QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, 18 March 2026

Summons, Agenda, Minutes and Reports

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend the Meeting of the Council. This meeting is being held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Northallerton on **Wednesday, 18 March 2026 at 10.30 am**, at which the following business will be transacted.

The meeting will be available to view once the meeting commences, via the following link - www.northyorks.gov.uk/livemeetings

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of the meetings held on 12 November 2025 and 13 February 2026 and the Extraordinary meeting held on 13 February 2026

To move that the Minutes of the meetings held on 12 November 2025 and 13 February 2026 and the extraordinary meeting held on 13 February 2026, having been printed and circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

(Pages 7 - 38)

2. Apologies for absence

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Chair's Announcements

Any correspondence, communication or other business brought forward by the direction of the Chair of the Council.

5. Statement by the Leader of the Council

(Pages 39 - 40)

6. 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 Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services – email: barry.khan@northyorks.gov.uk or in writing to Barry Khan, Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services, County Hall, Northallerton DL7 8AD by midday on Friday, 13 March 2026. Each speaker should limit themselves to 3 minutes on any item.

If you are exercising your right to speak at this meeting, but do not wish to be recorded,

please inform the Chair who will instruct anyone who may be taking a recording to cease while you speak.

7. Notice of Motion referred back to Council - The Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education regarding the SEND review

This motion:

Council notes that:

- In December 2024 the Government introduced the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, with an overall aim to better protect children and raise standards in education.
- The Government also announced £740 million in new funding to support SEND pupils and those needing alternative education within mainstream schools. Inclusion remains the overarching policy, so that our children and young people are educated together with their peers in their own community, where appropriate.
- The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system is under severe strain, with some families struggling to secure vital support for their children which is compounded by some schools and councils struggling to provide the necessary support.
- Children with SEND deserve the same opportunities as every child, including access to the support they need to thrive both in school and in life.
- Research commissioned by the Liberal Democrats has revealed that private equity–backed SEND providers are making over £100 million a year in profits, with some achieving margins of over 20%.
- Many of these companies are backed by firms registered in tax havens or foreign sovereign wealth funds.

Council believes that:

- Profiteering from the needs of children with SEND is unacceptable and must end.
- Children with SEND are not commodities for profit and should never be treated as such.
- Resources must be directed into improving provision and outcomes for children, not into shareholder dividends or inflated executive pay.
- North Yorkshire Council should be supported to provide sustainable, high-quality inclusive SEND provision within both their mainstream and specialist settings; including by building and operating their own schools to accommodate those with the most complex needs if necessary.

Council welcomes:

- Government action to curb profiteering in children's social care. Through the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, it has introduced powers to cap the profits of providers of illegal or exploitative children's homes, alongside enhancing financial transparency and greater enforcement by Ofsted.
- The Government review of the SEND and Alternative Provision system which is due to be published in the Autumn.
- The proactive work of hard-working officers in North Yorkshire Council to improve our SEND services.

Council resolves to:

- Call on the Government to eradicate the profits of private SEND providers, including sanctions against providers who breach this, with any profits returned to local authorities.
- Support further reforms to boost the SEND system, including strong financial oversight of providers, transparency, and new powers and funding for councils to

build and manage local mainstream and specialist provision directly.

- Endorse the principle that Government SEND reforms must put children first—not corporate greed.
- Request the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education to ask that the SEND review consider action in line with the above.

This motion was referred from the Council meeting on 12 November 2025 to Scrutiny Board and then to Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17 December 2025.

(Pages 41 - 44)

8. To consider the report and recommendations of the Executive and make decisions on them

(Pages 45 - 50)

9. To consider the Consultation Results of the First Phase of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review and Approve Proposals for Stage 2 from Standards and Governance Committee

(Pages 51 - 394)

10. Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

(Pages 395 - 396)

11. Appointments to Committees according to political proportionality

(Pages 397 - 402)

12. Statements of Executive Members and Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

Executive Members

12(a) Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing - Councillor Simon Myers

(Pages 403 - 406)

12(b) Executive Member for Children and Families - Councillor Janet Sanderson

(Pages 407 - 408)

12(c) Executive Member for Managing our Environment - Councillor Richard Foster

(Pages 409 - 412)

12(d) Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills - Councillor Annabel Wilkinson

(Pages 413 - 414)

12(e) Executive Member for Finance and Assets - Councillor Gareth Dadd

(Pages 415 - 416)

12(f) Executive Member for Open to Business - Councillor Mark Crane

(Pages 417 - 420)

12(g) Executive Member for Corporate Services - Councillor Heather Phillips

(Pages 421 - 426)

12(h) Executive Member for Highways and Transportation - Councillor Malcolm Taylor

(Pages 427 - 432)

12(i) Executive Member for Health and Adult Services - Councillor Michael Harrison

(Pages 433 - 434)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chairs

12(j) Scrutiny Board (Chair: Councillor Karin Sedgwick)

(Pages 435 - 436)

12(k) Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Andrew Williams)

(Pages 437 - 438)

12(l) Scrutiny of Health (Chair: Councillor Andrew Lee)

(Pages 439 - 440)

12(m) Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor David Staveley)

(Pages 441 - 444)

12(n) Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Barbara Brodigan)

(Pages 445 - 446)

12(o) Housing and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Steve Shaw-Wright)

(Pages 447 - 450)

12(p) Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Barbara Brodigan)

(Pages 451 - 452)

13. Use of special urgency procedures since the last meeting of Council - Report of the Leader

(Pages 453 - 456)

14. Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

RICHARD FLINTON
Chief Executive Officer

BARRY KHAN
Assistant Chief Executive
Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall,
NORTHALLERTON

Tuesday, 10 March 2026

North Yorkshire Council

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12 November 2025 commencing at 10.30 am.

Councillor George Jabbour in the Chair. Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Philip Barrett, Derek Bastiman, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Andy Brown, Nick Brown, Lindsay Burr MBE, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Stephanie Duckett, Keane Duncan, Kevin Foster, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Paul Haslam, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Peter Lacey, Carl Les OBE, John Mann, Steve Mason, Rich Maw, John McCartney, Heather Moorhouse, Andrew Murday, Simon Myers, David Noland, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Mike Schofield, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Dan Sladden, Monika Slater, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Andrew Timothy, Matt Walker, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

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225 Minutes of the meeting held on 16 July 2025

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting of the Council held on 16 July 2025 having been printed and circulated, are confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

The vote was taken and the motion declared carried.

226 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Cattanach, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Andrew Lee, Cliff Lunn, Clive Pearson and Phil Trumper.

227 Declarations of Interest

The Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services referred to Minute 236 – Report and Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) for Member Allowances 2026-27. He advised that the law provided that members could vote on the recommendations of the IRP and all members could remain in the meeting room and take part in the item.

Declarations of interest were made as follows:

Councillor George Jabbour at Minute 242 as he was a Non-Executive Director of Border to Coast Pensions Partnership.

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Councillor Yvonne Peacock at Minute 231(3) as she was a private hire driver. As this was a disclosable pecuniary interest she left the meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillor Gareth Dadd in relation to the second homes premium, for which he had been granted a dispensation enabling him to take part.

Councillor Karl Arthur at Minute 248(i) in relation to the Transforming Cities Fund as he worked for Network Rail.

Councillor John Weighell at Minute 235 in relation to the Maltkiln Development Plan Document.

Councillor Nick Brown at Minute 235 in relation to the Maltkiln Development Plan Document.

228 Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed the Honorary Aldermen and members of the public and press who were present.

The Chair also welcomed Councillor Andrew Semple, Chair of Cumberland Council, and Councillor Doug Rathbone, Chair of Westmorland and Furness Council, as together with North Yorkshire Council were the three local authorities through which the Coast to Coast long distance footpath ran. The three Chairs has agreed to meet to champion the Coast to Coast path ahead of it becoming a national trail next year and welcomed the opportunity to promote local economies.

The Chair informed Members of the usual arrangements for the meeting.

The death of former North Yorkshire County Councillor and Selby District Councillor, John Duggan, was noted. Cllr Duggan had also served as Chair of Selby District Council.

The death of former North Yorkshire County Councillor David Lloyd-Williams was also noted. Cllr Lloyd-Williams had also served as Mayor of Malton and Mayor of Norton.

The Chair also noted the death of former Selby District Councillor Judith Chilvers who had served on Selby District Council for 8 years and was also a co-opted member of the North Yorkshire County Council Scrutiny of Health Committee.

The Chair also informed members of the death of former Richmondshire District Councillor Campbell Dawson.

A minutes silence was held in memory of former Councillors John Duggan, David Lloyd-Williams, Judith Chilvers and Campbell Dawson.

The Chair noted that all Members had been given a copy of the Armed Forces Covenant Guide 2025/26 which would assist in understanding how to support armed forces communities and veterans.

The Chair thanked Members for supporting him during his Coast to Coast walk in August to raise funds for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance, and Members' continued generous donations were appreciated.

229 Statement by the Leader of the Council

The Leader, Councillor Carl Les OBE, made a statement and answered questions under

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Council Procedure Rule 2.3 as Leader of the Council, a summary of the key points of which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 21 to 23 of the agenda pack and in the Minute Book at pages 3745 to 3747.

230 Public Questions or Statements

There was one public statement, as follows:

1. The following public statement was read out by Richard Cooper, Chief Executive of Harrogate Homeless project

My name is Richard Cooper and I am the Chief Executive of Harrogate Homeless Project.

Thank you for allowing me to speak to you and I do so to support the North Yorkshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025 to 2030.

Our charity was founded in 1991 and has grown into an organisation at the forefront of homelessness support in North Yorkshire. We provide over 40 rooms in accommodation across Harrogate which help us provide a journey for our clients from a life on the streets to independent living. The people we support often have chaotic lives characterised by drug and alcohol addiction, crime, poor mental and physical health, relationship breakdown, unemployment and more.

Our support is not just residential. At our Springboard day centre in Harrogate alongside hot, nutritious food we partner with health professionals to provide a weekly GP, Hepatitis testing, smoking cessation session and much more alongside a series of activities to help our clients develop healthy lifestyles and speed their path to full recovery, accommodation and work.

One of our closest working relationship is with the housing team at North Yorkshire Council and I commend you and your officers for the impressive emphasis you place on supporting entrenched rough sleepers and the homeless.

To me, the new Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy is further evidence of the council's commitment to support the least fortunate and most marginalised.

The document merits a lengthier introduction than I am able to give and I am sure the executive member and officers will do this much more adequately than I am able to.

Nonetheless I would like to highlight some key aspects of the strategy which I believe can contribute to a step change in how we help rough sleepers recover from those issues.

The key area to my mind that the strategy addresses is homelessness prevention including making homelessness a once-only occurrence – preventing it happening twice if you like.

This recognises that giving a rough sleeper a property without addressing the issues that put them on the streets in the first place is unlikely to result in a positive outcome. To do so simply sets someone up to fail.

I spoke earlier of the mental and physical health issues our clients face, of the addiction battles, of family breakdown and of unemployment. Getting someone into a house doesn't solve these problems. And I guarantee you, in nine cases out of 10 you will see that person in crisis again within weeks.

The strategy recognises this and through its actions around what is called 'multiple disadvantage' and the wrap around model the council is implementing with it's Make Every Adult Matter work – or MEAM as it is called – these issues stand a fighting chance of being

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addressed.

There are other elements of the strategy that I would briefly like to highlight in the time I have available. Working with probation to ensure that people leaving prison don't go straight onto the streets is critical. How do we expect people to reintegrate into society and not to re-offend if the life we give them outside prison is a shop doorway and a sleeping bag?

Expanding the successful REACH model with its emphasis on mental health support is welcomed. We don't have this kind of support in Harrogate, yet over 90 per cent of our residential clients have diagnosed mental health issues.

To close, Chair, at Harrogate Homeless Project we have aligned our priorities with yours so that we can deliver support for rough sleepers and homeless people together. Our partnership with the council officers and with councillors from all sides of this august chamber delivers better outcomes for the most marginalised in society.

This strategy will strengthen our approach and we, at Harrogate Homeless Project, offer our full support in implementing it should council be minded to approve it.

The Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing, Councillor Simon Myers, thanked Mr Cooper for the support and thanked the Harrogate Homeless Project for its work in addressing these complex issues.

231 Notices of Motion

The Chair informed Members that there were four notices of motion on the agenda. The Chair was required to give a ruling on whether motions should be debated at the meeting or referred to the Scrutiny Board to determine which committee was the most appropriate to consider the matter.

1) Taxi licensing – that the motion be debated at the meeting
2) Supporting Area Committee decision making – that the motion be referred to the Scrutiny Board
3) Restore the Policy Implementation Review Timeline for School Transport – that the motion be debated at the meeting
4) The Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education regarding the SEND review – that the motion be referred to the Scrutiny Board

The Chair reminded Members that when considering notices of motion where a motion had been referred to the Scrutiny Board by the Chair the mover of that motion could move 'that the motion be considered now' and a vote taken. The mover of the notice of motion could speak for five minutes on that motion, the seconder should second without comment, and one Member could speak for five minutes against.

231(1) Taxi Licensing

This council urges the government to amend primary legislation to ensure that licences to operate and drive private hire vehicles and hackney carriages (otherwise known as taxis) are only granted to persons who live or work within that local government area.

This council urges the government to amend primary legislation to ensure that licences to operate or drive such vehicles are only granted to persons living or working within that local government area. Currently we are vulnerable to operators and drivers operating with North Yorkshire who may not have been authorised as proscriptively as our own.

Proposer – Councillor Mark Crane
Seconder – Councillor Tim Grogan

The notice of motion was moved by Councillor Mark Crane and seconded by Councillor Tim Grogan.

The motion was then debated.

On a vote being taken 71 Members voted for the motion, 10 voted against and there were 2 abstentions.

(Councillor Yvonne Peacock left the room during consideration of the item.)

231(2) Supporting Area Committee decision making

Council acknowledges the commitment made in advance of assuming Unitary status to being the most local large unitary Authority. Council further recognises the means by which such localism is being pursued including double devolution and the development of community partnerships. However, in a recent officer review of delegated powers by Area Committees a number of these powers were not being regularly exercised. Council recognises that it is for Area Committees to determine their own work programme but equally that delegated powers should and could be better facilitated and enabled by changes in the way that Council business is run.

Council therefore commits:

1. To ensure that the data and intelligence necessary for Area Committees to exercise their powers is aligned to the new Divisions expected to be finalised in January 2027 and therefore no longer reflects former District and Borough boundaries wherever possible and by September 2026 at the latest.
2. To put in a place a robust process to enable Area Committees to exercise delegated power 20 to “make recommendations to the Corporate Director of Community Development on the expenditure of Community Infrastructure Levy and appropriate section 106 expenditure”.
3. To develop a list of services likely to be more effectively delivered by Town and Parish Councils and/or in partnership with local community and voluntary groups and that, subject to business cases, there would be a presumption for double devolution for these services.
4. To ensure that once County-wide policies are agreed, and where there is a commitment to locally sensitive implementation, that Area Committees are provided with the necessary officer support to develop and sign off plans, for example in the cases of Town Investment Plans or Local Parking Plans, consistent with delegated powers 17-19, 21 & 22 concerned local economic development.
5. To undertake the equivalent of a post implementation review of activities designed to promote localism that identifies the most up to date best practice in local governance arrangements in similar large Unitary Authorities and learn from this by bringing a report and recommendations back to the appropriate decision-making body including any recommendations on the extent, effectiveness and realisation of delegated powers in the NYC Constitution.

Proposer - Councillor Peter Lacey
Seconder - Councillor Kirsty Poskitt

The motion was moved and seconded and referred to the Scrutiny Board to determine the most appropriate overview and scrutiny committee.

231(3) Restore the Policy Implementation Review Timeline for School Transport

When councillors approved the Home to School Transport Policy in July 2024, we were promised that a Post-Implementation Review would take place in July 2025 as a key equality safeguard to monitor the impact on rural families.

The Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee has since been told the review will not begin until 2026, meaning no changes could be made before September 2028 at the earliest. Since coming into force fourteen months ago, the impact on children, families and schools has become clear and the problems are consuming increasing Council time and resources through appeals and complaints.

Council therefore resolves to:

Reverse the decision to delay the Post-Implementation Review so it is completed, consulted on, and reported to Full Council for approval in July 2026 — allowing improvements to be implemented in time for children starting new schools in September 2027.

Proposer - Councillor Barbara Brodigan
Seconder - Councillor Chris Aldred

The notice of motion was moved by Councillor Barbara Brodigan and seconded by Councillor Chris Aldred.

Councillor Barbara Brodigan then moved an amendment to the motion under CPR 12(g) that the motion be amended to read:

When councillors approved the Home to School Transport Policy in July 2024, ~~we were promised~~ ***the published papers indicated*** that a Post-Implementation Review would take place in July 2025 as a key equality safeguard to monitor the impact on rural families.

The Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee has since been told the review will not begin until 2026, meaning no changes could be made before September 2028 at the earliest. Since coming into force fourteen months ago, the impact on children, families and schools has become clear and the problems are consuming increasing Council time and resources through appeals and complaints.

Council therefore resolves to:

Reverse the decision to delay the Post-Implementation Review so it is completed, consulted on, and reported to Full Council for approval in July 2026 — allowing improvements to be implemented in time for children starting new schools in September 2027.

Proposer - Councillor Barbara Brodigan
Seconder - Councillor Chris Aldred

(Additional wording in italics)

It was moved by Councillor Nigel Knapton and seconded by Councillor Andy Paraskos that the question be now put and Council move to the vote.

On a vote being taken on moving to the vote on the motion, 41 members voted for the motion, 32 voted against and there were 8 abstentions.

The mover of the amendment, Councillor Barbara Brodigan then exercised her right to reply at the close of the debate on the amendment and moved that a named vote be taken. At least 20 Members stood in their places in support of a named vote on the amendment.

On a vote being taken 30 Members voted for the motion, 40 voted against and there were 11 abstentions.

For: Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Philip Barrett, Philip Broadbank, Barbara Brodigan, Andy Brown, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Kevin Foster, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Paul Haslam, Janet Jefferson, Mike Jordan, Peter Lacey, Steve Mason, Rich Maw, John McCartney, Andrew Murday, David Noland, Stuart Parsons, Kirsty Poskitt, Mike Schofield, Tom Seston, Monika Slater, Andy Solloway, Andrew Timothy, Matt Walker and Arnold Warneken.

Against: Councillors Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Nick Brown, David Chance, Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Tom Jones, Nigel Knapton, Carl Les OBE, John Mann, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Andy Paraskos, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, David Staveley, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson and Andrew Williams.

Abstentions: Councillors Eric Broadbent, Liz Colling, Melanie Davis, Stephanie Duckett, Bob Packham, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Neil Swannick and Robert Windass.

The original notice of motion was then debated.

On a vote being taken on the original motion 40 members voted for the motion, 28 voted against and there were 12 abstentions.

(Councillor Robert Windass arrived at the meeting part way through consideration of the item.)

(Councillor Yvonne Peacock left the room during consideration of the item.)

231(4) The Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education regarding the SEND review

Council notes that:

- In December 2024 the Government introduced the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, with an overall aim to better protect children and raise standards in education.
- The Government also announced £740 million in new funding to support SEND pupils and those needing alternative education within mainstream schools. Inclusion remains the overarching policy, so that our children and young people are educated together with their peers in their own community, where appropriate.
- The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system is under severe strain, with some families struggling to secure vital support for their children which is compounded by some schools and councils struggling to provide the necessary support.
- Children with SEND deserve the same opportunities as every child, including access to the support they need to thrive both in school and in life.
- Research commissioned by the Liberal Democrats has revealed that private equity–backed SEND providers are making over £100 million a year in profits, with some achieving margins of over 20%.
- Many of these companies are backed by firms registered in tax havens or foreign sovereign wealth funds.

Council believes that:

- Profiteering from the needs of children with SEND is unacceptable and must end.
- Children with SEND are not commodities for profit and should never be treated as such.
- Resources must be directed into improving provision and outcomes for children, not into shareholder dividends or inflated executive pay.
- North Yorkshire Council should be supported to provide sustainable, high-quality inclusive SEND provision within both their mainstream and specialist settings; including by building and operating their own schools to accommodate those with the most complex needs if necessary.

