

Agenda

Meeting: Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee

**Venue: Ingleborough Community Centre,
Main Street, Ingleton, North
Yorkshire, LA6 3HG**

Date: 10am on Thursday 12 March 2020

Business

Recording is allowed at County Council, committee and sub-committee meetings which are open to the public, please give due regard to the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at public meetings, a copy of which is available to download below. Anyone wishing to record is asked to contact, prior to the start of the meeting, the Officer whose details are at the foot of the first page of the Agenda. We ask that any recording is clearly visible to anyone at the meeting and that it is non-disruptive. <http://democracy.northyorks.gov.uk/>

Please note that an informal drop-in session is available to members of the committee from 9.30am.

1. **Apologies for absence**
2. **Minutes of the meeting of the Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee held on 13 January 2020**
(Pages 6 to 12)
3. **Any Declarations of Interest**
4. **Public Questions or Statements**

Members of the public may ask questions or make statements at this meeting if they have given notice and provided the text to Daniel Harry of Democratic Services (<i>contact details below</i>) no later than midday on Monday 9 March 2020. Each speaker should

limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item. Members of the public who have given notice will be invited to speak:-

- at this point in the meeting if their questions/statements relate to matters which are not otherwise on the Agenda (subject to an overall time limit of 30 minutes);
- when the relevant Agenda item is being considered if they wish to speak on a matter which is on the Agenda for this meeting.

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded, please inform the Chairman who will instruct those taking a recording to cease whilst you speak.

5. **Community Access to Alternative Funding Sources** – summary report - PRESENTATION TO FOLLOW – Mark Hopley, Community First Yorkshire
(Page 13)
6. **Rural Commission** – BRIEFING - Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, North Yorkshire County Council
(Pages 14 to 18)
7. **Appointment to an Outside Body** – REPORT - Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, North Yorkshire County Council
(Page 19)
8. **Committee work programme** – REPORT - Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, North Yorkshire County Council
(Pages 20 to 23)
9. **Other business which the Chairman agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.**

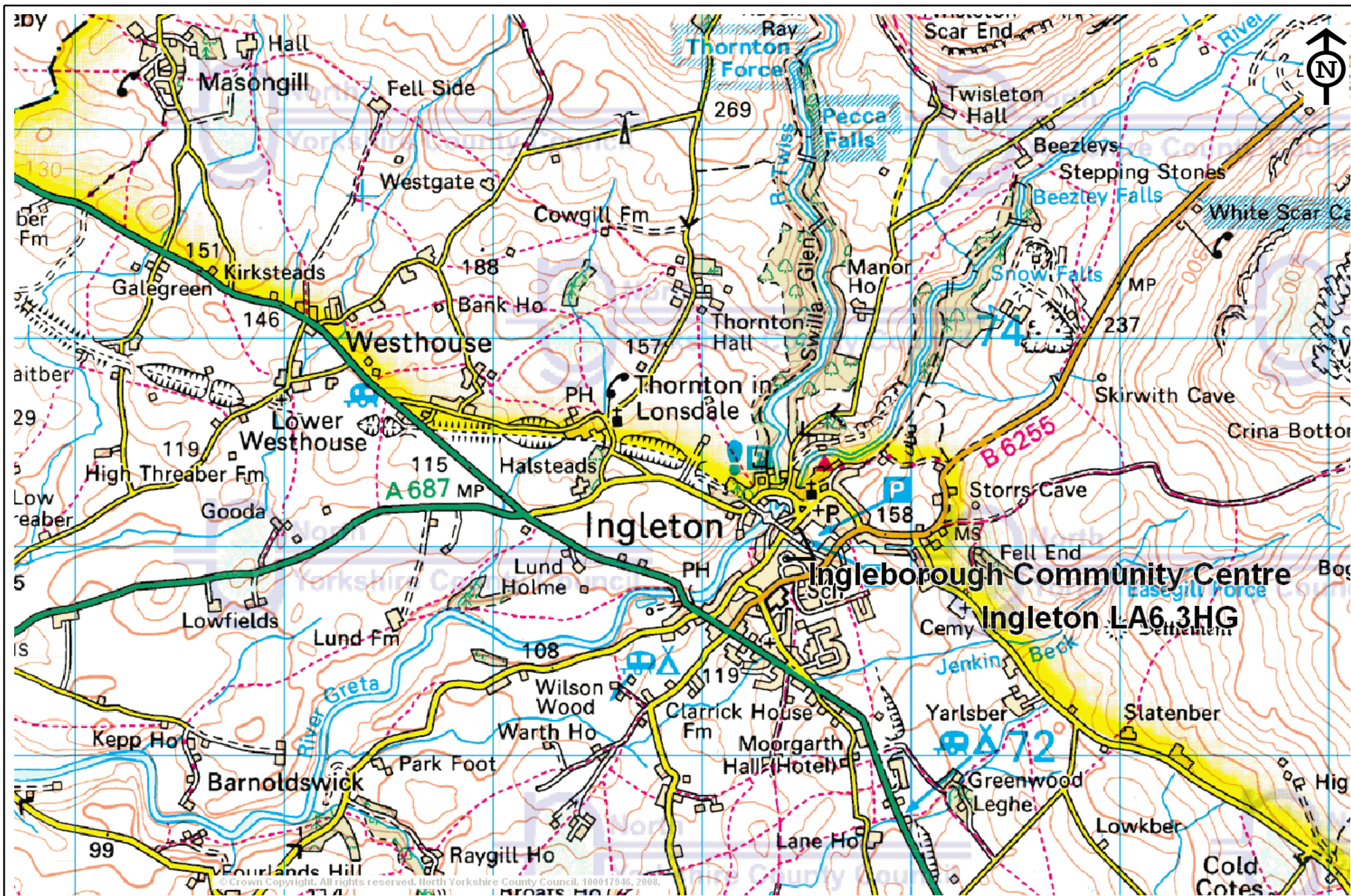
Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
County Hall
Northallerton

