



Agenda

Notice of a public meeting of

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

To: Councillors Barbara Brodigan (Chair), Heather Phillips (Vice-Chair), Alyson Baker, Stephanie Duckett, Nathan Hull, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Cliff Lunn, John Mann, Yvonne Peacock, Kirsty Poskitt, John Ritchie, Monika Slater, Tom Cavell-Taylor, Emma Higgins, David Sharp, Andrew Smith, David Watson and George Jabbour.

Date: Wednesday, 17th April, 2024

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: The Grand, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AD

PLEASE NOTE:

Members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting as observers for all those items taken in open session. Please contact the Senior Scrutiny Officer, whose details are below, if you would like to find out more.

This meeting is being held as an in-person meeting.

Recording is allowed at 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. Anyone wishing to record is asked to contact, prior to the start of the meeting, the Senior Scrutiny Officer. We ask that any recording is clearly visible to anyone at the meeting and that it is non-disruptive.

Business

7. Call in of the Executive Decision - Proposal to cease to maintain (Pages 3 - 8)

Enquiries relating to this agenda please contact Alice Fox, Senior Scrutiny Officer, alice.fox@northyorks.gov.uk
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Website: www.northyorks.gov.uk

**Fountains Earth, Lofthouse Church of England Endowed Primary
School**

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive
(Legal and Democratic Services)

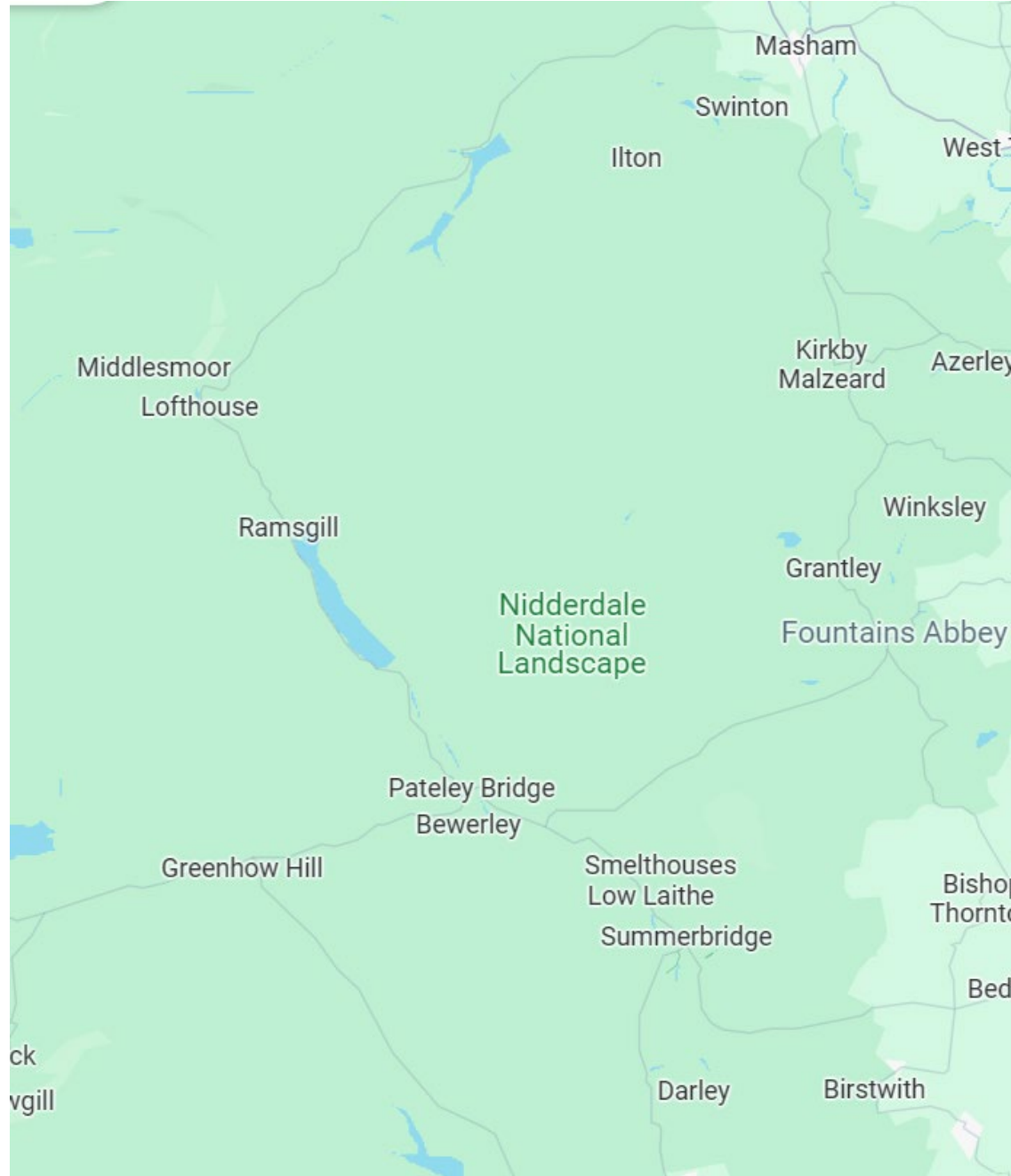
County Hall
Northallerton

Monday, 15 April 2024

Page 3

Fountains Earth School, Lofthouse





Timeline to closure

- Prior to 2021: Great satisfaction of the quality of the teaching
- Summer 2021: New executive head teacher appointed
- 2021-2022: Breakdown in communication, school activities ceased, hot school lunch ceased
- June 2022: Interim Ofsted inspection
- June 2022: Governors ask NYC to consider starting the process to close the school
- July 2022: Newly appointed federation deputy head based at Fountains Earth
- July 2022: Public meeting followed by withdrawal of application for closure without explanation

Timeline to closure

- July 2022-March 2023: Progressive deterioration of trust and communication between school and parents. Repeated request to meet were declined
- March 2023: Application to a vacancy on the federation's board of governors submitted, but after submission a deadline was set that excluded the application
- April 2023: Base teacher abruptly moved to another school in the federation, so back to supply teachers leaving year 6 pupils with no Sats booster sessions
- September 2023: All pupils removed by their parents so none left and consideration of school closure again requested by board of governors

Council executive decision 19/03/24

- No children currently on roll
- No highest preference applications to join the school in September 2024
- Executive resolved unanimously that NYC should cease to maintain the school

Fountains Earth School, Lofthouse