Council welcomes:

- Government action to curb profiteering in children's social care. Through the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, it has introduced powers to cap the profits of providers of illegal or exploitative children's homes, alongside enhancing financial transparency and greater enforcement by Ofsted.
- The Government review of the SEND and Alternative Provision system which is due to be published in the Autumn.
- The proactive work of hard-working officers in North Yorkshire Council to improve our SEND services.

Council resolves to:

- Call on the Government to eradicate the profits of private SEND providers, including sanctions against providers who breach this, with any profits returned to local authorities.
- Support further reforms to boost the SEND system, including strong financial oversight of providers, transparency, and new powers and funding for councils to build and manage local mainstream and specialist provision directly.
- Endorse the principle that Government SEND reforms must put children first—not corporate greed.
- Request the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education to ask that the SEND review consider action in line with the above.

Proposer - Councillor Barbara Brodigan
Seconder - Councillor Andrew Timothy

The motion was moved and seconded and referred to the Scrutiny Board to determine the most appropriate overview and scrutiny committee.

232 Notice of Motion - Prostate Cancer Awareness and Screening

Council were requested to consider the recommendation of the Scrutiny of Health Committee following consideration of a Notice of Motion which had been referred from the Council meeting on 16 July 2025 to the Scrutiny Board and then the Scrutiny of Health Committee.

The motion stated:

This Council, recognising that prostate cancer can develop without obvious symptoms, will write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Wes Streeting, seeking a reassurance that a national testing scheme will be made available to men aged 40 + and those men with a family history of breast, ovarian and prostate cancer as a priority supporting Prostate cancer UK's "Faster Fairer Better campaign"

Proposer – Councillor Andrew Murday

Seconder – Councillor Andrew Timothy

The recommendations of the Scrutiny of Health Committee were set out in the report of that Committee at page 27 of the agenda and were that:

That Council considers the following amended Notice of Motion, as recommended by the Scrutiny of Health Committee:

a) "This Council will write to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Wes Streeting, asking that the National Screening Committee undertake its evidence review, which was scheduled for 2023/24, in as timely manner as possible."

b) "This Council will continue to promote awareness of prostate cancer symptoms through its existing Public Health initiatives, and that Public Health investigate displaying material across council-operated buildings."

The motion was moved by Councillor Liz Colling and seconded by Councillor Steve Shaw-Wright.

The mover of the original Notice of Motion, Councillor Andrew Murday, then spoke in support of the recommendations of the Scrutiny of Health Committee.

On a vote being taken the notice of motion, as amended by the Scrutiny of Health Committee, was unanimously approved.

233 Notice of Motion - Support for Dualling of the A64

Council were requested to consider the recommendation of the Transport, Economy and Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee following consideration of a Notice of Motion which had been referred from the Council meeting on 16 July 2025 to the Scrutiny Board and then the Transport, Economy and Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The motion stated:

This council:

- Reiterates its support for the dualling of the A64;
- Agrees to write to the Mayor of York & North Yorkshire and the Members of Parliament for York Outer, Thirsk & Malton and Scarborough & Whitby requesting confirmation of their support for this essential upgrade;
- Commits to working on a cross-party basis with national and local political representatives to secure this essential upgrade at long last.

Proposer – Councillor Keane Duncan
Seconder – Councillor Derek Bastiman

The recommendations of the Transport, Economy and Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee were set out in the report of that Committee at page 31 of the agenda and were that:

That full Council considers the recommendation of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee, namely to uphold the Motion as written (see 2.3) regarding A64 dualling.

This council:

- Reiterates its support for the dualling of the A64;

- Agrees to write to the Mayor of York & North Yorkshire and the Members of Parliament for York Outer, Thirsk & Malton and Scarborough & Whitby requesting confirmation of their support for this essential upgrade;
- Commits to working on a cross-party basis with national and local political representatives to secure this essential upgrade at long last.

The motion was moved by Councillor David Staveley and seconded by Councillor David Ireton.

The mover of the original Notice of Motion, Councillor Keane Duncan, then spoke in support of the recommendations of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

On a vote being taken 72 Members voted for the motion, 2 voted against and there were six abstentions. The notice of motion was declared approved.

(Councillor Lindsay Burr left the room during consideration of this item)

234 To consider the report and recommendations of the Executive and make decisions on them

The Executive had recommended five matters to Council for a decision, which were:

- To consider adoption of the New Settlement (Maltkiln) Development Plan Document
- Report and Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Member allowances for 2026/27
- Amendments to the Council's Constitution
- Neighbourhood Planning – Making the Clapham cum Newby Neighbourhood Development Plan
- Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025 to 2030

The decisions were considered as separate items at minutes 235, 236, 237, 239 and 240 respectively.

235 To consider adoption of the New Settlement (Maltkiln) Development Plan Document

The recommendations at page 49 of the agenda pack (page 3773 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

On a vote being taken 74 members voted for the motion, 6 voted against and there were no abstentions.

Resolved

That the Council

1) adopts the New Settlement (Maltkiln) DPD and accompanying Policy Map, incorporating the Inspector's recommended Main Modifications and Council's Additional Modifications.

2) approves that the Corporate Director of Community Development in consultation with the Executive Member for Open to Business, be authorised to make further additional modifications to the DPD. Those modifications may relate exclusively to

factual updates, grammatical and formatting corrections.

3) approves that that the Corporate Director of Community Development, in consultation with the Executive Member for Open to Business, be authorised to publicise the adoption of the DPD and to prepare and publicise a post adoption Sustainability Appraisal Statement in accordance with the relevant Regulations.

236 Report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Member Allowances for 2026-27

The recommendations at page 585 of the agenda pack (page 4309 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor Kevin Foster and seconded by Councillor Arnold Warneken:

> While accepting the Panel's recommendation for an increase in the basic allowance of 3.6%, Council does not accept the proposed increases to special responsibility allowances at this time.
>
> This decision is made with no criticism of the Panel or its findings, but in recognition that we are living through challenging financial times, and it is right that councillors share in the restraint being asked of the residents of North Yorkshire.
>
> Accordingly, Council resolves to:
>
> 1. Approve the 3.6% increase to the basic councillor allowance; and
> 2. Reject the proposed increases to special responsibility allowances for the next financial year.

A vote was taken on the amendment, 11 members voted for, 64 voted against and there were 5 abstentions. The amendment therefore fell.

On a vote being taken on the substantive motion 62 members voted for the motion, 8 voted against and there were 10 abstentions.

Resolved

1) That the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Member Allowances be accepted, as below:

i. The Basic Allowance paid to each councillor should increase by 3.6% (June 2025 CPI) from the existing £17,340 to £17,964 for 2026/27.
ii. The Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) paid to those councillors who take on additional duties and responsibilities should increase by 3.6% (June 2025 CPI) for 2026/27.
iii. The SRA paid to the Chair and members of the Licensing Sub-Committees should be amended so that the maximum amount payable for meeting attendance is increased from £750 to £1000 per person per annum.
iv. For the sake of clarity, the eligibility threshold for payments to leaders and secretaries of the third largest political group should be increased from 7 to 9 members (in line with the 10% threshold).
v. The mileage rates paid to councillors should continue to be aligned with the rates paid to officers.
vi. The subsistence rates paid to councillors should be amended so that they are aligned with those paid to officers

2) That the Independent Remuneration Panel be asked to consider, when next convening in June 2026, that from 2027-28 any future increases in the allowances be aligned to inflation indices or the pay award for officers of the Council, with an in-depth review of the member allowances scheme undertaken every four years.

237 Proposed Changes to the Council's Constitution

The recommendations at page 634 and 635 of the agenda pack (pages 4358 to 4359 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

A separate vote was requested on recommendation (e) in relation to impact assessments on motions on notice. On a vote being taken on recommendation (e) there were 69 votes for the motion, 12 against and there was one abstention, the motion was therefore carried.

On a vote being taken on the remainder of the recommendations the motion was declared carried unanimously.

Resolved

That Council note and approve proposed changes to the Constitution as recommended to Council by Executive:

(a) The amendments to the Constitution set out in Part B of Appendix 1 to this report, made by the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services under his delegated powers, for reporting back to full Council for information, be noted;

(b) The proposed amendments to the petitions scheme set out at Appendix 2 approved by the Executive be noted;

(c) The Leader delegates to the Executive Member for Highways and Transportation in consultation with the local Member, the power to make decisions on the Council's response to petitions under the Council's Parking Petitions Scheme and the consequential amendments to the Executive Members' Delegation Scheme as set out at Appendix 3A be recommended to full Council for inclusion in the Constitution;

(d) The proposed amendments to the parking restrictions petitions scheme set out at Appendix 3 approved by the Executive be noted;

(e) The proposed amendments to Council Procedure Rule 11 as set out in Appendix 4 be approved;

(f) The schedule of proposed amendments to the Constitution to clarify notice requirements as set out in Appendix 4A be approved;

(g) The proposed amendments to the Council Procedure Rules as set out in Appendix 5 be approved;

(h) The draft Protocol re calling an extraordinary meeting attached at Appendix 6 be approved (not to form part of the Constitution);

(i) The proposed amendments to the Protocol on Audio/Visual Recording and Photography at Meetings attached at Appendix 7 be approved;

(j) The proposed amendments to Article 14 and the Officers' Delegation Scheme as set out in Appendix 9 be approved;

(k) The proposed amendments to the Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules set

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out at Appendix 10 be approved.

238 Final Recommendations of the Kirby Grindalythe and Duggleby Parish Community Governance Review

The recommendations at page 730 of the agenda pack (page 4454 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

A vote was taken and the motion was declared carried unanimously.

Resolved – that

(a) The dissolving of Kirby Grindalythe and Duggleby Parish Council and replacing it with two parish meetings named Kirby Grindalythe Parish Meeting and Duggleby Parish Meeting, to take effect in April 2026, be approved

(b) The external boundary of Luttons parish be amended to include the properties in Sheepwalk Lane (6) within Luttons parish which currently fall within Kirby Grindalythe and Duggleby Parish Council (and will form part of the Kirby Grindalythe Parish Meeting area from April 2026) to take affect from April 2027.

(c) The Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services be appointed to act on behalf of North Yorkshire Council as Parish Trustee of the new parish meetings of both (1) Kirby Grindalythe and (2) Duggleby with the Chairperson of those parish meetings (as and when appointed); and

(d) That the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make Reorganisation of Community Governance Orders as appropriate.

239 Making/Adopting of the Clapham cum Newby Neighbourhood Plan

The recommendations at page 762 of the agenda pack (page 4486 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

A vote was taken and the motion was declared carried unanimously.

Resolved

(a) That the Clapham cum Newby Neighbourhood Plan be made on or before 13 November 2025

(b) That the Regulation 19 Decision Statement set out at Appendix A to the report be approved

At 12.30 pm the Chair adjourned the meeting for lunch.

The meeting was reconvened at 1.15 pm

240 Homeless and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030

The recommendation at page 778 of the agenda pack (page 4502 of the Minute Book) was

moved and seconded.

On a vote being taken the motion was declared carried unanimously.

Resolved

That Council adopts the North Yorkshire Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2025-2030.

241 To consider the Annual Report and recommendations of the Audit Committee

The Annual Report of the Audit Committee as set out Appendix A was considered. The recommendation on page 821 of the agenda pack (page 4545 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded.

As Council were asked to note the report no vote was taken.

242 To consider the Annual Report and recommendations of the Pension Board

The Annual Report of the Pension Board was considered. The recommendations at page 833 of the agenda pack (page 4557 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

A vote was taken and the motion was declared carried unanimously.

Resolved

The Annual Report of the Pension Board 2024/25 be approved.

243 To approve the Corporate Calendar 2026/2027

The Corporate Calendar of committee meetings for 2026/27 was considered. The recommendation on page 874 (page 4598 of the Minute Book) was that Council note the dates and times of committee meetings for 2026/27 as set out at Appendix A and this was moved and seconded.

As Council were asked to note the report no vote was taken.

244 Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

The recommendations at page 897 of the agenda pack (page 4622 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

Resolved

(a) ***Police, Fire and Crime Panel***
Councillor Lindsay Burr MBE to come off the committee and Councillor Kevin Foster to be appointed

(b) ***Appeals (Home to School) Transport Committee***
That Councillors Derek Bastiman, David Jeffels and Andy Paraskos be appointed as named substitutes on the committee

(c) ***Employment Appeals Committee***
Councillor Malcolm Taylor to come off the committee and Councillor Alyson Baker to

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be appointed in his place

(d) ***North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority***
Councillor Joy Andrews to come off the National Park Authority and Councillor Steve Mason to be appointed in her place

(e) ***Health and Wellbeing Board***
To note that the Chief Executive is to step down as a 'Local Authority Representative'

(f) ***Audit Committee***
Councillor Kevin Foster to stand down and Councillor Andy Brown to be appointed in his place.

(g) ***Pension Fund Committee***
Councillor George Jabbour to stand down and Councillor Alyson Baker to be appointed in his place.

245 Appointments to committee according to political proportionality

The recommendations at page 901 of the agenda pack (page 4625 of the Minute Book) and also the updated paper in relation to the proportionality calculation circulated subsequently were moved and seconded.

On a vote being taken the motion was declared carried unanimously.

Resolved

(a) ***Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committe***e
Councillor Karl Arthur to come off and Councillor David Jeffels to be appointed to the Conservative and Independents' seat

Councillor Mike Jordan to be appointed to the seat Reform UK have gained from the unaffiliated independents which was previously vacant.

(b) ***Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee***
Councillor Karl Arthur to come off and Councillor David Chance to be appointed to the Conservative and Independents' seat

Councillor Karl Arthur to be appointed to the seat Reform UK have gained from the unaffiliated independents which was previously vacant.

(c) ***Housing and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee***
Councillor Karl Arthur to come off and Councillor Roberta Swiers to be appointed to the Conservative and Independents' seat

(d) ***Selby and Ainsty Area Planning Committee***
Councillor Karl Arthur be appointed to the seat Reform UK have gained from the Conservative and Independent group, resulting in no change to the committee membership

246 Appointment of Corporate Director - Children and Young People Service

Council were asked to note the appointment of El Mayhew as the new Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Service.

247 Statements of Executive Members and Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees

The written statements of the Executive Members and Chairmen of the Scrutiny Board and Overview and Scrutiny Committees having previously been circulated were noted.

247(a) Executive Member for Health and Adult Services - Councillor Michael Harrison

Councillor Michael Harrison, Executive Member for Health and Adult Services, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 909 to 910 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4633 to 4634).

247(b) Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing - Councillor Simon Myers

Councillor Simon Myers, Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 911 to 916 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4635 to 4639).

247(c) Executive Member for Children and Families - Councillor Janet Sanderson

Councillor Janet Sanderson, Executive Member for Children and Families, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 917 to 918 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4641 to 4642).

247(d) Executive Member for Managing our Environment - Councillor Richard Foster

Councillor Richard Foster, Executive Member for Managing our Environment, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 919 to 922 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4643 to 4645).

247(e) Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills - Councillor Annabel Wilkinson

Councillor Annabel Wilkinson, Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 923 to 924 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4647 to 4648).

247(f) Executive Member for Finance and Assets - Councillor Gareth Dadd

Councillor Gareth Dadd, Executive Member for Finance and Assets, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 925 to 928 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4649 to 4651).

247(g) Executive Member for Open to Business - Councillor Mark Crane

Councillor Mark Crane, Executive Member for Open to Business, made a statement and

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answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 929 to 932 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4653 to 4656).

247(h) Executive Member for Corporate Services - Councillor Heather Phillips

Councillor Heather Phillips, Executive Member for Corporate Services, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 933 to 938 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4657 to 4661).

247(i) Executive Member for Highways and Transportation - Councillor Malcolm Taylor

Councillor Malcolm Taylor, Executive Member for Highways and Transportation, made a statement and answered questions. A summary of the key points which had previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 939 to 946 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4663 to 4669).

247(j) Scrutiny Board (Chair: Councillor Karin Sedgwick)

The written statement of Councillor Karin Sedgwick having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 947 to 948 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4671 to 4672), was noted.

247(k) Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Karin Sedgwick)

The written statement of Councillor Karin Sedgwick having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 949 to 950 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4673 to 4674), was noted.

247(l) Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Andrew Williams)

The written statement of Councillor Andrew Williams having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 951 to 952 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4675 to 4676), was noted.

247(m) Scrutiny of Health (Chair: Councillor Andrew Lee)

The written statement of Councillor Andrew Lee having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 953 to 954 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4677 to 4678), was noted.

247(n) Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor David Staveley)

The written statement of Councillor Andrew Staveley having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 955 to 958 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4679 to 4681), was noted.

247(o) Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Barbara Brodigan)

The written statement of Councillor Barbara Brodigan having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 959 to 960 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4683 to 4684), was noted.

247(p) Housing and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Chair: Councillor Sam Gibbs)

The written statement of Councillor Sam Gibbs having previously been circulated and which appeared at pages 961 to 962 of the agenda pack and which appears in the Minute Book (pages 4685 to 4686), was noted.

248 Use of special urgency procedures since the last meeting of Council - Report of the Leader

The report on the Use of Special Urgency Procedures since the meeting of the Council on 16 July 2025 was considered and the recommendation at page 966 of the agenda pack (page 4690 of the Minute Book) was moved and seconded.

Resolved

That Council receives and notes the report.

249 Council Procedure Rule 10 Questions

Councillor Andrew Murday asked a question in relation to arrangements for reporting back to Council on meetings of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The meeting concluded at 2.45 pm.

North Yorkshire Council

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 13 February 2026 commencing at 10.30 am.

Councillor George Jabbour in the Chair plus Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Andy Brown, Nick Brown, Lindsay Burr MBE, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Keane Duncan, Kevin Foster, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Peter Lacey, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, Steve Mason, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Mike Schofield, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Dan Sladden, Monika Slater, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Andrew Timothy, Phil Trumper, Matt Walker, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

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250 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Philip Barrett, John Cattanach, Stephanie Duckett, Paul Haslam, Andrew Lee, John Mann, Rich Maw, John McCartney, Andrew Murday and David Noland.

251 Declarations of Interest

The Monitoring Officer advised that the Standards and Governance Committee had granted dispensations in relation to Minute Items 253 and 254:

i. to those councillors who served as trustees or were involved in other ways in the North Yorkshire Citizens Advice and Law Centre; and
ii. to those councillors who were involved in an unpaid capacity in any other organisation directly impacted by the proposals in the council's Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Declarations of interest were made as follows in relation to Minute Items 253 and 254:

Councillor George Jabbour as he was a Non-Executive Director of Border to Coast Pensions Partnership.

Councillors David Chance, Melanie Davis, Caroline Goodrick, Carl Les and John Ritchie since all served as trustees on North Yorkshire Citizens Advice and Law Centre.

Councillor Nathan Hull as his wife was an employee of North Yorkshire Council in Children and Young People's Services.

Councillor Jack Proud in respect of the Housing Revenue Account budget 2026/27 since he was a council tenant.

Councillor Michael Harrison since his employer was referred to in the Treasury Management Strategy. He remained in the meeting for the item as he had previously been granted a dispensation.

Councillor Gareth Dadd since he was a director of a company with holiday lets. He remained in the meeting for the item as he had previously been granted a dispensation.

Councillor Mike Jordan since he was a member of Selby Internal Drainage Board, Danvm Internal Drainage Board and Vice-Chair of Trans Pennine Trail.

Councillor Sam Cross since he was a landlord of various properties.

252 Chair's Announcements

The Chair welcomed the Honorary Aldermen and members of the public and press who were present.

The Chair informed Members of the usual arrangements for the meeting.

The Chair reminded Members that as per the email previously sent by the Monitoring Officer, there was a legal requirement to ensure that Members were not in arrears for their Council Tax when voting on the budget.

The Chair advised that since the publication of the agenda, there had been some necessary amendments and updates to the budget reports arising from the High Needs Support Grant and other changes as announced in the Final Local Government Funding Settlement on 9 February 2026. These were detailed in the supplementary report published on the website and emailed to all councillors.