11 February 2020

SKIPTON AND RIPON AREA CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE

Membership

County Councillors (13)			
	<i>Councillors Name</i>	<i>Political Group</i>	<i>Electoral Division</i>
1	ATKINSON, Margaret	Conservative	Masham and Fountains
2	BARRETT, Philip	NY Independents	South Craven
3	CHAMBERS, Mike MBE (Chairman)	Conservative	Ripon North
4	HARRISON, Michael	Conservative	Lower Nidderdale and Bishop Monkton
5	HESELTINE, Robert	Independent	Skipton East
6	IRETON, David (Vice Chairman)	Conservative	North Craven
7	LUMLEY, Stanley	Conservative	Pateley Bridge
8	MARTIN, Stuart MBE	Conservative	Ripon South
9	MULLIGAN, Patrick	Conservative	Airedale
10	QUINN, Gill	Conservative	Mid-Craven
11	SOLLOWAY, Andy	Independent	Skipton West
12	WELCH, Richard	Conservative	Ribblesdale
13	WINDASS, Robert	Conservative	Boroughbridge



Ingleborough Community Centre, Main Street, Ingleton LA6 3HG

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North Yorkshire County Council

Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee held on 13 January 2020, commencing at 2.00pm, at Ripon Community House, Ripon.

Present:

County Councillors Philip Barrett, Michael Harrison, David Ireton, Stanley Lumley, Patrick Mulligan and Gill Quinn.

County Council Officers: Daniel Harry (Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager) and Gary Fielding (Corporate Director, Strategic Resources).

Others present: Sgt Stuart Grainger (North Yorkshire Police), Trudy Balderson (Airedale NHS Foundation Trust), Michael Dyson (NHS Property Services), Lynne Scrutton (Airedale Wharfedale and Craven Clinical Commissioning Group).

51. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Margaret Atkinson, Mike Chambers MBE, Robert Heseltine, Stuart Martin MBE, Andy Solloway, Richard Welch and Robert Windass.

County Councillor David Chance who is not a member of the committee but regularly attends as Executive member with a remit that covers the Area Constituency Committees gave his apologies.

In the absence of County Councillor Mike Chambers MBE, County Councillor David Ireton chaired the meeting.

52. Minutes

Daniel Harry noted an outstanding action relating to the presentation on the North Yorkshire Digital Strategy at the September meeting of the committee, 'that the committee develop a more specific line of enquiry around how digital technologies can support the rural economy, specifically Small and Medium Enterprises'.

It was agreed that this matter would be discussed in greater depth under agenda item 8 – committee work programme.

Resolved -

- a. That the Minutes of the meeting of the Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee held on 6 September 2019, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

53. Any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

54. Public Questions or Statements

There were no public questions or statements.

