shape. I will be putting a pledge page on the council website as soon as the flyers are banded about. I will also put my proposed route up to view. All the people who have hinted (promised) that they will accompany me are posted in on this e mail. Keith Gillies is starting with me in New York and doing the first 430 miles to Hamilton Ontario. I have a distant cousin, Mary Aube, who lives in Hamilton and I look forward to a few days break at her house. It then looks like I have a few weeks alone to Chicago where hopefully Mick Howarth, my friend from school, will join me and borrow Keith's bike! Tony Parkinson has banged on about coming and renting a motor bike. Nowhere better to do that Tony than in the flatlands of Iowa and Nebraska in late May! Then Paddy and Sean O'Reilly are there from the first week of June, for a few weeks. Lou Brown is flying to Denver and doing 500 miles through the Rockies and Yellowstone with me so no doubt we will be drinking some Coors. Lou, Paddy and Sean are planning to co-ordinate things together around that time. Finally I am having a well earned three week holiday with the family relatives in the Hotel California. (In case you didn't know, Hotel California is an Eagles song, which actually tells of how you always have to go back there once you've been)

Look at American Airlines. You can get cracking deals on flights in and out of various cities. After Yellowstone I should be home and dry. Not! It's still pretty wild up there and the last mile is the longest. If you know anyone who is mental enough to want to cycle through Idaho/Nevada to California let me know.

Best Wishes,

Frank Towers

PS. Please forward this e mail on to anyone that may be interested.