The Chair added that there were three proposed amendments to the Council budget that had previously been circulated by email and copies made available in the Council Chamber. His intention was to work through these, inviting the proposer and seconder to put their amendments in the order in which they were received.

The Chair was delighted to announce that North Yorkshire Council had been successful in its bid to host the Yorkshire Day civic celebrations in 2029 and welcomed members of the Yorkshire Society executive committee to the meeting.

The following deaths of former councillors were noted:

- Former North Yorkshire County Councillor and longstanding Harrogate Borough Councillor, John Marshall
- Former Harrogate Borough Councillor, Bob Nash
- Former Scarborough Borough Councillor, John Warburton

A minute's silence was held in memory of the deceased.

253 North Yorkshire Council's Revenue Budget 2026/27 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2028/29

1. Revenue Budget 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2028/29

Recommendations 1a, 1d to 1p and 2 regarding the Revenue Budget for 2026/27 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2027/28 to 2028/29 at pages 5 to 7 of the agenda (pages 4693 to 4695 of the Minute Book) were moved by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Carl

Les, and seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor Gareth Dadd.

i. The following amendment was moved by Councillor Liz Colling and seconded by Councillor Steve Shaw-Wright

"We call on Council to award £50,000 per annum to Citizens Advice for the 3 years of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (2026/27 to 2028/29) for activity that supports winter warmth initiatives and fuel poverty, strengthening the support for the most vulnerable members of our communities."

The amendment was then debated.

On a vote being taken on the amendment, the motion was carried unanimously.

ii. The following amendment was moved by Councillor Matt Walker and seconded by Councillor Chris Aldred

"We propose that a fund of £100k be included in the revenue budget in both 2026/27 and 2027/28 with the intention of supporting Town & Parish Councils to properly assess and engage with the Council on a level playing field. This fund would be co-designed with Town & Parish Councils including detail on how funds are accessed and approved but may, for example, include the commissioning of local support or one-off spend that enables a double devolution deal to be struck.

Furthermore, where double devolution deals are shown to generate recurring savings to North Yorkshire Council then such savings should be recorded and considered for future funding from 2028/29 onwards when the funding of £100k per annum would need to be reviewed."

The amendment was then debated.

A recorded vote was taken by roll call and the motion was declared defeated 31 for, 48 against and one abstention.

For: Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Liz Colling, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Melanie Davis, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Kevin Foster, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Mike Jordan, Peter Lacey, Steve Mason, Bob Packham, Stuart Parsons, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Mike Schofield, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Dan Sladden, Monika Slater, Neil Swannick, Andrew Timothy, Matt Walker and Arnold Warneken.

Against: Councillors Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Nick Brown, Lindsay Burr MBE, David Chance, Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Caroline Dickinson, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Nigel Knapton, Carl Les OBE, Cliff Lunn, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Andy Paraskos, Yvonne Peacock MBE, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Abstentions: Councillor Andy Brown

iii. The following amendment was moved by Councillor Peter Lacey and seconded by

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Councillor Monika Slater:

"We propose the establishment of a central pot of £150k per annum for the period 2026/27 to 2028/29 to be drawn down by Area Committees who will work with their local Community and Voluntary sector wherever a Prevention Plus trial is to be put in place (assuming that Prevention Plus is approved by the Executive). The areas of spend covered by the fund could include capacity building, skills development, training or infrastructure to support this tier of primary prevention and to ensure the longer term sustainability of the Prevention Plus model."

The amendment was then debated.

A recorded vote was taken by roll call and the motion was declared defeated 18 for, 62 against and no abstentions.

For: Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Philip Broadbank, Barbara Brodigan, Lindsay Burr MBE, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Mike Jordan, Peter Lacey, Steve Mason, Tom Seston, Dan Sladden, Monika Slater, Andrew Timothy and Matt Walker.

Against: Councillors Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Eric Broadbent, Andy Brown, Nick Brown, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Keane Duncan, Kevin Foster, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Nigel Knapton, Carl Les OBE, Cliff Lunn, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock MBE, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Mike Schofield, Karin Sedgwick, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Abstentions: None.

Members then proceeded to debate the Revenue Budget for 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2028/29.

A named vote was then taken by roll call on the substantive motion as amended at i above, and declared carried with 59 for, 19 against and one abstention.

For: Councillors Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Eric Broadbent, Nick Brown, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Carl Les OBE, Cliff Lunn, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock MBE, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Against: Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Philip Broadbank, Barbara Brodigan, Andy Brown, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Kevin Foster, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Peter Lacey, Steve Mason, Mike Schofield, Dan Sladden, Monika Slater, Andrew Timothy, Matt Walker and Arnold Warneken.

Abstentions: Councillor Kirsty Poskitt

Resolved (subject to the amendment agreed at i above)

a) That the Section 25 assurance statement provided by the Corporate Director Resources regarding the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of the reserves **(paragraph 8.14)** and the risk assessment of the MTFS detailed in **Section 9** are noted.
b) That a Net Revenue Budget for 2026/27 of £650,023k (**Appendix G**) is approved.
c) That in the event that the level of overall external funding (including from the final Local Government Settlement) results in a variance of less than £7.5m in 2026/27 then the difference to be addressed by a transfer to / from the Strategic Capacity Unallocated Reserve in line with **paragraph 4.3.2** with such changes being made to **Appendix E** as appropriate.
d) That the Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Service is authorised, in consultation with the Corporate Director, Resources and the Executive Members for Schools and Finance, to take the final decision on the allocation of the Schools Budget including High Needs, Early Years and the Central Schools Services Block (**paragraph 3.1.19**).
e) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2027/28 to 2028/29, and its caveats, as laid out in **Section 3.0** and **Appendix G** is approved in line with the proposed Council Tax option.
f) That the Corporate Director – Environment is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for Highways & Transportation, Managing our Environment and Open to Business, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where considered appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix B1** (**ENV 01 - New** to **19 - New**).
g) That the Corporate Director – Community Development is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for Open to Business and Culture, Arts and Housing, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where considered appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix B1** (**CD 01 - New** to **15 - New**).
h) That the Corporate Director – Health and Adult Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for HAS, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix B1** (**HAS 01 - New** to **07 - New**).
i) That the Corporate Director – Children and Young People's Services is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for CYPS, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix B1** (**CYPS 01 - New** to **05 - New**).
j) That the Corporate Director – Resources, in consultation with the Executive Members for Finance & Resources and Corporate Services, to carry out all the necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix B1** (**RD 01 - New** to **05 - New, CM 01 - New** and **LGR 01 - New**).
k) That the Chief Executive is authorised, in consultation with the Executive Members for Central Services, to carry out all necessary actions, including consultation where he considers it appropriate, to implement the range of savings as set out in **Appendix B1** (**CS 01 – New** to **CS 08 - New**).
l) That any outcomes requiring changes following **Recommendations f), g), h), i), j), and k)** above be brought back to the Executive to consider and, where changes are recommended to the existing major policy framework, then such matters to be considered by Full Council.
m) That £5,000k be added to the Corporate Property Maintenance budget in 2026/27 on a one-off basis as set out in **paragraph 4.9.1** to address urgent needs and that a scheme is produced to aid decision making on allocation of this sum with the design of the scheme being delegated to the Corporate Director Resources in consultation with the Executive Member for Finance and Property.
n) That the proposed policy target for the minimum level of the General Working Balance is

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£33m in line with **Appendix F** and **paragraph 4.6.3**.

o) That Council notes and agrees the delegation arrangements referred to in **Section 11** that authorise the Corporate Directors to implement the Budget proposals contained in this report for their respective service areas and for the Chief Executive in those areas where there are cross-Council proposals.

2. Council Tax 2026/27

Recommendations 1b, 1c, 1q and 1r regarding the Council Tax for 2026/27 at pages 5 to 7 of the main agenda (pages 4693 to 4695 of the Minute Book) were moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Gareth Dadd, and seconded by the Leader, Councillor Carl Les.

The motion was then debated.

A named vote was then taken by roll call on the motion, and declared carried with 61 for, 9 against and 9 abstentions.

For: Councillors Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Eric Broadbent, Nick Brown, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Carl Les OBE, Cliff Lunn, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock MBE, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Against: Councillors Philip Broadbank, Andy Brown, Sam Cross, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Kevin Foster, Mike Schofield, Monika Slater, Matt Walker and Arnold Warneken.

Abstentions: Councillors Chris Aldred, Barbara Brodigan, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Peter Lacey, Steve Mason, Kirsty Poskitt, Dan Sladden and Andrew Timothy.

Resolved

a) An increase in Council Tax of 4.99% (basic 2.99% and Adult Social Care 2%) resulting in a Band D charge of £2,036.32 – an increase of £96.78 (**paragraph 4.4.6** and **Appendix D**).

b) That, in accordance with Section 31A of the Local Government Finance Act1992 (as amended by Section 74 of The Localism Act 2011), a Council Tax requirement for 2026/27 of £524,458,818.08 is approved **(paragraph 4.4.9)**.

c) That the Empty Homes and Second Homes Premium policy (**Appendix L**) is approved.

d) That the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2026/27 (**Appendix M**) is approved.

3. Capital Five Year Spending Plan, Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27 and Capital Strategy

Recommendations 4a to 4e regarding the Capital Five Year Spending Plan, Treasury Management Strategy 2026/27 and Capital Strategy at pages 5 to 7 of the main agenda (pages 4693 to 4695 of the Minute Book) were moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Gareth Dadd, and seconded by the Leader, Councillor Carl Les.

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The motion was then debated.

A named vote was then taken by roll call on the motion, and declared carried with 60 for, 7 against and 12 abstentions.

For: Councillors Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Eric Broadbent, Nick Brown, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Carl Les OBE, Cliff Lunn, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock MBE, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Phil Trumper, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Against: Councillors Andy Brown, Sam Cross, Kevin Foster, Kirsty Poskitt, Mike Schofield, Monika Slater, and Arnold Warneken.

Abstentions: Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Philip Broadbank, Barbara Brodigan, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Peter Lacey, Steve Mason, Dan Sladden, Andrew Timothy, and Matt Walker

Resolved that Council

a) Approve the refreshed Capital Plan summarised at **paragraph 3.3**; and

b) Approve the allocation of £1.1m of Strategic Capacity Unallocated Reserve to support the investment in the Filey Brigg Caravan and Camping Site as outlined at paragraph **4.8.4;**

c) The Treasury Management Strategy Statement Annex 1, consisting of the Annual Treasury Management Strategy **(Section 1)**, Capital Prudential Indicators **(Section 2)**, Borrowing Strategy **(Section 3)** and Annual Investment Strategy 2026/27 **(Section 4)**, including in particular:

(i) an authorised limit for external debt of £609.2m in 2026/27;
(ii) an operational boundary for external debt of £589.2m in 2026/27;
(iii) the Prudential and Treasury Indicators based on the Council's current and indicative spending plans for 2026/27 to 2028/29;
(iv) a limit of £60m of the total cash sums available for investment (both in house and externally managed) to be invested in Non-Specified Investments over 365 days;
(v) a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy for debt repayment to be charged to Revenue in 2026/27;
(vi) the Corporate Director Resources to report to the Council if and when necessary during the year on any changes to this Strategy arising from the use of operational leasing, PFI or other innovative methods of funding not previously approved by the Council;

d) The Capital Strategy as attached as **Annex 2**; and

e) That the Audit Committee be invited to review **Annex 1 and 2** and submit any proposals to the Executive for consideration at the earliest opportunity.

4. Housing Revenue Account Budget 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy

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2027/28 and 2028/29

Recommendations 4f to 4j regarding the Housing Revenue Account Budget 2026/27 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2027/28 and 2028/29 at pages 5 to 7 of the main agenda (pages 4693 to 4695 of the Minute Book) were moved by the Executive Member for Culture, Arts and Housing, Councillor Simon Myers, and seconded by the Leader, Councillor Carl Les.

The motion was then debated.

A named vote was then taken by roll call on the motion, and declared carried with 71 for, 5 against and two abstentions.

For: Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Nick Brown, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Keane Duncan, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Peter Lacey, Carl Les OBE, Cliff Lunn, Steve Mason, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock MBE, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Dan Sladden, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Andrew Timothy, Phil Trumper, Matt Walker, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Against: Councillors Andy Brown, Sam Cross, Mike Schofield, Monika Slater and Arnold Warneken.

Abstentions: Councillor Kevin Foster and Kirsty Poskitt

(In accordance with his declaration at Minute Item 251, Councillor Jack Proud left the Chamber during the debate and determination of this motion)

Resolved that Council

a) approves the HRA budget for 2026/27 as set out in **paragraph 6.3**, being a net deficit of £0.890m which will be drawn from the HRA working balance;

b) approves the HRA Medium term financial plan for 2027/28 and 2028/29 and the 30-year HRA Business Plan, as set out in **paragraph 6.3** and **Appendix B** respectively;

c) Agrees rent convergence is implemented at the maximum allowable for all properties on Social (Formula) rent as soon as practically feasible;

d) Agrees an increase of 4.8% be applied to social, affordable and hostel rents from 1 April 2026;

e) Agrees an increase of 2% be applied to shared ownership rents from 1 April 2026.

5. Council Tax Resolution Report 2026/27

The recommendations regarding the Council Tax Resolution Report at page 425 of the main agenda (page 5121 of the Minute Book) were moved by the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Gareth Dadd, and seconded by the Leader, Councillor Carl Les.

A named vote was taken by roll call on the motion, and declared carried unanimously with 79 in favour.

For: Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Barbara Brodigan, Andy Brown, Nick Brown, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Keane Duncan, Kevin Foster, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, George Jabbour, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Peter Lacey, Carl Les OBE, Cliff Lunn, Steve Mason, Heather Moorhouse, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock MBE, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Mike Schofield, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Dan Sladden, Monika Slater, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Andrew Timothy, Phil Trumper, Matt Walker, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Against: None.

Abstentions: None.

Resolved that the Council Tax Resolution, as detailed at Appendix A of the report, be approved.

254 Revenue Budget for 2026/27 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy to 2028/29 - Supplementary Report

See minute above.

The meeting concluded at 1.14 pm.

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North Yorkshire Council

Full Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 13 February 2026 commencing at 2.00 pm.

Councillor George Jabbour in the Chair plus Councillors Chris Aldred, Joy Andrews, Karl Arthur, Alyson Baker, Derek Bastiman, Philip Broadbank, Eric Broadbent, Andy Brown, Nick Brown, David Chance, Liz Colling, Mark Crane, Sam Cross, Felicity Cunliffe-Lister, Gareth Dadd, Melanie Davis, Caroline Dickinson, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, Keane Duncan, Kevin Foster, Richard Foster, Sam Gibbs, Caroline Goodrick, Hannah Gostlow, Bryn Griffiths, Tim Grogan, Michael Harrison, Robert Heseltine, David Hugill, Nathan Hull, David Ireton, David Jeffels, Janet Jefferson, Tom Jones, Mike Jordan, Nigel Knapton, Peter Lacey, Carl Les, Cliff Lunn, Steve Mason, Heather Moorhouse, Andrew Murday, Simon Myers, Bob Packham, Andy Paraskos, Stuart Parsons, Yvonne Peacock, Clive Pearson, Heather Phillips, Kirsty Poskitt, Jack Proud, John Ritchie, Janet Sanderson, Mike Schofield, Karin Sedgwick, Tom Seston, Subash Sharma, Steve Shaw-Wright, Dan Sladden, Monika Slater, Andy Solloway, David Staveley, Neil Swannick, Roberta Swiers, Malcolm Taylor, Angus Thompson, Andrew Timothy, Phil Trumper, Matt Walker, Arnold Warneken, Steve Watson, David Webster, John Weighell OBE, Greg White, Annabel Wilkinson, Peter Wilkinson, Andrew Williams and Robert Windass.

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

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255 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Philip Barrett, Barbara Brodigan, Lindsay Burr MBE, John Cattanach, Stephanie Duckett, Paul Haslam, Andrew Lee, John Mann, Rich Maw, John McCartney, Andrew Murday and David Noland.

256 Declarations of Interest

Members were advised that if they were school governors, then they did not need to declare an interest in Minute item 258 since this was not a role carried out for profit or gain.

257 Chair's Announcements

There were no further announcements.

258 School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2027-28

The recommendations at pages 3 to 4 of the agenda pack (pages 5175 to 5176 of the Minute Book) were moved and seconded.

On being put to the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Resolved

(i) That the proposed Admission Arrangements for 2027/2028 be approved by Council, including: -

- The proposed co-ordinated Admission Arrangements

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- The proposed co-ordinated in-year admission arrangements
- The proposed admission policy for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools
- The proposed admission policy for Ripon Grammar Boarding School
- The proposed admission policy for Community and Voluntary Controlled Nursery Schools, Schools with Nursery Classes and Pre-Reception Classes
- The proposed published admission numbers (PAN's) for community and voluntary controlled schools.

(ii) That the relevant areas for consultation on the School Admission Arrangements remain unchanged.

259 Appointments to Committees according to political proportionality

The recommendations at page 79 of the agenda pack (page 5251 of the Minute Book) and also the addendum report which detailed nominations to committee places circulated subsequently were moved and seconded.

In addition to the addendum report, it was moved and seconded that Councillor Barbara Brodigan remain as Chair of Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee. On a vote being taken, the motion was lost by 18 votes for, 57 against and 4 abstentions.

There was one contested position within the addendum report which was put to the vote: it was moved and seconded that Councillor Kevin Foster replace Councillor Andrew Williams as Chair of Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee. On a vote being taken, the motion was lost by 23 votes for, 55 against and one abstention.

The substantive motion was then taken to the vote and was carried unanimously.

Resolved that

(a) **Care and Independence Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Councillor Joy Andrews to stand down from the committee and be replaced by Councillor Barbara Brodigan.
Councillor Barbara Brodigan be appointed as Chair replacing Councillor Karin Sedgwick.
Councillor Andy Paraskos to come off the committee and the vacant Unaffiliated independents seat be noted with the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services given delegated authority to appoint to the vacant seat.

(b) **Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Councillor Caroline Goodrick be appointed as Chair replacing Councillor Barbara Brodigan.
Councillor Yvonne Peacock to come off the committee.
Councillor Lindsay Burr be appointed to the committee.

(c) **Scrutiny of Health**
Councillor Sam Gibbs to come off the committee.
Councillor Rich Maw be appointed to the committee.

(d) **Housing and Leisure Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Councillor Sam Gibbs to come off the committee.
Councillor Steve Shaw-Wright be appointed to the committee and be appointed as Chair.

(e) **Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Councillor Greg White to come off the committee and the vacant Unaffiliated

independents seat be noted with the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services given delegated authority to appoint to the vacant seat.

(f) **Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Councillor Tom Jones to come off the committee.
Councillor Paul Haslam be appointed to the committee.

(g) **Audit Committee**
Councillor Karin Sedgwick to come off the committee.
Councillor Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff be appointed to the committee.

(h) **Chief Officer Appointments and Disciplinary Committee**
Councillor John Weighell to come off the committee.
Councillor Janet Jefferson be appointed to the committee.

(i) **Employment Appeals**
Councillor Nathan Hull to come off the committee.
Councillor Mike Schofield be appointed to the committee.

(j) **Pension Fund Committee**
Councillor Mark Crane to come off the committee.
Councillor Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff be appointed to the committee.

(k) **Development Plan Committee**
Councillor Tom Jones to come off the committee.
Councillor Hannah Gostlow be appointed to the committee.

(l) **Standards and Governance Committee**
Councillor Heather Phillips to come off the committee.
Councillor Kevin Foster be appointed to the committee.

(m) **General Licensing and Registration Committee**
Councillor Peter Wilkinson to come off the committee and the vacant Unaffiliated independents seat be noted with the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services given delegated authority to appoint to the vacant seat.

(n) **Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Planning Committee**
Councillor Paul Haslam be appointed as Vice-Chair replacing Councillor John Mann who comes off the committee. The vacant Unaffiliated independents seat be noted with the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services given delegated authority to appoint to the vacant seat.

(o) **Scarborough and Whitby Area Planning Committee**
Councillors Janet Jefferson and Rich Maw remain appointed to the committee.