55. Rural Crime Strategy

Considered -

A presentation by Sgt Stuart Grainger of the Rural Taskforce, North Yorkshire Police on rural crime, the impact that it has and what can be done to prevent it.

County Councillor David Ireton introduced the report, noting that committee members had previously expressed interest in understanding what was being done to tackle crime in rural areas.

The key points from the presentation are as summarised below:

- The NFU Mutual estimate that in 2019 rural crime cost the UK £49.9m. A copy of the 2019 NFU Mutual report is available here - <https://www.nfumutual.co.uk/farming/ruralcrime/>
- Rural crime can have a disproportionate impact upon victims and also can have a negative impact upon tourism and business
- There are 8,500 farms in North Yorkshire
- North Yorkshire Police work with five other Police Forces to tackle rural crime
- Much of the crime committed in rural areas of the county is believed to be committed by people coming into the county from other areas
- Often specific pieces of equipment are targeted, such as quad bikes
- There has been a rise in the number of animals being stolen and sold on
- The Police do a lot of work with farmers around prevention and target hardening, in an attempt to deter criminals
- The marking and tagging to key pieces of equipment also means that, when stolen, the equipment can be traced
- Rural Watch plays a key role in deterring crime in rural areas and also helping the Police respond effectively to incidences that have occurred
- There has been an increase in crimes against wildlife in North Yorkshire. This includes: hare coursing; deer poaching; badger baiting; and raptor persecution.
- Hare coursing often involves gangs from across the UK who trespass onto farmers' land. The trespass can result in a great deal of damage to fencing, hedges and fields as the gangs use 4x4 vehicles to access remote areas to undertake the hare coursing.

The Chairman, County Councillor David Ireton, thanked Sgt Stuart Grainger for the presentation and then invited committee members to comment.

County Councillor Michael Harrison asked for more information on livestock theft, how it happened and what was then done with the stolen animals.

In response, Sgt Stuart Grainger said that animals are often put to graze in remote fields and so were vulnerable to being stolen. A flock of sheep could easily be transported away in a van. Once stolen, they could be sold on to other farmers or to the illegal/unregulated meat trade. Both of these posed animal and public health risks as the animals would not go through the normal checks.

Sgt Stuart Grainger said that any sheep that were recovered were taken to a host farm where they could be cared for until the owner was found and all necessary health checks carried out.

A number of Councillors raised their concerns about the crimes committed against wildlife.

Sgt Stuart Grainger said that he did not understand why people would wish to persecute wild animals for what the perpetrators considered to be sport. He said that many of the gangs involved bet large sums of money on the outcome of hare coursing and badger baiting and could become aggressive and violent when challenged.

Sgt Stuart Grainger said that North Yorkshire Police had been involved in the national policing operation to protect raptors from persecution. Operation Owl aims to raise awareness amongst the public of what could be suspicious behaviour and then how to report anything that has been seen.

County Councillor David Ireton asked whether there was a role for Councillors as community leaders in helping to raise awareness of rural crime.

In response, Sgt Stuart Grainger said that it would be helpful if Councillors, when out and about in the local community, could make people aware of the support that the Police can provide. In particular, advice and support to farmers on target hardening.

County Councillor David Ireton asked whether the Police attended Parish Council meetings to raise awareness of the rural crime.

Sgt Grainger confirmed that he and his team went to see as many as they could.

Gary Fielding asked what members of the public should do if they see something odd or suspicious when in the countryside. He said that it was often difficult to know whether something was amiss or whether it was just local people going about their business.

Sgt Stuart Grainger said that there were a range of options, including the North Yorkshire Police 111 line and Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. If it is believed that there is a crime underway and there are immediate concerns about safety, then people should always call 999.

Resolved -

- a. Thank Sgt Stuart Grainger for attending and presenting to the committee
- b. Daniel Harry to liaise with Sgt Stuart Grainger to see what sources of information are available for County Councillors, in their role as community leaders, so that they can effectively sign-post people and raise awareness about rural crime and how to prevent it and report it.

56. Update on progress with the development of Castleberg Hospital, Giggleswick

Considered -

The report of Lynne Scrutton (Airedale Wharfedale and Craven Clinical Commissioning Group), Trudy Balderson (Airedale NHS Foundation Trust) and Michael Dyson (NHS Property Services) regarding the operation of the newly refurbished Castleberg Hospital at Giggleswick.

The Chairman, County Councillor David Ireton, welcomed colleagues from the NHS to the meeting and introduced the item. He said how pleased he was that the hospital, which had been temporarily closed on 13 April 2017 due to significant problems with the building structure, had been extensively refurbished and then re-opened on 26 November 2019. County Councillor David Ireton said that most people in the area had expected the temporary closure to become a permanent closure.

The presentation was delivered by Lynne Scrutton (Airedale Wharfedale and Craven Clinical Commissioning Group), the key points of which are as summarised below:

- The committee had last been formally updated at the meeting in May 2019. Since then, a great deal of progress was made and the hospital was formally re-opened on 26 November 2019
- Prior to the formal opening, a public 'drop in' was held on 30 September 2019 and then the hospital opened for admissions from 7 October 2019
- The hospital has been fully refurbished and provides a setting in which the highest quality of care can be delivered
- There are 13 beds overall, allowing for the provision of single sex accommodation
- There are 10 beds dedicated to intermediate care, which can involve people being referred by their GP or people being transferred from hospital for a people of rehabilitation following surgery
- There is also the ability to provide end of life care
- In the past 3 months there have been a total of 39 admissions, with 11 direct from the community and 28 from hospital
- The average length of stay is 3 weeks and over 80% of people staying at the Castleberg then go home, having been assessed as to what level of support they will need there
- The Castleberg is a key part of the health and social care system in Craven, providing a 'set up step down' facility that enables focussed support and assessment
- The key to the success of the Castleberg has been the partnership approach undertaken by a range of agencies, organisations and community groups.

The Chairman, County Councillor David Ireton, then invited committee members to comment upon the presentation.

County Councillor Michael Harrison asked where referrals to the Castleberg that were from the community came from. Also, when people were discharged from the hospital, what social care support was put in place.

Trudy Balderson said that referrals could come direct from a GP or from a community health or social care team. She said that referrals from Airedale Hospital had to come through a single point and that the use of the 'step down' approach meant that long term, additional care was often not needed and that people could be supported in the community for longer.

Trudy Balderson said that the Airedale Hospital was working closely with social care teams to ensure that people did not stay in hospital any longer than they needed to and that people only received the appropriate level of care. She recognised that this often needed a change in approach from health and social care workers who at times and for the best of intentions continued to maintain intensive packages of care when they were not needed.

County Councillor David Ireton queried whether the funding for the lift to the first floor had been obtained.

Michael Dyson said that the potential use of the first floor without having a lift in place was currently under review. Without access via an external lift, the use would be limited to office-based work and could not be used as a community venue as previously envisaged. He said that discussions were underway with North Yorkshire County Council adult social care services to see whether the first floor could be used as a base for social care staff.

County Councillor David Ireton asked whether any lessons had been learned from the closure, refurbishment and re-opening of the Castleberg Hospital that could be shared with other health and social care commissioners and providers in the county.

Lynne Scrutton said that the Clinical Commissioning Group had learned a great deal about public engagement and public consultation.

Michael Dyson said that NHS Property Services had learned lessons about the maintenance of the properties, particularly older sites, which would be applied across the NHS property portfolio.

County Councillor Philip Barrett said that he and other members of the Council's Scrutiny of Health Committee had not expected the Castleberg to re-open. It was widely assumed that the temporary closure would inevitably become a permanent closure, much as had been the case with the Lambert Community Hospital in Thirsk. He said that the efforts of the commissioners and providers to engage with people locally and to then come up with a practical and sustainable solution were noted and he congratulated them on what they had achieved.

County Councillor Philip Barrett proposed that a final update be provided to the committee in 12 months' time on use of the hospital and patient outcomes. There unanimous support for this.

Daniel Harry said that a short update would be provided for the meeting of the Council's Scrutiny of Health Committee on 13 March 2020. He said that the scrutiny of the Castleberg Hospital had been delegated down to the Area Constituency Committee 18 months ago.

Gary Fielding suggested that the update in 12 months' time could also include a review of the local public estate, in particular the future use of the former Settle Middle School site.

Resolved -

- a. Thank Lynne Scrutton and her colleagues for all of the work that they had done to refurbish and re-open the Castleberg Hospital
- b. Lynne Scrutton to bring a final update to the committee meeting on 17 December 2020, which looks at: volume of use; patient outcomes; any developments in service delivery; and links with social care
- c. Gary Fielding or Jon Holden to bring a report on the one-public estate in the Skipton and Ripon ACC area to the committee meeting on 17 December 2020, with a particular focus on plans for Settle Middle School
- d. Daniel Harry to send a briefing note to the Scrutiny of Health Committee updating them on the excellent progress that has been made with the development and re-opening of the hospital.