(p) **Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority**
Councillor Simon Myers to stand down and the vacant Liberal Democrats and Liberals position be noted with the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services given delegated authority to appoint to the vacant position.

The meeting concluded at 2.24 pm.

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

STATEMENT OF COUNCILLOR CARL LES

Salvete et Valete

At this meeting we say goodbye and thank you to two of our senior directors, Richard Webb and Gary Fielding. Both have delivered excellent results for our residents in North Yorkshire County Council and latterly North Yorkshire Council. Richard has led HAS with distinction, most recently overseeing our results in the new CQC inspection, "Good", where we scored 81 out of a 100, and third highest nationally. We wish him well as the Chief Executive at City of York Council.

Eric Pickles when Secretary of State is purported to have once said that only two people understood local government finance – one had just died, and the other had gone mad. I`m pleased that neither of these apply to Gary! Over the years Gary has brought a clarity to the role to the benefit of all us Members, especially myself. With the skillset he has developed recently it is no surprise that he has been recruited and leaves us for his native county as Lancashire County Council and its successor councils come to terms with the issues we faced in LGR.

Both officers will be missed, but I'm pleased to welcome El Mayhew and Abi Barron.

El has joined us to replace Sir Stuart Carlton as Corporate Director for CYPS. She has come to us with a wide range of experience from a Director`s role in Hertfordshire County Council, following a secondment as Director to Suffolk County Council, and positions in Surrey CC, the London Boroughs of Merton, Lambeth and Bexley and other councils with a more rural nature to them.

Abigail Barron has been appointed as the new Corporate Director for HAS, leading on public health, adult social care and NHS partnerships. Abi has lived and worked in North Yorkshire for the majority of her career working in both the NHS and Adult Social Care. Her early career was spent working in the NHS delivering community services across the County, progressing into Adult Social Care in 2019. Abi's most recent role was Assistant Director for Service Development.

As you will expect we have started the recruitment process for Gary`s role already.

NYC 3rd Birthday and National Recognition:

As we approach April 2026, North Yorkshire Council will soon turn three years old. This is a significant milestone for the Council, and it is easy to forget that just under 3 years ago, we embarked on the largest undertaking of local government reorganisation to date, whilst at the same time, securing a landmark devolution deal for the region. Colleagues only need to look elsewhere in the country to reflect on how successful the process of LGR was here in North Yorkshire.

An early focus of this Council has been to harness the economies of scale afforded to us through LGR to deliver value for money and high-quality services to our residents and businesses. Therefore, it has been pleasing to have our efforts recognised on the national

stage by independent public sector consultants IMPOWER. IMPOWER's tables on performance name North Yorkshire Council as the most productive council in the North of England and in the top three nationally. At the same time, North Yorkshire Council has also been shortlisted as Council of the Year at both the LGC Awards and the MJ Awards.

This national recognition is a testament to our staff and collective efforts to deliver real value for communities across our county. Maintaining high productivity and performance standards will help contribute to protecting our frontline services and looking ahead, this will remain a focus for the Council. This is a good accolade for a council approaching its 3rd birthday.

Established Mayoral Strategic Authority Status

With regards to the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, it has been agreed that York and North Yorkshire will apply for 'Established Mayoral Strategic Authority' status. This is the most developed level of devolution outlined in the most recent English Devolution Bill. Established Status, already conferred onto authorities in Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire to name a few, would see the Combined Authority receive additional powers, including the Right to Request – a power to request changes in legislation. Importantly it will mean the CA being eligible for further funding streams often without the need for a bidding process. This is good news as we all know it takes as much time and effort to write the bid that fails as the one that succeeds.

Established Status would also mean that the Combined Authority would be eligible for an Integrated Settlement. We are keen to see further information on this matter, and to understand what greater funding flexibility could mean for investing in priorities here in North Yorkshire. It is important to note that further reports will be brought to the Combined Authority looking at this in greater detail. Civil servants in MHCLG will now be looking through the detail of the bid to become an Established Strategic Authority, which can only be given once the English Devolution Bill receives Royal Assent.

COUNCILLOR CARL LES

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

Report of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the Motion Referred on 12 November 2025

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services)

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To outline the considerations and recommendations of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee to full Council following its review of the Motion on 17 December 2025 as referred from full Council on 12 November 2025.

2.0 Background

2.1 At the meeting of full Council on 12 November 2025, the Chair agreed that a Notice of Motion regarding the request that the Leader of the Council write to the Secretary of State to ask that the SEND review consider a number of actions, should be referred to Scrutiny Board, for the purpose of determining which overview and scrutiny committee would be most appropriate to consider the Motion further and to bring back its recommendations to full Council. Scrutiny Board determined on 15 November 2025 that the Motion would be referred to the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.2 The Notice of Motion referred to the committee was proposed by Councillor Barbara Brodigan and seconded by Councillor Andrew Timothy. The wording of the Motion was as follows:

2.3 Council notes that:

- In December 2024 the Government introduced the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, with an overall aim to better protect children and raise standards in education.
- The Government also announced £740 million in new funding to support SEND pupils and those needing alternative education within mainstream schools. Inclusion remains the overarching policy, so that our children and young people are educated together with their peers in their own community, where appropriate.
- The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system is under severe strain, with some families struggling to secure vital support for their children which is compounded by some schools and councils struggling to provide the necessary support.
- Children with SEND deserve the same opportunities as every child, including access to the support they need to thrive both in school and in life.
- Research commissioned by the Liberal Democrats has revealed that private equity–backed SEND providers are making over £100 million a year in profits, with some achieving margins of over 20%.
- Many of these companies are backed by firms registered in tax havens or foreign sovereign wealth funds.

Council believes that:

- Profiteering from the needs of children with SEND is unacceptable and must end.
- Children with SEND are not commodities for profit and should never be treated as such.

- Resources must be directed into improving provision and outcomes for children, not into shareholder dividends or inflated executive pay.
- North Yorkshire Council should be supported to provide sustainable, high-quality inclusive SEND provision within both their mainstream and specialist settings; including by building and operating their own schools to accommodate those with the most complex needs if necessary.

Council welcomes:

- Government action to curb profiteering in children's social care. Through the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, it has introduced powers to cap the profits of providers of illegal or exploitative children's homes, alongside enhancing financial transparency and greater enforcement by Ofsted.
- The Government review of the SEND and Alternative Provision system which is due to be published in the Autumn.
- The proactive work of hard-working officers in North Yorkshire Council to improve our SEND services.

Council resolves to:

- Call on the Government to eradicate the profits of private SEND providers, including sanctions against providers who breach this, with any profits returned to local authorities.
- Support further reforms to boost the SEND system, including strong financial oversight of providers, transparency, and new powers and funding for councils to build and manage local mainstream and specialist provision directly.
- Endorse the principle that Government SEND reforms must put children first—not corporate greed.
- Request the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretary of State for Education to ask that the SEND review consider action in line with the above.

2.4 Under section 11 of the Council's Procedure Rules, where a Motion is referred from Council to a committee (such as overview and scrutiny), the committee considers the Motion and reports back with its recommendations. As such it is the committee's recommendations which then become the substantive Motion put before the Council and not the original Motion.

2.5 The Constitution also guides that at full Council, "there will be no moving of amendments in relation to, questions upon or any other discussion of or questions on the Motion prior to the vote upon it." As such it is important that the committee provides clear, concise recommendations in its report, including any necessary amendments made to the Motion.

2.6 The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee met on 17 December 2025 to consider the Motion further, with a view to reporting back with its recommendation to full Council on 18 March 2026.

3.0 Consideration of the Motion by the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

3.1 The papers for the meeting of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 17 December 2025 can be accessed via the following link Agenda for Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Wednesday, 17 December 2025, 10.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

3.2 A summary of the discussion held at the committee meeting is provided below Printed minutes Wednesday 17-Dec-2025 10.00 Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.pdf

3.3 Having considered the officer report in full, together with the representations by Councillor Barbara Brodigan and the discussion of the Members at the committee meeting, the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to recommend the following to full Council: That the Motion is not supported.

4.0 Recommendations of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

4.1 Having reviewed the officer report and taken into account the views expressed by Members at the committee meeting, the committee agreed the following:

(a) That the Motion referred, as written, is not upheld. It was commented that if private providers stopped making a profit, they would withdraw their services, leaving children without any support at all.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from this report.

6.0 Legal Implications

6.1 There are no significant legal implications arising from this report.

7.0 Equalities Implications

7.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report.

8.0 Climate Change Implications

8.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

9.0 Recommendation on the Motion referred

9.1 That full Council considers the recommendations of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, namely to not uphold the Motion as written (see 2.3) regarding the request that the Leader of the Council write to the Secretary of State to ask that the SEND review consider a number of actions as outlined in the Motion.

Background Documents:

Constitution of North Yorkshire Council – *Constitution | North Yorkshire Council*

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services
County Hall
Northallerton
10 March 2026

Report Author: Alice Fox, Senior Scrutiny Officer

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Full Council

18 March 2026

Report of the Executive

Report of the Leader of the Council

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To provide Council with details of reports received and decisions made by the Executive and any subsequent recommendations to Council since the last meeting of Council on 12 November 2025.

2.0 DETAILS OF THE MEETINGS

2.1 The following sections provide details of decisions made by the Executive and recommendations to Council since its last meeting on 12 November 2025. The meetings were held on the following dates: 18 November 2025 (Performance Monitoring); 16 December 2025; 6 January 2026; 20 January 2026; 3 February 2026 and 17 February 2026 (Performance Monitoring).

2.2 **18 November 2025 Executive (Performance Monitoring) Meeting**
The Executive Members met on Tuesday 18 November 2025. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les OBE in the Chair. Councillors Gareth Dadd, Richard Foster, Michael Harrison, Simon Myers, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Malcolm Taylor and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Councillors Alyson Baker, Caroline Dickinson, Andrew Lee, Karin Sedgwick and Andrew Williams.

The substantive agenda items were:

- Q2 Performance Monitoring and Budget Report
- Harrogate Transforming Cities Fund – Project Update and Contract Entry Authority
- Annual Review of Member Champions
- Forward Plan

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 18 November 2025, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

2.3 **16 December 2025 Executive Meeting**
The Executive Members met on Tuesday 16 December 2025. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les OBE in the Chair. Councillors Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Michael Harrison, Simon Myers, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Malcolm Taylor and Annabel Wilkinson.

Remote attendance: Councillor Richard Foster (from Minute 806)

In attendance: Councillors Paul Haslam (R), Yvonne Peacock (R), Tom Seston and David Webster.

The substantive agenda items were:

- Director of Public Health Annual Report 2025
- Infrastructure Business Plan and Infrastructure Funding Settlement 2024/25
- North Yorkshire Capital Growth Priorities
- Housing Revenue Account – Asset Management Strategy
- Howardian Hills and Nidderdale National Landscapes Management Plans
- Proposals for revised school organisation arrangements required by several federated governing boards of primary schools in North Yorkshire
- Primary Exclusion and Day 6 Provision
- North Yorkshire Council Enforcement Strategy
- Eastfield: Former Overdale School Site and Middle Deepdale Capital Receipts Funding
- Variation of Restrictive Covenant – Land at Sherburn in Elmet (Private Item)
- Acquisition of properties in various localities for use as affordable homes to go into the Housing Revenue Account (Private Item)
- Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies
- Forward Plan

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 16 December 2025, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

2.4 **6 January 2026 Executive Meeting**

The Executive Members met on Tuesday 6 January 2026. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les OBE in the Chair. Councillors Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Richard Foster, Michael Harrison, Simon Myers, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Malcolm Taylor and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Councillors Kevin Foster and Paul Haslam (R)

The substantive agenda items were:

- School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2027/28
- Mainstream Schools and Special Schools Budget 2026/27
- Closure of The Mercury Housing Co Ltd
- Creation of a new Wide Area Network Solution and Digital Services Company (Private Item)
- Area Committee Feedback Report
- Forward Plan

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 6 January 2026, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

2.5 **20 January 2026 Executive (Performance Monitoring) Meeting**

The Executive Members met on Tuesday 20 January 2026. Attending the meeting were:

Councillor Carl Les OBE in the Chair. Councillors Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Richard Foster, Michael Harrison (remote), Simon Myers, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Malcolm Taylor and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Councillors Paul Haslam (remote) and Peter Lacey (remote).

The substantive agenda items were:

- Revenue Budget 2026/2027 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy – To make recommendation to Full Council
- North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) - Publication
- Forward Plan

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 20 January 2026, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

2.6 **3 February 2026 Executive Meeting**

The Executive Members met on Tuesday 3 February 2026. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les OBE in the Chair. Councillors Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Richard Foster, Michael Harrison, Simon Myers, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Malcolm Taylor and Annabel Wilkinson.

The substantive agenda items were:

- Review of the Public Convenience Service
- Active North Yorkshire Membership and Pricing Review
- Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies
- Forward Plan

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 3 February 2026, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

2.7 **17 February 2026 Executive (Performance Monitoring) Meeting**

The Executive Members met on Tuesday 17 February 2026. Attending the meeting were: Councillor Carl Les OBE in the Chair. Councillors Mark Crane, Gareth Dadd, Richard Foster, Michael Harrison, Simon Myers, Heather Phillips, Janet Sanderson, Malcolm Taylor and Annabel Wilkinson.

In attendance: Councillors Alyson Baker, Caroline Dickinson, Kevin Foster, Caroline Goodrick, Paul Haslam (R), David Hugill, Andrew Lee (R), Karin Sedgwick, Steve Shaw-Wright and Andrew Williams.

The substantive agenda items were:

- Q3 Performance and Budget Monitoring Report
- NYC Pay Policy for Senior Managers
- DfE High Needs Capital Proposal
- Loan Facility for Scarborough Athletic Football Club (SAFC)
- Forward Plan

The link to the reports and minutes from this meeting is as follows:

Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 17 February 2026, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

3.0 MATTERS FOR APPROVAL/INFORMATION AT COUNCIL

3.1 The Executive considered the reports and resolved to recommend the following to the meeting of Full Council for consideration:

3.2 **School Admission Arrangements for the School Year 2027/28**

This item was considered at the meeting of the Executive held on 6 January 2026 and then at the Extraordinary meeting of Full Council on 13 February 2026.

3.3 **Revenue Budget 2026/27 and Medium-Term Financial Strategy**

This item was considered at the meeting of the Executive held on 20 January 2026 and then at the meeting of Full Council that was held on 13 February 2026.

3.4 **NYC Pay Policy for Senior Managers**

This item was considered at the meeting of the Executive held on 17 February 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council be asked to approve the North Yorkshire Council Pay Policy Statement on Pay Structure, Grading and Conditions for Senior Managers for the Period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027 for publication.

The link to the report that went to the Executive is here (item 6, pages 195-206) - Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 17 February 2026, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire Council

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The financial implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The legal implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

6.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The equalities implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

7.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The climate change implications are addressed in the reports that went to the Executive.

Councillor Carl Les OBE
Leader
North Yorkshire Council
County Hall
Northallerton

Background Documents:
Reports and minutes of the meetings of the Executive as detailed in the main body of the report.

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.

10 March 2026

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North Yorkshire Council

18 March 2026

Recommendations Following the First Phase of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To consider the recommendations of the Standards and Governance Committee made at the meeting of 11 February 2026 in relation to the results of the first phase consultation and to present to Council the recommendations for the second phase consultation on the 2025/26 Community Governance Reviews (CGR's).

2.0 Summary

2.1 This report provides information on the recent Stage 1 consultation and provides a summary of the consultation responses. An analysis of the responses is provided and draft recommendations made, based on the responses received.

2.2 The report asks Council to agree the draft recommendations for the CGRs which will form the basis of a second round of public and stakeholder consultations.

2.3 No decisions are confirmed at this stage. The consultation process on the Draft Recommendations is an essential part of the CGR, and responses will (by law) be taken into account in producing the Final Recommendations.

3.0 Background

3.1 On 16 July 2025 Full Council approved the Terms of Reference (TOR) for a CGR for a defined number of parish areas. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIH Act 2007) devolved power from the Secretary of State to principal councils to conduct CGRs and put in place or make changes to local community governance arrangements.

3.2 Following the meeting on 16 July 2025 the TOR were published and the CGR began with the Stage 1 consultation taking place over 12 weeks from 29 September to 22 December 2025.

3.3 The consultation results have been analysed and draft recommendations developed for each of the areas under review. Full details of each review including analysis and development of draft recommendations are available in the Appendices (1-19) to this report. Each individual survey is provided at

Annex 1-19 A and a summary and the full responses for each CGR is provided at Annex 1-19 B of this report.

3.4 A summary of the outcomes is shown in the table below:

CGR	No. of responses	Response as a % of households consulted	No of households consulted *
Parish areas without a Parish Council requesting a Community Governance Review			
Barden**	15	1.1	1399
Bolton on Swale	20	3.9	517
Dunsforths	43	1.3	3247
Rand Grange	10	0.6	1727
Spennithorne	24	2.1	1132
Thornthwaite with Padside	14	3.0	460
Parish Councils or residents requesting a Community Governance Review			
Kirby Hill and District	28	4.3	646
Lillings Ambo	26	3.0	866
Newall with Clifton	12	1.1	1053
Thorpe Willoughby	150	5.1	2919
Welburn	46	6.0	768
Parish Council has requested that the Parish Council be dissolved and a Parish Meeting be put in its place or a merger with a neighbouring parish			
Potto***	55	4.4	125
Grouped parish councils which are not currently represented in each parish area and a Community Governance Review is therefore recommended			
Constable Burton and Finghall	12	4.8	248
Hudswell and District	5	2.5	201
Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave	6	4.3	141
Thornton-le-Beans	22	16.6	132
Parish has internal ward boundaries which require clarification and would therefore benefit from a Community Governance Review			
Staintondale	37	26.6	139
Parish councils requesting a Community Governance Review with a view to reducing their council size to enable them to be quorate			
Escrick	31	7.6	407
Sherburn	48	11.9	402
Total	**604**	**3.6**	**16529**

* Figures correct as of December 2025.

** Whilst only Barden and Appletreewick were stated in the Terms of Reference all surrounding areas were consulted as per the map in Appendix 1.

*** Whilst Potto was the only parish written to, neighbouring parishes were contacted via E Mail.

3.5 It is noted that whilst the responses to the consultation were mixed, there were some concerns raised re accessing the surveys and using a QR code, this may have some bearing on the apparent low response rate in some cases. A low response rate for this type of consultation is not unusual.

3.6 Every property in the areas under review were sent an explanatory letter in the post. Residents were offered the option to request a paper copy of the survey if they were not able to complete the survey online. A QR code was included for ease of completion as well as directions to complete the review online. A frequently asked questions (FAQ) page was also created to help the public with any queries or questions.

3.7 The recommendations being suggested are whether to proceed with a Stage 2 consultation and details of the responses from that consultation then being considered before a final decision is made.

3.8 Members are invited to note that parish councils and divisional representatives were also invited to respond to the CGR. All submissions have been included within this document.

4.0 Consultation Methodology

4.1 The Stage 1 consultation commenced on 29 September 2025 to run for 12 weeks until 22 December 2025.

4.2 A dedicated page was set up on the CGR area of the North Yorkshire Council (NYC) website where detailed information was provided on the reasons and scope for the CGR, timescales and terms of reference. The webpage contained links to all 19 online surveys.

4.3 A letter informing residents that a CGR was taking place with instructions on completion of the survey was posted to each of the 16,529 effected households on the electoral register. The letter explained the reasons for the review and invited residents to have their say via the survey. The letter signposted residents to the NYC website. A QR code was included on the letter to enable residents to access the survey directly from their mobile phones.

4.4 An option was provided to request hard copies via telephone or email for those residents who preferred to complete a paper copy of the survey or who did not have access to the internet.

4.5 In addition to the letters to households, key stakeholders were also emailed a link to the consultation webpage and invited to give their views. This included local MPs, Divisional Councillors for the relevant area and parish councils adjoining the areas requesting a CGR. Information was also included in the parish liaison bulletin sent to all parish councils monthly.

4.6 The surveys used can be found in Annex 1-19 A of the report.

5.0 Stage 2 Public Consultation

5.1 If Council approves the draft recommendations contained within this report, the next stage in the review will be to publish the draft recommendations and invite representations on the detailed proposals contained therein.