57. Council Annual Budget briefing

Considered -

The presentation of Gary Fielding (Corporate Director, Strategic Resources) on the Council's annual budget, with a focus on financial pressures in the area covered by the committee.

Gary Fielding delivered the presentation, with key points as summarised below:

- The Council has been through 10 years of austerity and seen a 40% cut in the overall budget over the period
- The Council has worked hard to increase efficiency, reduce waste and adopt new ways of working making savings of £172 million
- The focus throughout has been upon protecting the front line

- The central government settlement is made on an annual basis, which can make it difficult to plan ahead over a meaningful time period
- Central government is providing an increasing amount of 'one-off' funding, which for 2020/21 amounts to £61.8m. The 'one-off' funding is welcomed but each year it is uncertain as to how much will be awarded to North Yorkshire. This then creates a difficult position where in any given year there may be a budgetary shortfall of approximately £60m.
- During the period of austerity, there has been a growth in demand for services and increasing costs, particularly in the areas of adult social care and SEND. This amounted to approximately £14m in 2019/20
- Council Tax increases are welcome but do not provide the scale of funding needed to fill the gap. An increase of 4.99% in 2019/20 led to an increase in revenue to the Council of £1.3m.
- Compliance with Public Service Vehicle Accessibility Regulations may have a negative impact upon those high schools that provide their own transport for pupils, such as Nidderdale, Upper Wharfedale and Ermysteds
- LEA maintained schools continue to face significant financial pressure in the area. This tends to affect the smaller secondary schools.
- At present, 71% of schools in the area projecting to be in deficit by March 2022. The financial position of academies is not always known.
- It is increasingly challenging to find providers of residential and nursing care in the area. Where there is provision, then it is often above the Council's approved rates, which creates an additional cost pressure
- A local contribution of £4.95 million is to be made to the development of the Kex Gill re-alignment.

The Chairman, County Councillor David Ireton, then invited committee members to comment upon the presentation.

County Councillor Philip Barrett asked whether a mild winter would yield significant one-off savings in the winter maintenance budget.

Gary Fielding said that if the relatively mild weather continued, then the Council would expect savings of about £1 million.

County Councillor Michael Harrison queried whether the UK exit from the EU combined with the introduction of a new living wage would have a negative impact upon the social care workforce.

Gary Fielding said that the social care workforce in the area was not made up of a large proportion of EU citizens. The real challenge is likely to be around the increase in the living wage, which may make it more difficult for some private sector providers to keep running as a going concern as it significantly increases costs. There is also an ongoing issue as pay in social care is relatively low and people can earn higher wages elsewhere in a less demanding (albeit rewarding) job, such as in a supermarket.

Resolved -

- a. Thank Gary Fielding for attending the meeting and presenting on the Council's annual budget.
- b. Note the key issues identified, particularly the demand-led financial pressures in the area.

58. Committee Work Programme

Considered -

A report by Daniel Harry, Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager, outlining the committee work programme.

Daniel Harry introduced the report and asked that Members review the Committee's work programme, taking into account the outcome of discussions on previous agenda items and any other developments taking place across the area.

There were a number of additions and amendments to the work programme agreed as below:

- Discuss with the Clapham School Action Group an appropriate time for the item updating on progress with the delivery of the Recovery Plan for Clapham School to be scheduled
- Move the item on the role that digital technology has to play in economic development in rural communities to the agenda for the meeting on 28 May 2020.

Resolved -

- a. That the committee work programme updated as outlined above.

59. Other business which the Chairman agrees should be considered as a matter of urgency because of special circumstances.

There was none.

The meeting concluded at 4:05pm.

DH

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SKIPTON AND RIPON AREA CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE****10AM ON 12 MARCH 2020****COMMUNITY ACCESS TO ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES
Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)****1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide committee members with the context for this agenda item.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee on 14 March 2019, a statistical profile of the area was reviewed. One issue that arose from the statistical profile was an apparently low level of take up of alternative funding streams, such as the National Lottery, in the area. This agenda item is intended to help committee members look into whether that is truly the case and if so, then:

- Why the funding levels are low in the area
- Whether people are missing out as a result
- What this may mean in terms of how the community works
- What support could be given to the community
- What role County Councillors may have to play as community leaders.