Timescale:

19 March 2026 Stage 2 consultation commences (12 weeks)
11 June 2026 Stage 2 consultation closes

5.2 The overall timescales for the CGR are as follows:

Date	Activity
29 September 2025	Terms of Reference published 1st Stage consultation commences (12 weeks)
22 December 2025	1st Stage consultation closes
11 February 2026	Standards and Governance Meeting to review stage 1 results and proposals for stage 2 consultation
18 March 2026	Full Council Meeting - consultation results and approval of proposals for 2nd Stage Consultation
19 March 2026	2nd Stage consultation commences (12 weeks)
11 June 2026	2nd Stage consultation closes
Early July TBC	Standards and Governance Meeting to review stage 2 results and final proposals
15 July 2026	Council approves CGR outcome
August 2026	CGR Orders made
December 2026	1/12/26 Electoral register published
May 2027	Implement any changes at scheduled elections

6.0 Consideration of Statutory Criteria

6.1 In developing draft recommendations the LGPIHA 2007 requires the council to take account of certain criteria when conducting a review, which are listed below. These statutory criteria are discussed within each report.

6.2 The council must have regard of the need to secure that community governance within the area under review:

- reflects the identities and interests of the community in an area;
- provides effective and convenient governance of the area; and
- takes into account any other arrangements for community representation or community engagement.

6.3 Councils are also advised to consider factors such as:

- what impact proposed community governance arrangements might have on community cohesion; and
- whether the size (area), population and boundaries proposed for local governance make sense on the ground and contribute to the above criteria.

6.4 When deciding whether to recommend that a parish should be formed, a council must consider the following factors:

- whether the number, or distribution, of the local government electors for the parish would make a single election of councillors impracticable or inconvenient;
- whether it is desirable that any area or areas of the parish should be separately represented on the council i.e. warded
- warding is a way of dividing a parish into smaller geographical areas, for the purpose of electing parish councillors. Each ward elects its own representatives, ensuring that different parts of the parish have a fair and balanced voice on the council. Warding is usually considered when a parish covers a large area or contains distinct communities that may benefit from separate representation.
- if the principal council decides to recommend that a parish should be divided into wards, then (a) the size and boundaries of the wards, and (b) the number of councillors to be elected for each ward.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 The appendices to this report set out the draft recommendations in relation to the CGR's detailed above. Members are requested to take account of the statutory criteria as set out at section 6 of this report in consideration of these draft recommendations.

7.2 Once approved, the final outcome of the CGR will be implemented ahead of the 2027 parish council elections. This means that new parish council areas (if any), changes to parish council areas (if any), changes in the number of parish councillors (if any), and any resulting changes in council tax arrangements for households all change at that time. Ahead of those changes, a review of polling districts and polling places will be conducted, to take account of changes to electoral areas.

7.3 There were some examples of concerns raised during the CGR relating to the performance of some, not all, parish councils. These matters fall outside the

remit of the CGR and could be more appropriately addressed by the electorate at future parish council elections through the democratic process.

8.0 Financial Implications

8.1 There will be a financial cost in conducting any CGR, both in terms of officer support and in respect of the consultation process. Once instigated, the CGR must be conducted within a one-year period.

8.2 It is anticipated that the staffing support costs would be absorbed within existing capacity in the electoral, democratic, GIS, communication and legal services teams.

8.3 Consultation documents were made available online, however some printing and posting was required where residents requested a paper copy of the consultation to complete and return. There were 34 requests for paper copies of the first phase consultation. This incurred a cost of approx. £0.92 per request.

8.4 The cost of parish elections is incurred by the council but is recharged to the parishes where a contested election is held. Any changes to the boundaries may affect the parish precept that residents affected by a boundary change will pay. Any changes to precepts and council tax bills would be applied from the date the adopted recommendations from the review become effective.

8.5 The Stage 1 consultation cost approx. £15,262 which consisted of printing, postage and digital marketing.

8.6 As the Council has already written to all parish councils, households, the Yorkshire Association of Local Councils, and the MP's covering the areas under review providing direction to the timetable for review and where further information on the Council's website is available, it is anticipated that the second stage consultation will be completely digital and promoted through the NYC website, parish councils, divisional members and parish clerks.

8.7 To anticipate the precept for a new parish council, the prospective billing authority must formally state the **budget requirement** (which equals the precept amount) in the reorganisation order that establishes the council.

9.0 Legal Implications

9.1 In order to amend any of the governance arrangements as set out below:

- the creation, merger, alteration or abolition of parishes
- the naming of parishes and the style of new parishes
- the electoral arrangements for parishes, such as the ordinary year of election, council size, wards, and numbers of councillors
- the grouping or de-grouping of parishes

a community governance review must take place, including consultation with the public and other stakeholders.

9.2 In undertaking the CGR, the council will comply with the requirements of Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and other relevant legislation and have regard to Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued in accordance with section 100(4) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in March 2010.

9.3 References in legislation to a 'parish' also include a parish which has an alternative style (such as 'town', 'village' or 'community' council) and parish meetings.

10.0 Climate Change Implications

10.1 The Climate Change Impact Assessment at appendix 20.

11.0 Equalities Implications

11.1 Every property in the areas under review were sent an explanatory letter in the post. Residents were offered the option to request a paper copy of the phase one survey if they were not able to complete the survey online. A QR code was included for ease of completion, as well as directions to complete the review online. An FAQ page was also created to help the public with any queries or questions.
The Equalities Impact Assessment is at appendix 21.

12.0 Reasons for Recommendations

12.1 Draft recommendations should be prepared following the receipt and consideration of initial submissions in a review during the first public consultation stage of a CGR. These draft recommendations should be adopted by the principal council as the basis for a period of substantive consultation with local residents and other interested stakeholders.

13.0 Options

13.1 Council could choose to amend the recommendations or to not proceed with any recommendations and to cease the CGR. The review would not be able to progress to a Stage 2 consultation without draft recommendations on which to consult.

13.2 If the CGR were not to progress to stage 2 the electoral arrangements would remain as present.

13.3 It was noted in the draft recommendations for Lillings Ambo Parish Council that the recommendations were subject to support from Sheriff Hutton Parish Council for combining with Lillings Ambo Parish Council. This was subsequently not received, it is therefore recommended that Lillings Ambo Parish Council retains its current governance arrangements.

13.4 In considering all the options, the recommendations at 14.0 are recommended for approval. It is noted that there would be an opportunity during the Stage 2 consultation process for members of the public to also give their views to the proposal, before a final decision is made.

14.0 Recommendations

14.1 That the recommendation from Standards and Governance Committee to accept the results from the Stage 1 consultation process which took place following publication of the Terms of Reference in September 2025 be agreed.

14.2 That the draft recommendations as set out in Appendices 1-19 of the report be agreed and publicised as part of a second and final consultation commencing on 19 March 2026 for a further twelve weeks.

Jennifer Norton – Assistant Director, Legal Operations and Deputy Monitoring Officer

25 March 2026

Report Author
Christine Phillipson, Principal Democratic Services Officer

Background Documents:
Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (Part4)
Guidance on Community Governance Reviews
Minutes from Full Council on 16 July 2025 (Minute215)

Appendices 1-19 - Analysis and Draft Recommendations
Annexes 1-19A - Consultation Surveys
Annexes 1-19B - Summary of Consultation Responses

1) Barden
2) Bolton-on-Swale
3) Dunsforths
4) Rand Grange
5) Spennithorne
6) Thornthwaite with Padside
7) Kirby Hill and District
8) Lillings Ambo
9) Newall with Clifton
10) Thorpe Willoughby
11) Welburn
12) Potto

13) Constable Burton and Finghall
14) Hudswell and District
15) Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave
16) Thornton-le-Beans
17) Staintondale
18) Escrick
19) Sherburn

Appendix 20 CCIA
Appendix 21 EIA

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Appendix 1 – Draft Recommendations for Barden Parish Meeting

Contents

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History of the area 3
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2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Barden Parish Meeting 4
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations 6
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Annex 1B – Summary of consultation responses 7

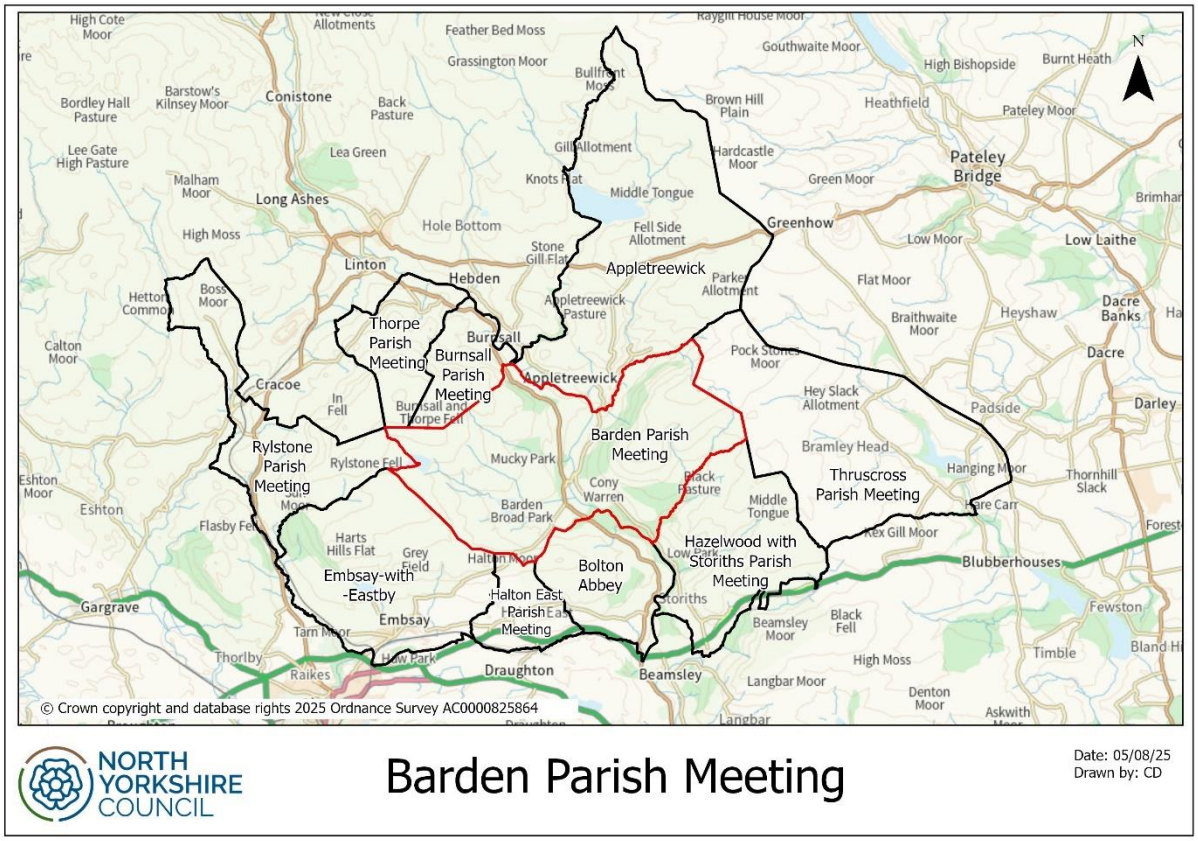
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Barden Parish Meeting is situated within the Wharfedale division and is part of the Skipton and Ripon parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Barden parish currently has 61 electors and 32 properties.

1.3 Barden has 8 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Appletreewick, Bolton Abbey, Burnsall, Embsay with Eastby, Halton East, Hazlewood with Storiths, Rylstone and Thorpe.



1.4 Whilst the area of Barden is parished it does not have a parish council and is referred to as a parish meeting. This means it does not elect Councillors or hold parish council meetings. Parish meetings must assemble annually between 1 March and 1 June and on at least one other occasion during the year. These meetings are open to the public, but only registered electors of the parish can speak and vote.

1.5 Parish meetings can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Barden does not currently raise a precept.

1.6 Barden Parish Meeting initially requested to merge with a neighbouring parish, with Appletreewick Parish Council being the preferred option.

History of the area

1.7 Barden Parish Meeting contacted North Yorkshire Council in May 2025 to advise that the Chair and Clerk both resigned at their AGM on 17th March 2025.

1.8 Barden Parish Meeting expressed an interest to merge with a neighbouring parish, with Appletreewick being the most logical suggestion.

1.9 Initially there was no appetite from Appletreewick to merge as they felt they would also like to request a CGR.

1.10 Following a conversation with the clerk of Appletreewick Parish Council the suggestion of Barden Parish Meeting merging with Appletreewick Parish Council was discussed and suggested as a potential solution.

1.11 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Barden Parish Meeting. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included a defined list of parishes that would be reviewed on 16 July 2025.

1.12 Appletreewick Parish Council did provide a formal response via the consultation and agreed that Barden Parish meeting would be a good fit for Appletreewick Parish Council and increase the demographic pool for potential Councillors.

1.13 Appletreewick currently has 171 electors and 97 properties, and there are 5 Councillors on the Parish Council.

1.14 The NYC Division Member for Wharfedale, Councillor Richard Foster, was informed of the CGR request and confirmed his support for a merger with Appletreewick Parish Council.

Five year electorate forecast

1.15 The electorate and 5-year electorate forecast for Barden parish and Appletreewick parish is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Barden	61	59	-2
Appletreewick	171	176	5

** based on 2024 electorate totals*

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Barden Parish Meeting

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	1399
Consultation responses received	15
Response rate	1.1%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Barden and the surrounding areas identified on the map above. Only Barden and Appletreewick were identified in the terms of reference as being consulted however the additional households were included afterwards in order to obtain a response from the wider area. Appletreewick Parish Council were contacted in December 2025 to invite a response.

2.3 Barden Parish Meeting is not functioning so therefore could not provide any comment.

2.4 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 1A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 1B.

2.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.6 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for the Barden CGR was 15.

2.7 Of the 15 respondents, 7 reported that they lived in Appletreewick and 6 in the neighbouring parish of Embsay. One respondent was from a community organisation in Appletreewick and another consultation response was made on behalf of Appletreewick Parish Council.

2.8 Of the number of residents supporting a merger (7) 6 supported the suggestion of merging with Appletreewick, as detailed in the table below. 7 other responses were unsure and 1 did not support the idea.

Option	Number	Percentage
Merge with Appletreewick	6	86

Merge with Bolton Abbey	1	14
Total	7	100%

2.9 When asked whether the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, a number of respondents were unsure, whilst the majority agreed, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Yes, definitely	4	27%
Yes, somewhat	3	20%
No	2	13%
I am unsure	6	40%
Total	15	100%

2.10 7 respondents were definitely or somewhat in agreement that the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, whilst 6 respondents were unsure.

2.11 The main reason for the unsure responses were respondents being unclear on what was being proposed. Some respondents stated they were unclear on what was being asked or what a Parish Council does. All consultation responses received have been analysed and taken into account when forming Stage 2 recommendations.

2.12 Annex 1B summarises the feedback received.

2.13 There were no responses from any residents of Barden.

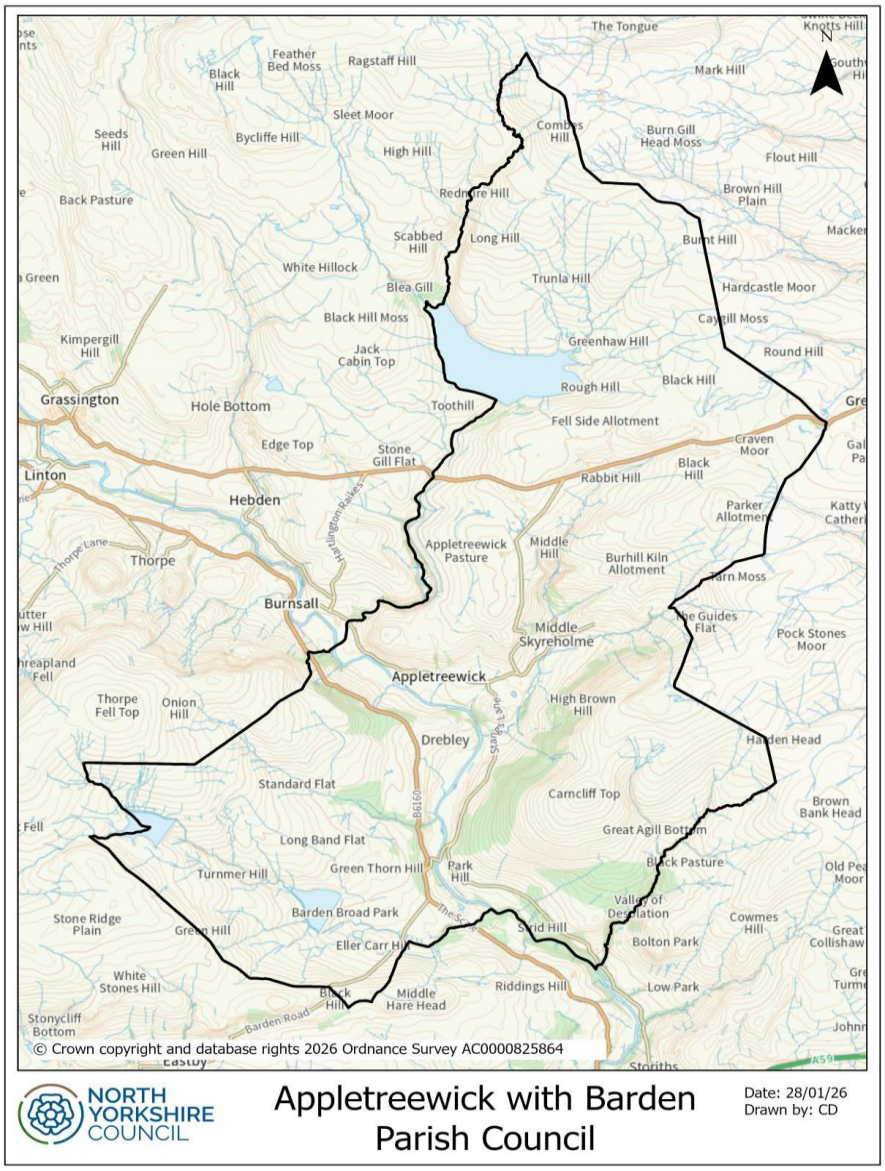
2.14 The comments received from the residents of Appletreewick and the Parish Council suggested that they felt that both parishes could work well together and provide an improved service.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of the 47% responses (86%) indicated support for Barden to merge with the neighbouring parish of Appletreewick. It is therefore proposed to merge the parish of Barden with Appletreewick to form a single parish council.

3.2 The parish would be known as the parish of Appletreewick with Barden

3.3 A map of the recommended parish area is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the existing parish of Barden shall be amalgamated with the parish of Appletreewick

Recommendation 2 – that the new parish boundary is as detailed in the attached map

Recommendation 3 – the new parish shall be known as Appletreewick with Barden

Recommendation 4 - there shall be a parish council for the parish of Appletreewick with Barden

Recommendation 5 - the parish council shall be named Appletreewick with Barden Parish Council

Recommendation 6 – that 5 Councillors are elected to Appletreewick with Barden Parish Council

Recommendation 7 – that the above take effect for administration purposes on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new Parish Council to be held on 6 May 2027 for a term of 4 years. Changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 1A – Consultation survey
Annex 1B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Barden parish

We are consulting residents of Barden and Appletreewick parishes about the future governance of their parish meetings.

Barden and Appletreewick parishes have asked the council to review their current boundaries and undertake a community governance review (CGR) to consider a merger with a neighbouring parish, in order to ensure that parish level governance arrangements continue to operate as effectively as possible.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- [ ] I live in Barden
- [ ] I live in Appletreewick
- [ ] I work in Barden
- [ ] I work in Appletreewick
- [ ] I own a business in Barden
- [ ] I own a business in Appletreewick
- [ ] I am a representative of a community organisation in Barden
- [ ] I am a representative of a community organisation in Appletreewick
- [ ] I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- [ ] Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

There has been a request to merge Barden parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?

- ◯ Yes, I support this idea
- ◯ No, I do not support this idea
- ◯ I am unsure

If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?