3.0 PRESENTATION

- 3.1 Mark Hopley from Community First Yorkshire will be providing a presentation on this issue at the committee meeting. The presentation will not be available until Monday 9 March 2020 and will be uploaded, once it is available.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
County Hall, Northallerton
7 February 2020

Report Author: Daniel Harry

Background documents: None

Appendices: None

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SKIPTON AND RIPON AREA CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE****10AM ON 12 MARCH 2020****RURAL COMMISSION****Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)****1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To update the committee on the work of the Rural Commission and start a discussion about whether the committee wishes to consider submitting a report as part of the Commission's 'call for evidence'.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council's Rural Commission was established in October 2019. The purpose and aims of the Rural Commission are as follows:
- Recommend the actions that local partners should take over the next ten, 20 and 30 years in order to maximise the sustainability of the super-sparse rural communities in North Yorkshire.
 - Improve the evidence base and arguments that will enable local partners to make the case successfully for increased government support to maximise the sustainability of the super-sparse rural communities in North Yorkshire.
- 2.2 The Rural Commission Panel is made up of 8 independent members and it is chaired by the Very Rev John Dobson DL, Dean of Ripon. The panel is then aided in its work by a reference group of key stakeholders. This includes: the leaders of the district councils in North Yorkshire; the two national park authorities in the county; and North Yorkshire and East Riding Local Enterprise Partnership.

3.0 PROGRESS TO DATE

- 3.1 The Rural Commission Panel has identified eight independent Rural Commissioners have started their investigation into the following themes to examine in-depth:
- Farming, Food and the Environment
 - Economy and Jobs
 - Education, Schools and Training
 - Housing
 - Transport
 - Accessibility - Digital Broadband and Mobile.
- 3.2 In preparation for an in-depth examination of a theme, the Commission 'calls for evidence' from local people, businesses and organisations. These are done on a rolling basis, with the last call for evidence in January 2020.
- 3.3 Written submissions on any issue can be sent by email to ruralcommission@northyorks.gov.uk at any time up until May 2020.

- 3.4 Further information on the work of the Rural Commission is in Appendix 1 and also available via the following link - <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/north-yorkshire-rural-commission>

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To have a discussion about whether the committee wishes to consider submitting a report as part of the Commission's 'call for evidence'.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
County Hall, Northallerton
7 February 2020

Report Author: Daniel Harry

Background documents: None

Appendices:

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SKIPTON AND RIPON AREA CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE****10AM ON 12 MARCH 2020****UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE RURAL COMMISSION****Purpose of the report**

To provide County Councillors with an update on the work of the North Yorkshire Rural Commission and the progress achieved since it was established by the County Council in late 2019.

The remit and membership of the Rural Commission

The main responsibility of the Commission is to recommend the actions that local partners should take over the next ten, twenty and thirty years in order to maximise the sustainability of the most rural communities in North Yorkshire.

The Commission has also been asked to improve the evidence base and arguments that will enable local partners to successfully make the case for increased government support in order to maximise the sustainability of the most rural communities in North Yorkshire.

The Commission is comprised of eight key regional figures from business, farming, religion, academia, community development and journalism: Very Reverend John Dobson (Chair), Sir William Worsley, Professor Sally Shorthall, Dr Debbie Trebilco, Heather Hancock, Jean MacQuarrie, Martin Booth and Chris Clark.

The work programme of the Rural Commission

The work programme of the Commission is extensive and wide ranging. The Commission agreed in their inaugural meeting that they would tackle the main part of the task on a theme-by-theme basis. The Commission also recognised the interplay between the themes and acknowledged a number of additional cross-cutting themes, largely but not exclusively linked to the wider socio-economic and material environment and the distinctive demographic characteristics evident in North Yorkshire.

The overall approach developed by the Commission includes a programme of evidence sessions; a separate public call for written evidence from people and organisations who would like to submit written material to support the work of the Commission; a programme of external visits across the county that will allow Commissioners to explore and observe the lived reality of people from the most rural communities in North Yorkshire; and additional appointments with MPs as part of a programme of engagement with key political figures and central government officials.