- ◯ Leave Barden parish as it is
- ◯ Merge with Appletreewick which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Bolton Abbey which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Embsay-with-Eastby which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Burnsall parish meeting
- ◯ Other suggestion, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Barden parish?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?

- ◯ Yes, definitely
- ◯ Yes, somewhat
- ◯ No
- ◯ I am unsure

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

This consultation will help confirm if it is the best approach for Barden parish and Appletreewick parish. Your feedback is valuable and will help inform the decision.

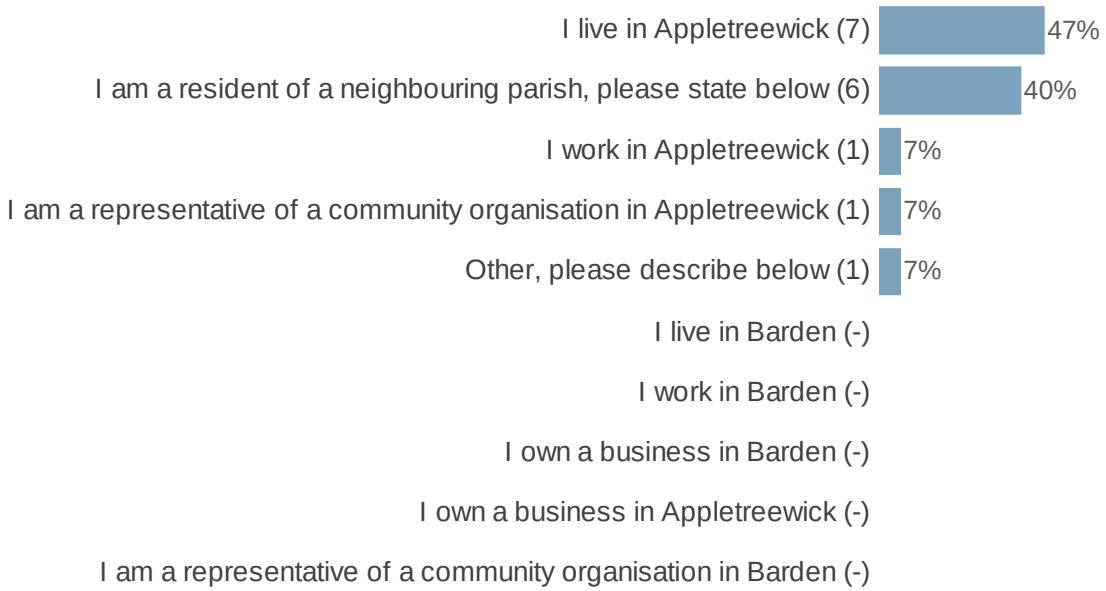
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Barden & Appletreewick

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 15 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 15 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

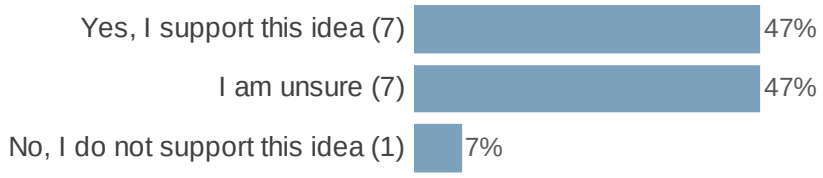


Embsay
Embsay
Embsay with Eastby
Embsay with Eastby
I am Parish Council Clerk

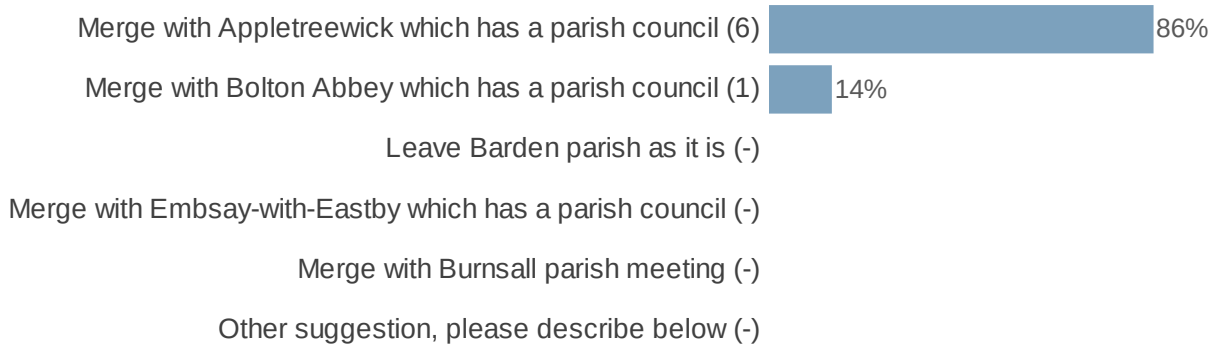
Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

bd23	BD23	BD23	BD23	BD23
BD23	BD23	bd23	BD23	BD23
BD23	Bd23	BD23	BD23	BD23

There has been a request to merge Barden parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?



If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?



Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Merger of contiguous parishes with small populations should save effort and provide improved service. Barden and Appletreewick should be able to work well together, provided that the Council communicates effectively with residents.
The residents of Barden must decidex
I am not clear about what Parish Councils do. I do know what the governance is, who sits on the Parish Council, how Parish Councils are elected/formed, what the Parish Council powers/decision making is, what difference a merger of Councils may have etc...Nothing in this link tells me about what a Parish Council role is and how it could be improved by a merger. Some background information would be useful.
I do not think this is an appropriate idea
Appletreewick and Barden share community events, and highways.
Would there be a rise in council tax? How would the larger parish deal with a wider selection of issues?
I do not. I live in Embsay which is adjacent to Barden and Appletreewick, and whilst we are being consulted regarding this proposal I actually do not see it as being the business of anybody other than electors in Barden and Appletreewick.
Rural villages need to have local representation, merging into a larger council is not always beneficial.

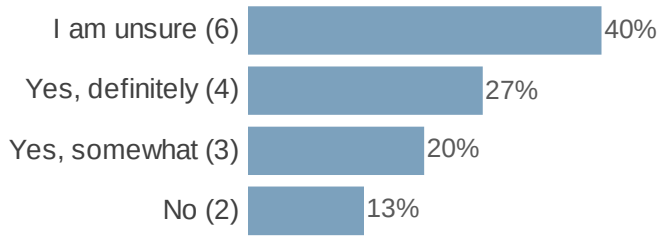
Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

This is the first time I've been made aware of the thoughts of a merger ! One assumes the local parish councillors must have triggered this off. Due to these reasons I've ticked the " unsure " box. Will leave this up to the councillors and any others filling in the questionnaire who may have had more involvement than I have. Sorry that I cannot be any more helpful.
It's important to know the liabilities that Barden may bring. Who will have fiscal responsibilities... Would Barden residents join Appletreewick and Skyreholme for elections/ voting for councillors. There are a lot of questions that need answering before making a decision, so whilst in principle I am in favour....
Geographically it would work well.
In physical locality Barden and Appletreewick are close together and a merger is appropriate. Embsay etc are several miles away. As there are so many homes and holiday cottages a greater number of locals to work together for community benefit is important.
I personally feel that Appletreewick would be a good fit, in that they are adjacent.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Barden parish?

No.
No
No comments as I do not understand what the Parish Council does ?
Why not merge with a smaller neighbouring parish,not embsay, as we are already paired with eastby
Please see my last comments
Not having any direct involvement in local politics I feel that I'm not in a position to contribute any further comments.
As previously stated. It's important to know the details. Is it just a matter of joining both parishes (not sure if Barden has any councillors?) What will Barden bring to the parish of Appletreewick - both positive and negative. I am against a Parish Meeting. I feel that the Parish would need a "council" with some teeth, to bring things together - otherwise it is a case of parishioners turning up at a meeting - saying their part and not doing anything positive leaving it to others....and nothing really happening. With a council there is cohesion and some accountability. However, don't make small parishes overly bureaucratic...it's killing any enthusiasm for local governance.
NO
Currently they are a parish Meeting - joining Appletreewick would increase the demographic and pool for potential councillors.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?



Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

No.
No
Please provide background information on role of Parish Council so that I can make an informed decision.
I would like to see how a Embsay, Eastbu, Barden and Appletreewick council would work, surely a better match would be burnsall.
You should not be consulting with people in adjacent parishes who are not going to be affected by any changes.
Regarding the previous question I lack any information about " the model " Sorry I appear to be so negative but I feel that I have not been presented with sufficient information to answer the consultation very well !
I believe that a Parish Meeting would 'dilute the local democracy' a parish meeting is an open gathering where all locals can attend and vote directly on parish affairs. This whilst providing a more immediate form of local governance - would create chaos and further encourages the domineering vocal sector of the parishioners - which isn't healthy. . The lack of formal structure may also make it harder to attract any dedicated volunteers. The parish would be no longer legally accountable, What would happen to their property and land? They can't bid for grants... Generally I am not in favour of just a Parish Meeting.
Appletreewick has a good Village Hall - Seems very sensible the Review.
The main problem with small parish councils is the small population they represent, the demographic - which is predominantly retired - second homes and distinct lack of youth etc and also a general apathy towards democracy until it affects....

Appendix 2 – Draft Recommendations for Bolton-on-Swale Parish Meeting

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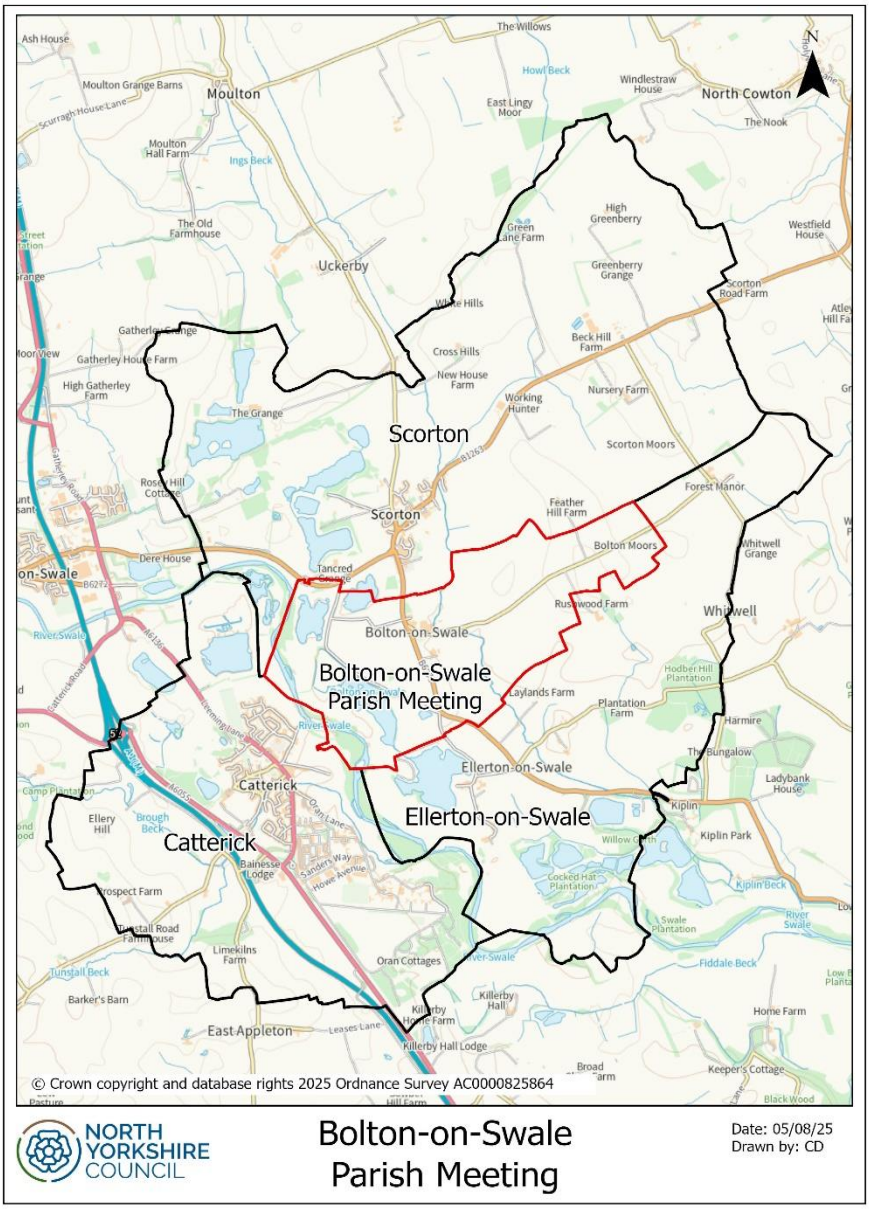
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Bolton-on-Swale is situated within the Catterick Village and Brompton-on-Swale division and is part of the Richmond and Northallerton parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Bolton-on-Swale parish currently has 48 electors and 30 properties. It does not currently claim a precept.

1.3 Bolton-on-Swale has 3 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Scorton, Ellerton-on-Swale and Catterick, all of which have Parish Councils.



1.4 Whilst the area of Bolton-on-Swale is parished it does not have a parish council and is referred to as a parish meeting. This means it does not elect Councillors or hold parish council meetings. Parish meetings must assemble annually between 1 March and 1 June and on at least one other occasion during the year. These meetings are open to the public but only registered electors of the parish can speak and vote.

1.5 Parish meetings can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Bolton-on-Swale does not currently raise a precept.

History of the area

1.6 Bolton-on-Swale Parish meeting originally requested a CGR in December 2023. At that point there was no Chair and the Clerk was considering resigning. There was no interest from the village in taking up either of the positions.

1.7 The parish was claiming a small precept but with no one to convene a meeting to agree a precept for the following year none was levied, and the parish became dormant.

1.8 A conversation with the clerk of Scorton Parish Council in June 2024 discussed the opportunity of Bolton-on-Swale merging with Scorton Parish Council and that this would be discussed at a future Scorton Parish Council meeting.

1.9 Advice was sought and given by Yorkshire Local Council Association (YLCA).

1.10 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Bolton-on-Swale Parish Meeting. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included a defined list of parishes that would be reviewed on 16 July 2025.

Five year electorate forecast

1.11 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Bolton-on-Swale, Scorton and Ellerton-on-Swale is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Bolton-on-Swale	48	50	+2
Scorton	682	703	21
Ellerton-on-Swale	109	105	-4

** based on 2024 electorate totals*

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Bolton-on-Swale parish Meeting

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	517
Consultation responses received	20
Response rate	3.9

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Ellerton-on-Swale, Scorton and Bolton-on-Swale as following the CGR request made by Bolton-on-Swale to merge with a neighbouring parish, these were the 3 areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 2A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 2B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for the Bolton-on-Swale CGR was 20.

2.6 Of the 20 respondents, 14 reported that they lived in a neighbouring parish and 3 lived in Bolton-on-Swale, a further 3 did not state. No response was received from the Division Member. Bolton-on-Swale parish meeting is not functioning so could not provide a response.

2.7 18 respondents answered the question “There has been a request to merge Bolton-on-Swale parish meeting with a neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?”
Of the 18, 94% (17) stated they supported the idea with 1 being unsure.

2.8 The majority of respondents chose to merge with Scorton, as detailed in the table below.

2.9

Option	Number	Percentage
Merge with Scorton which has a parish council	11	69%
	5	31%

Merge with Ellerton-on-Swale which has a parish council		
Total	16	100%

2.10 Scorton Parish Council provided a response confirming their Councillors supported a merge with Bolton-on-Swale but stated they would like to retain the name of the parish council as Scorton Parish Council.

2.11 No response was received from the Divisional Representative.

2.12 Annex 2B summarises the reasons for merging with Scorton Parish Council. Most felt the villages were already closely connected and this would be the most sensible outcome and was a practical solution.

2.13 When asked whether the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, the majority agreed, as detailed in the table below.

Option	**Number**	**Percentage**
Yes, definitely	13	72%
Yes, somewhat	4	22%
I am unsure	1	6%
Total	18	100%

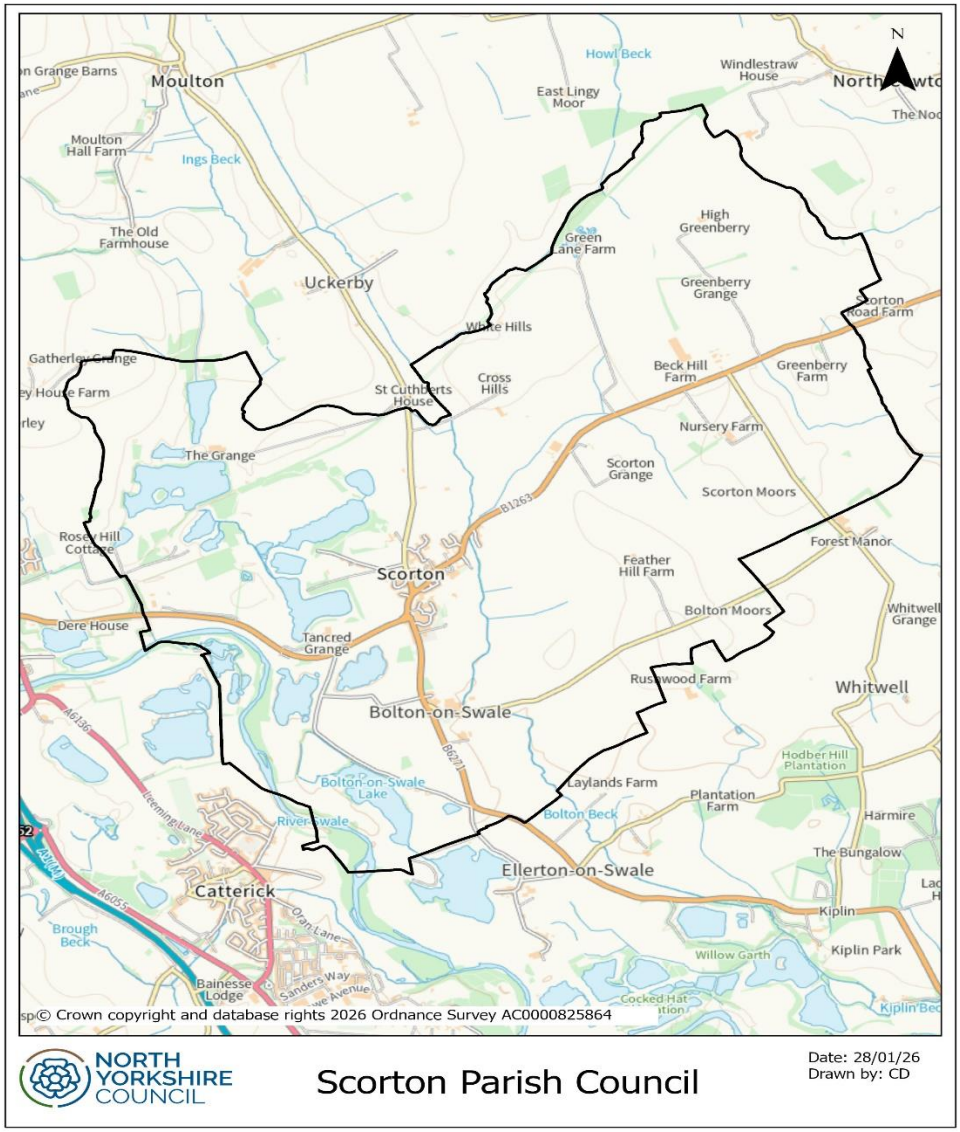
2.14 17 of the 18 respondents were definitely or somewhat in agreement that the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, including the 3 responses from Bolton-on-Swale residents.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (69%) indicated support for Bolton-on-Swale to merge with Scorton. It is therefore proposed to merge the parish of Bolton-on-Swale with Scorton to form a single Parish Council.