The evidence sessions have been scheduled to run monthly from December 2019 up until June 2020 (Table 1). Each evidence session includes discussions with small groups of participants and the Commission, which includes introductory presentations from contributors and a question-led discussion which is overseen by the Chair of the Commission. The main focus of the debate at the evidence sessions is centred on the critical issues and challenges identified by the participants and any ideas and thinking from the

participants about the best ways the Commission might wish to tackle the problems they have raised.

Table 1. Programme of planned evidence sessions of the Rural Commission	
Date	Evidence Session
18 th December 2019	Farming and Food
23 rd January 2020	Economy and Jobs
26 th February 2020	Housing
26 th March 2020	Education, Schools and Training
22 nd April 2020	Transport
20 th May 2020	Accessibility – Digital Broadband and Mobile
17 th June 2020	Energy & Environment

Data and analysis

One key feature of the work of the Commission is to assemble and interrogate a wide range of data and intelligence that will make up the evidence base and underpin the conclusions and recommendations made by the Commission. The main source of information for the evidence base will originate and grow from the core work programme that was set out above, including the schedule of evidence sessions, the call for evidence, the programme of visits and the additional rounds of engagement.

Since its establishment in late 2019, the Commission has held three evidence sessions and heard from 26 participants speaking on issues affecting farming and food, the rural economy and jobs, and rural housing. During this time the Commission has recorded eight hours of audio from these sessions and generated more than 10,000 words of key notes from conversations with participants. The Commission has engaged with 18 different organisations and received 14 separate written submissions from individuals and agencies who have responded to the call for evidence. Many other reports have also been made available to the Commission, in order to inform thinking, including academic research papers, government reports or government commissioned research, and scientific reports on specific topics.

The Commission is supported in its work by a secretariat of County Council officers, who help to organise the various meetings of the Commission and manage the communications and media that is generated from the work of the Commission. The secretariat also supports the Commission to bring together and organise the evidence base and to help with the collation of the extensive information that is made available to the Commission – but not with the interrogation or the analysis of the data, which is the responsibility of the Commissioners.

Outcomes and outputs

The main output will be a report of key findings and recommendations, to be published in autumn 2020. The report will summarise the results of the work of the Commission, their conclusions, and perhaps most importantly, it will set out the Commission's recommendations about the actions that local partners should take over the next ten, twenty and thirty years, in order to maximise the sustainability and future prosperity of the most rural communities in North Yorkshire.

The recommendations of the Rural Commission will be informed by the wide ranging and extensive evidence base assembled by the Commission. All of the evidence that is submitted to the Commission will be made available to the public.

Reporting lines of the Rural Commission

The Commission is an independent group which is self-governing, impartial and non-political. The Commission is not a part of, or aligned to, the County Council or any other partner organisation.

The Commission provides updates on its progress and achievements to a Reference Group that was set up to encourage and counsel the Commission, and to act as a sounding board for the Commission, but the Commission is not accountable to the Reference Group. The Reference Group is chaired by the Leader of the County Council and includes the Leaders of the District Councils, the Chairs of the National Park Authorities, and Chair of the Local Enterprise Partnership.

The report of the Commission will be presented to the County Council, and it is intended that the key findings and recommendations considered by Executive members and by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Involvement of County Councillors and others

County Councillors can be actively involved in the work of the Rural Commission in a number of ways. They can suggest the topics they would like to see debated by the Commission, under the agreed themes, and inform the Commission about the key challenges in their local areas (some County Councillors have already started to do this). It would also be helpful if County Councillors could encourage local people, businesses and organisations with views and practical ideas about the issues that affect our most rural communities to contact the Commission directly.

Further information about the Rural Commission, the Commissioners and the call for evidence can be found at www.northyorks.gov.uk/north-yorkshire-rural-commission.

Neil Irving
Assistant Director Policy, Partnerships and Community
North Yorkshire County Council
12 February 2020

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SKIPTON AND RIPON AREA CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE****10AM ON 12 MARCH 2020****APPOINTMENT TO AN OUTSIDE BODY****Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)****1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To invite the Committee to note the appointment to two vacancies on the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Advisory Committee.

2.0 VACANCY

- 2.1 The County Council was informed in January 2020 by the Nidderdale AONB Manager that the two representatives of Parish Councils who will sit on the Joint Advisory committee have been selected. These are: Sue Welch, Chairman of Darley and Menwith Parish Council; and Chris Hawkesworth, Pateley Bridge Town Council.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the committee notes the appointments.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications.

6.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equalities implications.