3.2 The parish would be known as the parish of Scorton.

3.3 A map of the recommended parish area is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the existing parish of Bolton-on-Swale shall be amalgamated with the parish of Scorton

Recommendation 2 – that the new parish boundary is as detailed in the attached map

Recommendation 3 - the new parish shall be known as Scorton

Recommendation 4 - there shall be a parish council for the parish of Scorton

Recommendation 5 - the parish council shall be named Scorton Parish Council

Recommendation 6 - that 7 Councillors are elected to Scorton Parish Council

Recommendation 7 - that the above take effect for administration purposes on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new Parish Council to held on 6 May 2027 for a term of 4 years. Changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 2A– Consultation survey
Annex 2B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Bolton on Swale parish

We are consulting residents of Bolton on Swale parish, Scorton parish and Ellerton on Swale parish about the future governance of Bolton on Swale parish meeting.

Bolton on Swale parish have asked the council to review their current boundaries and undertake a community governance review (CGR) to consider a merger with a neighbouring parish in order to ensure that parish level governance arrangements continue to operate as effectively as possible.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Bolton on Swale
- ☐ I work in Bolton on Swale
- ☐ I own a business in Bolton on Swale
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Bolton on Swale
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

There has been a request to merge Bolton on Swale parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?

- ◯ Yes, I support this idea
- ◯ No, I do not support this idea
- ◯ I am unsure

If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?

- ◯ Merge with Scorton which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Ellerton on Swale which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Catterick which has a parish council
- ◯ Other suggestion, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Bolton on Swale parish?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?

- ◯ Yes, definitely
- ◯ Yes, somewhat
- ◯ No
- ◯ I am unsure

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

This consultation will help confirm if it is the best approach for Bolton on Swale parish. Your feedback is valuable and will help inform the decision.

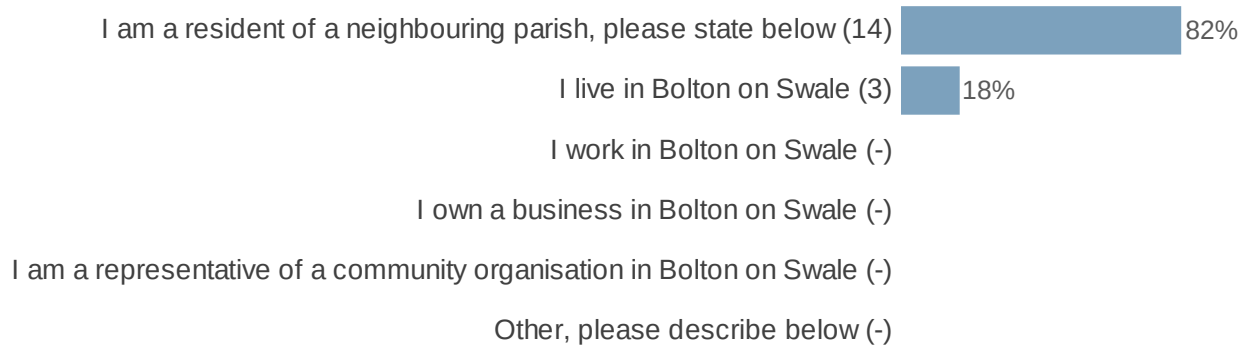
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Bolton on Swale, Scorton, Ellerton

This report was generated on 16/12/25. Overall 20 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 20 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:



I live in Scorton. Please note there is a mistake in the CGR as it talks about Scotton and not Scorton.
Scorton
Scorton
I live in Scorton parish on the border of the Bolton Parish council
I’m currently within the boundary of Ellerton parish, living near forest manor. It makes geographical sense to extend Bolton on Swale Parish to encompass Forest Manor and surrounding area of Forest.
We live in Ellerton On Swale.
I live in Ellerton upon Swale
Ellerton on Swale
Scorton
Scorton
I live in Ellerton on Swale

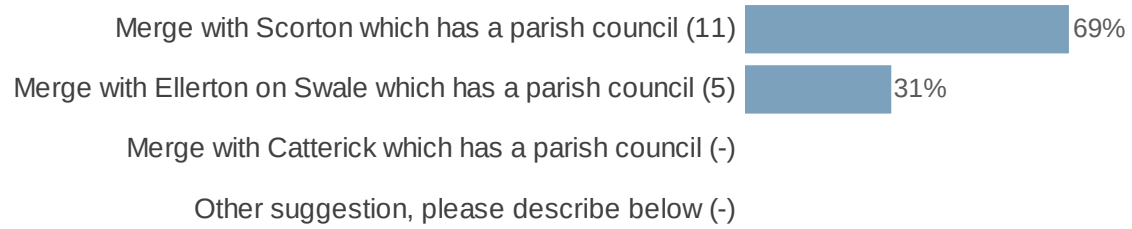
Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10
DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10
DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10	DL10

There has been a request to merge Bolton on Swale parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?



If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?



Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Bolton on Swale sits so close to Scorton, the houses, roads, school, all fit closely together. The graveyard in Bolton serves Scorton and the CofE church in Bolton serves Scorton.
Scorton is the largest village closest to Bolton on Swale and it has a very active parish council who we feel would provide the most positive solution for Bolton on Swale residents. The villages are closely connected with the Bolton on Swale primary school situated between the two villages. To merge with the parish council of Scorton would be the most sensible outcome for the future.
Scorton is in the centre of the map area
Bolton is virtually joined onto Scorton
Either Scorton or Ellerton looked a best match, but felt Ellerton had a more similar match to sparsely populated, little facilities, main and minor roads, rural issues and needs that would marry up well if parishes merged together
I would like to know who instructed the review and why was it residents or was it Scorton Parish Council. What are the benefits for those in Bolton Parish if a merger goes ahead? It’s impossible to comment without more info.
Merge with Scorton.

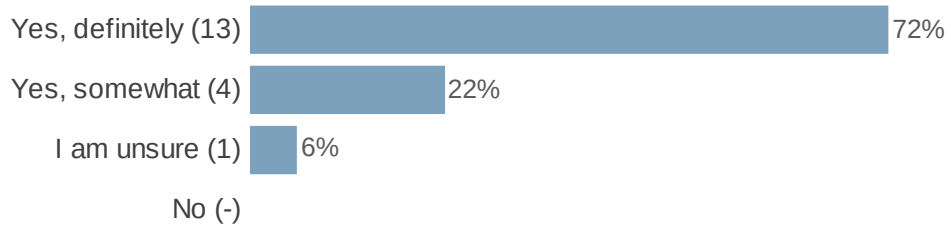
Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

As residents of Ellerton-On-Swale we would be happy to merge with Bolton-on-Swale. A larger parish council will hopefully provide an unbiased review of the villages and awareness of key issues and requirements for the villages. Currently there is no transparent feedback from our own parish council. It is becoming apparent we need litter bins, a new notice board and perhaps a roadside pavement. We would also be interested in feedback about what issues are being discussed at meetings and where funding is being allocated. Relevant feed back could be displayed on a notice board..... if we had one! A proactive parish council may also consider if a speed limit within the village would be advisable. There are many issues which a larger unbiased council could consider for both villages.
Scorton has large existing parish council
Not enough people in Bolton on Swale .A merger between Scorton,Bolton,Ellerton,would be mutually beneficial .We have been residents of Ellerton on Swale since 1978,and have never been informed of any meetings,and unaware of any actions taken
Seems a practical resolution to the defunct parish meeting in Bolton.
Seems sensible
Neighbouring areas and share a lot of things in common. Issues often transverse both parishes
Scorton is nearest to where I live.
Scorton is nearest to where I live.
Response from Scorton Parish Council. Councillors support the merge, and would like to see the name remain as Scorton PC should this merge go ahead. We currently support Bolton on Swale by providing consumables for their defib.
The two parishes are adjacent to each other and are of a similar small size and so could probably have equal influence which prehaps would not happen if they merged with Scorton which would probably take over the council, especially as it is becoming much larger due to excessive house building.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Bolton on Swale parish?

No
No
No, not really
More info needed as to why & if this is what residents want or just for the current parish council in Scorton to have more say on planning applications within Bolton parish given their negative comments on recent planning applications for proposals in Bolton.
None.
If Bolton on Swale merged with Ellerton, there would need to be new appointments of council members so that both villages had equal say in decisions being made.
I would like to be informed of any meetings
Would be sensible to include ellerton as well
No
No
Councillors felt that the letter sent to residents was unclear and didn't mention the potential merge with Bolton on Swale within the letter, we had some queries about this, as some residents didn't understand the letter.
If Bolton and Ellerton were to merge they could have a more effective parish council. I have lived in Ellerton for 12 years and only recently discovered that we had a parish council. There is no communication between community and council. The council is run by the farming families. It would be good to have a more representative group of councillors who could make changes for the benefit of the whole community and not just the landowners.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?



Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Yes. There is an error in the original question, this is for SCORTON and Bolton on Swale and not SCOTTON.
No
I think the views of Bolton parish should be considered mostly.
Lack of info to make an informed decision
No.
There needs to be more transparency within the parish council to allow residence to understand what issues are being discussed and how funding is being allocated.
When we do pay money via council tax to Ellerton on Swale,and nothing usefull has ever been done,what is the point of having a parish council ?
No

Appendix 3 – Draft Recommendations for Dunsforths Parish Meeting

Contents

1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area 2

Current governance arrangements 2

History of the area 2

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2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Dunsforths Parish Meeting 4

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations 7

Annex 3A – Consultation survey 7

Annex 3B – Summary of consultation responses 7

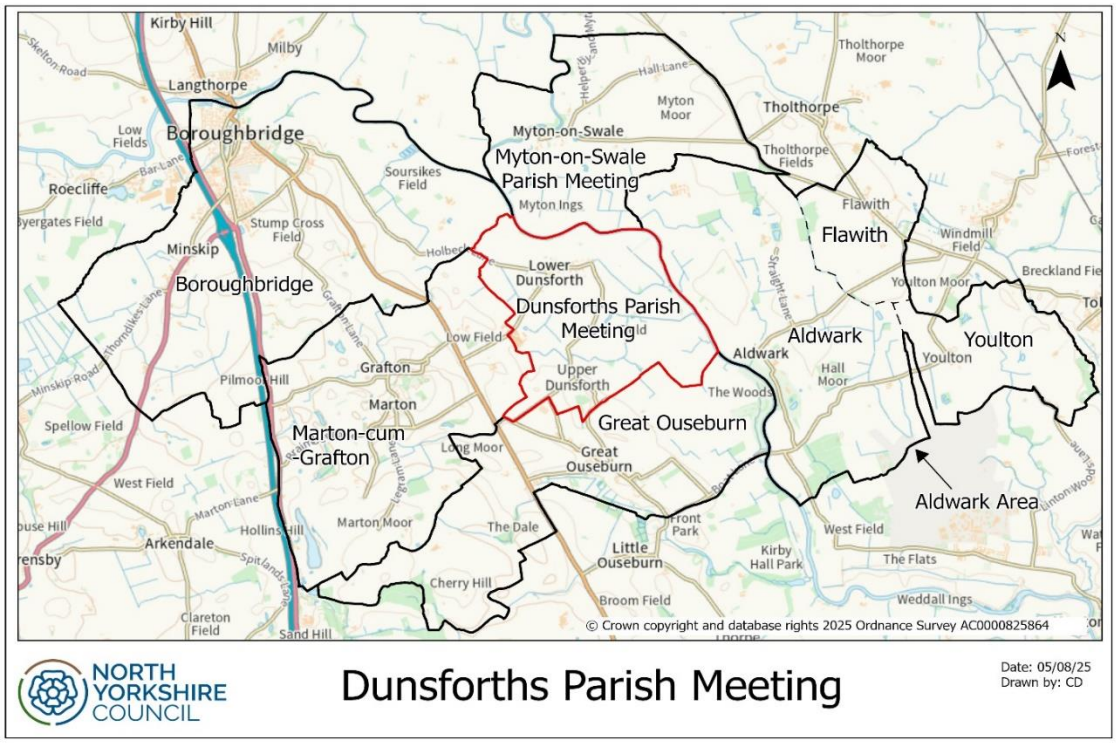
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Dunsforths parish is situated within the Ouseburn division and is part of the Wetherby and Easingwold parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of Upper and Lower Dunsforth.

1.2 Dunsforths parish currently has 224 electors and 117 properties.

1.3 Dunsforths has 5 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Aldwark Area, Boroughbridge, Great Ouseburn, Marton-cum-Grafton and Myton-on-Swale.



1.4 Whilst the area of Dunsforths is parished it does not have a parish council and is referred to as a parish meeting. This means it does not elect Councillors or hold parish council meetings. Parish meetings must assemble annually between 1 March and 1 June and on at least one other occasion during the year. These meetings are open to the public but only registered electors of the parish can speak and vote.

1.5 Parish meetings can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Dunsforths claimed a precept of £2,250 in 2025/26.

History of the area

1.6 Initially Dunsforths requested a CGR in December 2019 as there was little interest in the parish and they were seeking to merge with a neighbouring parish.

1.7 This was not deemed urgent initially as the parish meeting was still functioning. Plans were then aborted due to Covid 19.

1.8 Following a conversation with the ex-clerk and RFO in August 2025 it was confirmed that they still wished to progress with a CGR.

1.9 The Divisional Member commented following liaising with the residents and the parish meeting that Dunsforths would like to be part of the Great Ouseburn parish Council having 2 seats, 1 for Lower Dunsforth and 1 for Upper Dunsforth. The Divisional Member was in support of this suggestion.

1.10 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Dunsforths Parish Meeting. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included a defined list of parishes that would be reviewed on 16 July 2025.

Five year electorate forecast

1.11 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Dunsforths and surrounding areas is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Aldwark Area	262	268	6
Boroughbridge	3584	3358	-226
Dunsforths	224	223	-1
Great Ouseburn	557	516	-41
Marton-cum-Grafton	460	443	-17
Myton-on-Swale	121	124	3

** based on 2024 electorate totals*

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Dunsforths Parish Meeting

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	3247
Consultation responses received	43
Response rate	1.3%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Aldwark Area, Boroughbridge, Dunsforths, Great Ouseburn, Marton-cum-Grafton and Myton-on-Swale as following the CGR request made by Dunsforths to merge with a neighbouring area, these were the areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 3A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 3B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for the Dunsforths CGR was 43.

2.6 Of the 43 respondents, 18 reported that they lived in Dunsforths and 21 in a neighbouring parish. Two respondents were community organisation representatives and another consultation response was made on behalf of Great Ouseburn Parish Council. One respondent did not state.

2.7 When asked about merging with a neighbouring parish whilst 47% supported this, a higher number were either unsure or did not support this, 54% in total.

Option	Number	Percentage
Support	20	47%
Do not support	12	28%
Unsure	11	26%
Total	43	100%

2.8 The majority of respondents that did choose to merge with a neighbouring parish chose either Great Ouseburn or Marton-cum-Grafton, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Merge with Great Ouseburn	9	50%
Merge with Marton-cum-Grafton	6	33%
Other	3	17%
Total		100%

2.9 The comments that were received suggest that the appetite to merge with Dunsforths is not enough to warrant a strong enough recommendation to do so.

2.10 It was clearly made in the feedback received that residents felt “Dunsforths should perhaps look after their own parish affairs and not expect others to do so for them.”

2.11 Comments also suggested that Upper and Lower Dunsforths should be split in two and merged with two different parishes. This however, was not part of the original request.

2.12 There was no strong clear merger identified with suggestions being to merge with Great Ouseburn, Marton cum Grafton, split the parish or remain as is.

2.13 Great Ouseburn and Marton cum Grafton have both advised there is no appetite to merge with Dunsforths.

2.14 When asked whether the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, a number of respondents were unsure or disagreed, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Yes, definitely	10	23%
Yes, somewhat	9	21%
No	9	21%
I am unsure	15	35%
Total	43	100%

2.15 24 respondents disagreed or were unsure that the proposed model would meet the needs of its community.

2.16 The main reason for the unsure responses were respondents being unclear on what was being proposed. Some respondents stated they were unclear on what was being asked or what a Parish Council does. All consultation responses received have been analysed and taken into account when forming Stage 2 recommendations.

2.17 Annex 3B summarises the feedback received.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

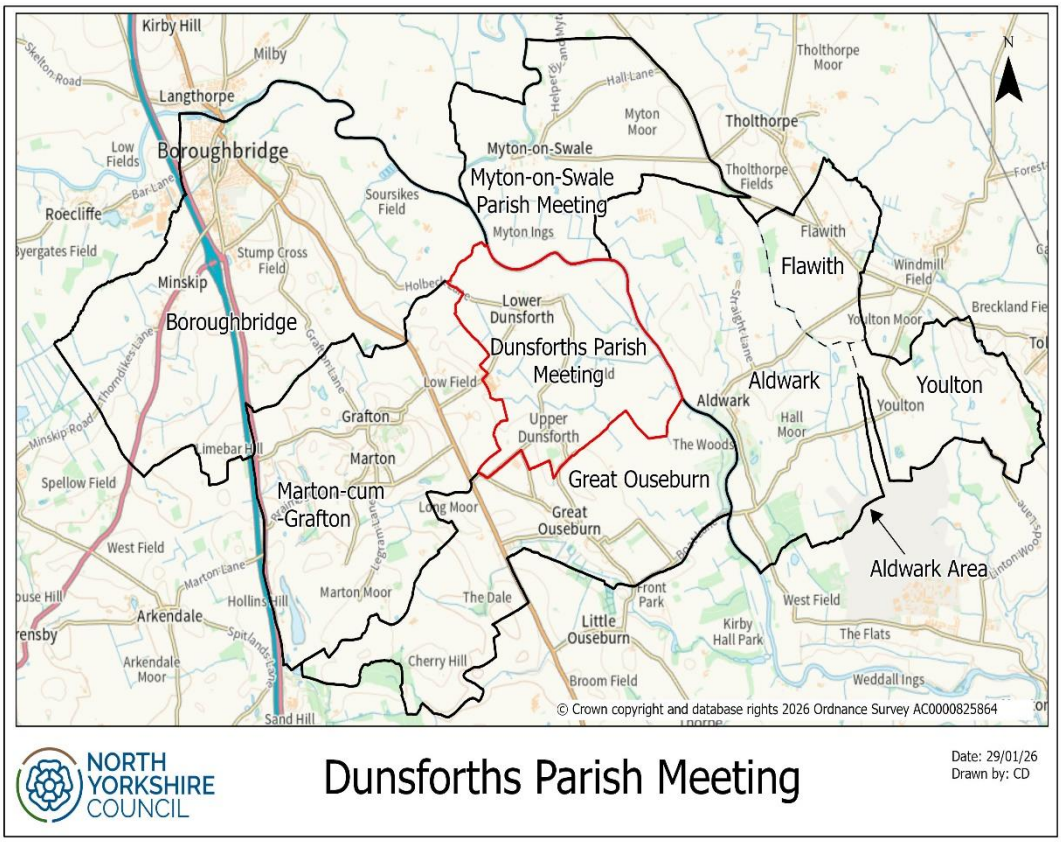
3.1 There was no clear majority of support for a merger with another parish.

3.2 There is no appetite from either Great Ouseburn or Marton cum Grafton to merge with Dunsforths.

3.3 It is therefore proposed to not progress this CGR to stage 2.

3.4 The parish would remain as it is currently.

3.5 A map of the continuing parish is shown below identified by a red boundary:



3.6 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – that the CGR does not progress to stage 2 and electoral arrangements remain as they currently are.

3.7 The recommendations detailed above will end the CGR process for Dunsforths Parish Meeting.

Annex 3A – Consultation survey
Annex 3B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Dunsforths parish

We are consulting residents of Dunsforths parish about the future governance of Dunsforths parish meeting.

The parish have asked the council to review their current boundaries and undertake a community governance review (CGR) to consider a merger with a neighbouring parish in order to ensure that parish level governance arrangements continue to operate as effectively as possible.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

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All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Dunsforths
- ☐ I work in Dunsforths
- ☐ I own a business in Dunsforths
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Dunsforths
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

There has been a request to merge Dunsforths parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?

- ◯ Yes, I support this idea
- ◯ No, I do not support this idea
- ◯ I am unsure

If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?

- ◯ Merge with Aldwark which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Boroughbridge which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Great Ouseburn which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Marton-cum-Grafton which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Myton-on-Swale which has a parish meeting
- ◯ Other suggestion, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Dunsforths parish?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?