Barry Khan
 Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)
 County Hall, Northallerton
 7 February 2020

Report Author: Daniel Harry

Background documents: None

Appendices:

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SKIPTON AND RIPON AREA CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE****10AM ON 12 MARCH 2020****COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME****Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)****1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 That Members review the Committee's work programme, taking into account the outcome of discussions on previous agenda items and any other developments taking place across the area.

2.0 WORK PROGRAMME

- 2.1 The Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 and Members are asked to consider, amend and add to the Committee's draft work programme, as required.

3.0 REMIT OF THE COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Area Constituency Committees:

- Act as a forum for Members to bring forward issues affecting their local Electoral Divisions
- Hear and respond to questions and statements from members of the public relating to anything affecting the community within the constituency area
- Agree a work programme which lists items of business which the Committee wishes to consider at future meetings
- Undertake meaningful scrutiny of local health issues within their constituency area, complementing the strategic work undertaken by the Scrutiny of Health Committee
- Undertake meaningful scrutiny of local transport issues within their constituency area, complementing the strategic work undertaken by Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Act as consultees in major decisions that affect their constituency area (including responding to consultations)
- Make recommendations on the application of Innovation funding (supported by the Stronger Communities Team)
- Develop a working relationship with the local MP, sharing updates and information on relevant local issues being addressed by the committee.

4.0 Scheduled committee dates

- 4.1 Forthcoming committee dates are:

- 10am on 28 May 2020 – venue TBC
- 10am on 3 September 2020 – venue TBC
- 10am on 17 December 2020 – venue TBC.

5.0 Recommendation

- 5.1 Members are asked to consider, amend and add to the Committee's draft work programme.

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11 February 2020

**Skipton and Ripon Area Constituency Committee
Work Programme 2020 – dated 24 February 2020**

2pm on 13 January 2020 in Ripon	
Annual Council Budget Review	Review the annual Council budget and make recommendations to Executive – Central Services, NYCC
Rural Crime Strategy	Rural Crime Strategy including wildlife crime – North Yorkshire Police
Castleberg Community Hospital, Giggleswick	Briefing from Lynne Scrutton from AWC CCG, colleagues from NHS Property Services and Airedale FT
Cycle Network	Current coverage of the cycle network in North Yorkshire and plans for its development and expansion – Business and Environment Services, NYCC
10am on 12 March 2020 – venue TBC	
Stronger Communities	Follow up to the meeting of the committee on 14 March 2019 - access to a range of alternative funding streams such as the National Lottery and why this seems lower in the area when compared to others – Stronger Communities, NYCC
Rural communities	Rural Commission – engagement in their review process – Central Services, NYCC (Overview briefing to be circulated to all members by Neil Irving/Daniel Harry – committee to consider how it engages with the commission.)
10am on 28 May 2020 – venue TBC	
Digital enabling sustainable rural communities	Review of what work is being done on digital connectivity to enable rural communities to thrive and grow – Technology and Change, NYCC
Community safety	Annual presentation on community safety and crime reduction in the ACC area – North Yorkshire Police
Tourism and economic development	Tourism and the promotion of local heritage and natural environment - Business and Environment Services, NYCC – Matt O'Neill, AD Growth, Planning and Trading Standards in NYCC BES

10am on 3 September 2020 – venue TBC	
Health services	Future plans for Ripon Hospital – link with the NYCC Scrutiny of Health Committee –North Yorkshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Committee discussion with local MP	TBC
Sustainable schools	Annual Report on school pressures in the area – Andrew Dixon – TBC
10am on 17 December 2020 – venue TBC	
Castleberg Community Hospital, Giggleswick	Final update from Lynne Scrutton from AWC CCG, colleagues from NHS Property Services and Airedale FT
One Public Estate	Gary Fielding and Jon Holden from North Yorkshire County Council to provide an update on the ‘one public estate’ approach in the committee area, with a particular focus upon the former Settle Middle school site
Sustainable schools	Annual Report on school pressures in the area – Andrew Dixon – TBC
January 2021 - TBC	
Annual Council Budget Review	Review the annual Council budget and make recommendations to Executive – Central Services, NYCC

Meeting venues

Meetings will move between Skipton, Pateley Bridge, Ripon and Settle. Where there is a local issue of particular concern to the committee, every effort will be made to hold the meeting in that area.

Notes

The work programme is under regular review and so the scheduling of items may change.

Daniel Harry

Democratic Services and Scrutiny Manager

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