- ◯ Yes, definitely
- ◯ Yes, somewhat
- ◯ No
- ◯ I am unsure

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

This consultation will help confirm if it is the best approach for Dunsforths parish. Your feedback is valuable and will help inform the decision.

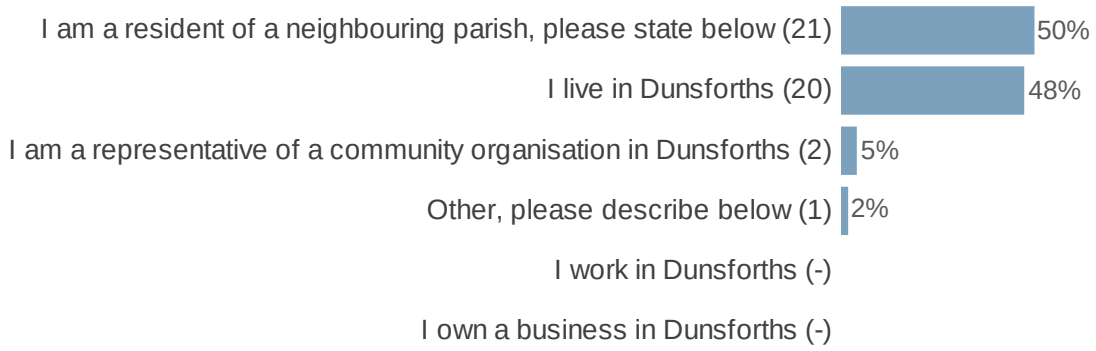
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Dunsforths

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 43 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 43 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

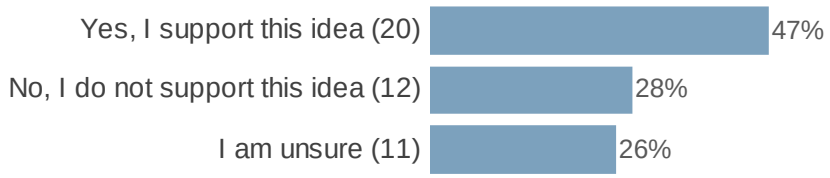


Marton cum grafton	Boroughbridge
Great Ouseburn resident	Great Ouseburn
Boroughbridge	Marton cum Grafton
Marton cum Grafton	Great Ouseburn
Marton cum Grafton	Myton on Swale
great Ouseburn	Great Ouseburn
Martin cum Grafton	Aldwark
Great Ouseburn	Great Ouseburn
Boroughbridge	Great Ouseburn Parish Council - Clerk
Great Ouseburn	

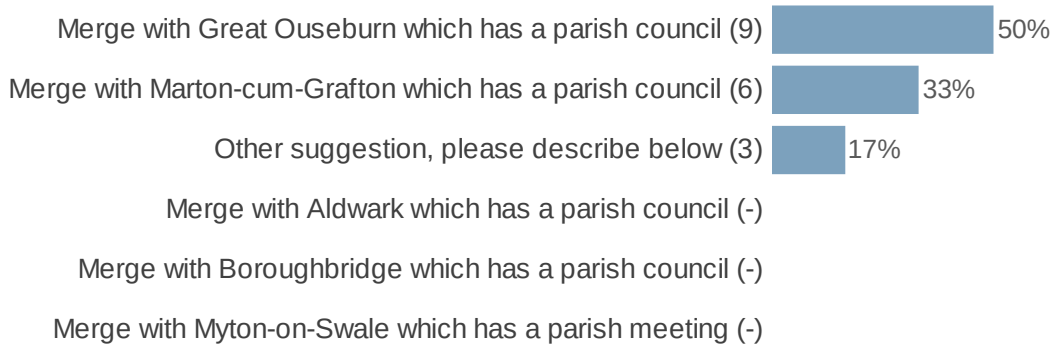
Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Yo51	YO51	YO26	YO26	Yo26	Yo26	YO26	YO26	YO26	YO26	YO26
YO26	YO51	YO51	YO26	YO51	Yo61	YO26	YO26	YO26	YO26	Yo26
YO26	yo26	yo51	Yo51	YO26	Y026	YO26	Yo26	Yo26	Yo26	YO26
YO51	YO51	YO26	YO26	YO26	Yo61	yo26	Yo26	YO26	yo26	

There has been a request to merge Dunsforths parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?



If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?



The geography of the parish and the differences between the two distinct villages that house the majority of the households make it appropriate for the existing parish to be split: Upper Dunsforth to merge with Great Ouseburn and Lower Dunsforth to merge with Marton cum Grafton.
Join with Aldborough and Aldborough seperate from Boroughbridge.
Merge with Aldborough and Aldborough leave Boroughbridge.

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

I don’t know which parish they want to join up with!! If it is marton cum grafton I see no reason for any merger.
It is the nearest village and historically upper Dunsforth was part of Branton which is now part of Great Ouseburn.
Upper and Lower Dunsforth should be split in two. Upper Dunsforth should merge with Great Ouseburn as the two villages are closely aligned.
Would it be with another rural village or would it be merged with a town such as Boroughbridge?
It feels like the Dunsforths are absolving themselves of their responsibility to get organised.
Strengthen the current parishes
This is the first I've heard of it - I would need more information to make a sensible response
It is up to the Dunsforth residents to manage their own parish affairs, and not expect neighbouring parishes to do it for them. To do so would diminish the time that Marton cum Grafton parish councillors have to deal with their own village affairs.
Aldwark is on the other side of the river. Residents of Upper Dunsforth use many of the facilities of Great Ouseburn and it is an easy walk.
I know nothing about the way Dunsforth Parish operates so was surprised that Boroughbridge residents are being consulted.

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

I have no knowledge of the issues faced by the Parish in question
I think the Dunsforth should be able to have access to a parish council, I don't have a strong opinion as to which one it should be but Great Ouseburn is within walking distance
See previous answer
I said I am unsure but best to leave the dunsforths with a parish council if they do not have one
I don't have enough information to make an informed decision one way or the other
Similar terrain along same side of river
It would seem logical to include the Dunsforths (or at least Upper Dusnforth) in with Great Ouseburn Parish Council as they have a common boundary and they have good access to the facilities within Great Ouseburn, such as the village hall, church and public house.
Closest Parish similar
I do not know if it is the most appropriate solution. I do not know why Dunsforth wish to merge and it does not state with whom they would like to merge. Including Myton seems odd as geographically they are close, but physically, separated by the Swale and thus not easy to reach. Including with Boroughbridge Town Council feels as village issues will be swamped by larger issues of Boroughbridge
All are villages without representation.
Dunsforth could merge with Great Ouseburn. Owing to river geography division it makes no sense to merge with Aldwark Area PC
I believe that there is potential merit in merging the Dunsforth parish meeting with an adjoining parish. However, there is no indication as to which parish it is proposed to merge. In reality, if a merger was to go ahead, it would be best to split Lower and Upper Dunsforth. Lower Dunsforth connects more readily with Marton cum Grafton, whilst Upper Dunsforth connects better with Great Ouseburn. After all, parish councils should reflect the communities that they serve. I would feel unrepresented if my parish council was Marton cum Grafton, and I am sure that residents of Lower Dunsforth would feel unrepresented if they were part of Great Ouseburn parish council.
I appreciate how difficult it is to find people to manage the Parish Meeting. Having done the secretary role in the past there is a far amount of work. However as there are only 20 houses I cannot see how we will get a proper representative voted in to a neighbouring PC. How would the accommodate local arrangements here where we get on and manage the copses etc without having to add to every agenda? I would need to talk this through with someone and asks questions to understand better. Will there be a meeting held here with Council officers or has one already happened?
Other villages don't have any particular connection to the Dunsforths and Aldborough doesn't have its own council.
it is a smaller community and already butts on to Lower Dunsforth about halfway along Mary Lane
Because Great Ouseburn Parish Council is run by volunteer councillors who do not deal with the Dunsforths and would prefer to remain responsible for their village only
[redacted] I know how difficult it is maintain interest and be an effective voice in such a small community' Long term residents are getting fewer and newcomers show little interest in the community. We need to be bigger to be effective.
To find support for Dunsforths to manage their own unique area and issues.
Dunsforth is a small comunity
Dunsforth Parish is small but currently self sufficient holding its own regular meetings & deciding things democratically based on the requirements of Dunsforth. A merger into any other parish would see Dunsforth 'swallowed up' into a larger parish and we would be lost & forgotten
Because increasingly we do not have the people in our small village who want to be part of village committee.
Not sure losing independence is necessarilly better

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

The Dunsforths are unique and are formed of very different communities than those in Great Ouseburn or Marton cum Grafton. Dunsforth has its own identity and needs which would be significantly diluted and drowned out by those of neighbouring parish councils.
It would keep the Parish on one side of the A6265. Many of the children in the village of Lower Dunsforth go to Great Ouseburn school, and adults tend to attend events held in the Village Hall. Also many of our Commuted Sums have been spent on the Great Ouseburn Playground, which is well used by our children. There is just a natural tendency to look towards Great Ouseburn rather than Marton-cum-Grafton and I feel the Parish Council would be more understanding of our needs.
The Dunsforths are a small community and I feel that it would be more helpful to be part of a slightly larger community.

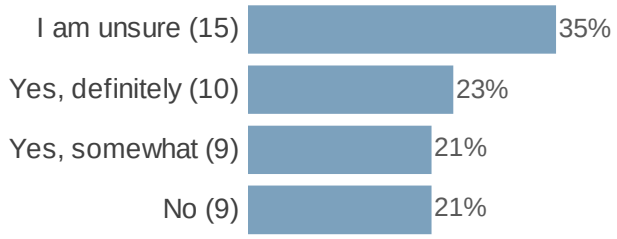
Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Dunsforths parish?

Why is there a proposal to change things? If I knew maybe I could comment further!
I don’t know what they are.
No
I'm not sure you've told me what the proposed changes are
It is up to the Dunsforth residents to manage their own parish affairs, and not expect neighbouring parishes to do it for them. To do so would diminish the time that Marton cum Grafton parish councillors have to deal with their own village affairs.
I support whatever decision the residents of the Dunsforth's decide on
No
See previous answer
There is a clear lack of community engagement within the existing parish as evidenced by the very low attendances at parish meetings and the repeated annual failure to find alternative office holders to the individuals who have reluctantly acted as Chair, Secretary and RFO for many years. This compromises community governance and impairs local democracy, both of which would be better served by elected representatives in a larger parish council(s). The poor attendances at parish meetings demonstrates that simply replacing the existing parish meeting with a parish council whilst retaining the existing parish boundary would not solve the problem given the extremely low likelihood of enough parishioners being willing to stand for election. Merger with a neighbouring council (or two as per my suggestion) provides access to a wider pool of candidates who would have responsibility for administration of the Dunsforths at a local level. Maintaining the existing parish meeting structure for the Dunsforths is not sustainable given the unwillingness of parishioners to stand for office or engage with the existing parish meetings.
I don't have any information on this
No
No
As I’ve said.
No
Only that a single merger of Dunsforths parish meeting with one parish council would fail to deliver proper governance and meaningful representation. The Dunsforths need splitting between Marton cum Grafton and Great Ouseburn parish councils.
Yes - see previous answer and questions.
As above.
Great Ouseburn Parish Council do not have the capacity or the will to take on governance of other parishes

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Dunsforths parish?

If another Village takes it over I fear local issues, ie flood risks and lack of public transport of any kind will be overlooked
Please keep as it is
I believe a union with Martin cum Grafton would be the best solution
None
It should remain independent
We will lose the ability to make decisions for our individual village
No, apart from the fact that several years ago we asked to be considered for a boundary change because it had become so difficult to get people to take on office. and we felt it would be easier to get perhaps two people to stand as Parish Councillors on a larger Council.
I call it progress.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?



Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

More detail is required about the proposed changes.
No.
When will Parish Councils have a greater say what happens in their community? Currently the North Yorkshire council can overrule anything that the PC decides. This is not democracy or devolved power.
A little more information is needed
It is up to the Dunsforth residents to manage their own parish affairs, and not expect neighbouring parishes to do it for them. To do so would diminish the time that Marton cum Grafton parish councillors have to deal with their own village affairs.
No
Existing Dunsforths Parish Meeting office holders have indicated their unwillingness to continue in their roles beyond the outcome of this CGR. With no current parishioners indicating their preparedness to take on these roles (in spite of regular community wide appeals) the only alternative to merge with neighbouring parishes is for the responsibilities of the Parish Meeting to be taken on by NYC. That would not best serve local democracy at this level.
No
No
No

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

The survey is hard to find. The QR code does not go to the survey. It is a webpage of places that are not the parish that I am a resident of, where I received a letter. The letter does not give a deadline. People in neighbouring parishes like mine get a letter but are not guided to what they are supposed to be filling in. Survey badly written. For example it asks whether the proposed model will meet the needs of the community - there was not a clearly articulated proposed model so this is impossible to answer. You really need a peer reviewer on the whole process and the questions. Otherwise you are just wasting time and money.
The proposed model only meets the needs of its communities if the parish meeting is split between Marton cum Grafton and Great Ouseburn parish meetings.
Yes I'd really like to talk it through to understand it better - is that an option?
As above.
None
If changes are being proposed, please consult clearly and transparently with the communities affected. At this stage, there is not enough information available about the benefits of merging with one or another neighbouring parish meeting. If outcomes of the review are not shared then the status quo should be maintained
no

Appendix 4 – Draft Recommendations for Rand Grange Parish Meeting

Contents

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Current governance arrangements 2
History of the area 3
Five year electorate forecast 3
2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Rand Grange Parish Meeting 4
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations 6
Annex 4A – Consultation survey 7
Annex 4B – Summary of consultation responses 7

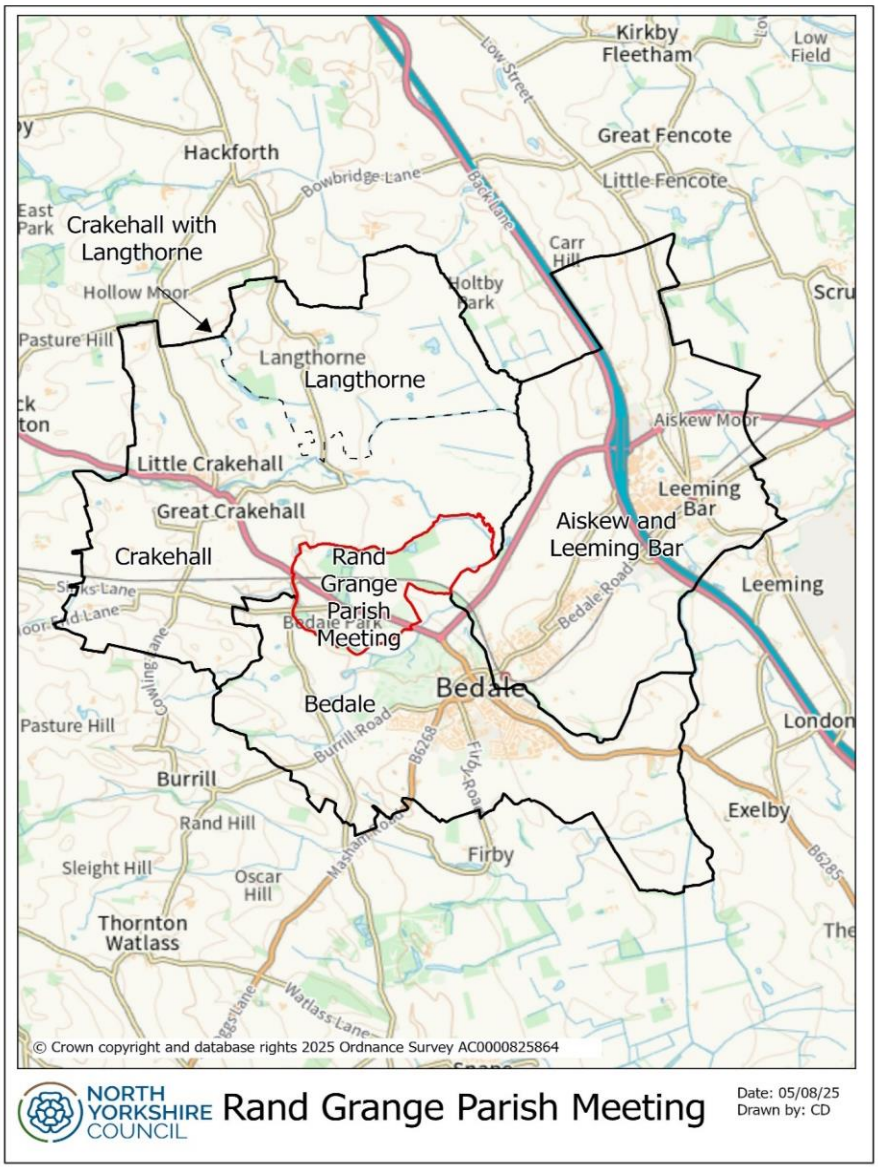
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Rand Grange is situated within the Aiskew and Leeming division and is part of the Thirsk and Malton parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Rand Grange parish currently has 4 electors and 3 properties.

1.3 Rand Grange has 3 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Bedale.



1.4 Whilst the area of Rand Grange is parished it does not have a parish council and is referred to as a parish meeting. This means it does not elect Councillors or hold parish council meetings. Parish meetings must assemble annually between 1 March

and 1 June and on at least one other occasion during the year. These meetings are open to the public but only registered electors of the parish can speak and vote.

1.5 Parish meetings can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish, although as Rand Grange is inactive a precept is not currently raised.

1.6 Rand Grange requested to merge with a neighbouring parish, specifically with Bedale.

History of the area

1.7 Rand Grange Parish meeting has no clerk or Chair and is a non-functioning parish meeting.

1.8 A request was made in April 2025 to specifically merge with Bedale Town Council.

1.9 Bedale Town Council are receptive to this and support the merge.

1.10 The Divisional Member, Cllr David Webster provided a response and confirmed his support for a merger with Bedale Town Council.

1.11 Rand Grange currently sits in the Aiskew and Leeming division which under the 2023 Boundary Commission Review of Parliamentary Constituencies, remains in Thirsk and Malton but will become the Bedale and Aiskew division. These changes will take effect at the next General Election.

1.12 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Rand Grange Parish Meeting. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included a defined list of parishes that would be reviewed on 16 July 2025.

1.13 As Rand Grange Parish Meeting is currently inactive, it is not within the interest of the public to keep the current governance arrangements as local electors are not currently represented by an active parish meeting. A merger with Bedale Parish Council will ensure that electors are represented by a parish council.

1.14 Bedale parish has 2664 electors and 1724 properties.

Five year electorate forecast

1.15 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Rand Grange and Bedale is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Rand Grange	4	5	+1
Bedale	2664	2694	30

** based on 2024 electorate totals*

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Rand Grange Parish Meeting

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	1727
Consultation responses received	10
Response rate	0.6%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Rand Grange and Bedale as following the CGR request made by Rand Grange to merge with Bedale, these were the 2 areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 4A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 4B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for the Rand Grange CGR was 10.

2.6 Of the 10 respondents, 7 reported that they lived in Bedale. Two respondents were community organisation representatives and 1 respondent was the Division Member for Bedale.

2.7 When asked if they were in support of a merger with Bedale parish 90% (9) said they did support this idea with 1 respondent being unsure, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Yes, I support this idea	9	90
I am unsure	1	10
Total	10	100%

2.8 Annex 4B summarises the feedback and the reasons people gave for their choice to merge Rand Grange Parish Meeting with Bedale Parish Council.

2.9 Most respondents commented that it made sense to merge the two parishes due to the small number of properties effected and the fact that it would then allow them to be part of a bigger Council.

2.10 Bedale Town Council submitted a response supporting them taking on some or all of the parish in the interests of seeing first tier representation for the area's residents.

2.11 Cllr David Webster, Division Member for Bedale submitted a consultation response showing his support for the merger "Rand Grange is geographically close to Bedale and identifies with the town. I agree with the views of Bedale Town Council."

2.12 When asked whether the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, the majority of respondents were in agreement, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Yes, definitely	7	70%
Yes, somewhat	2	20%
I am unsure	1	10%
Total	10	100%

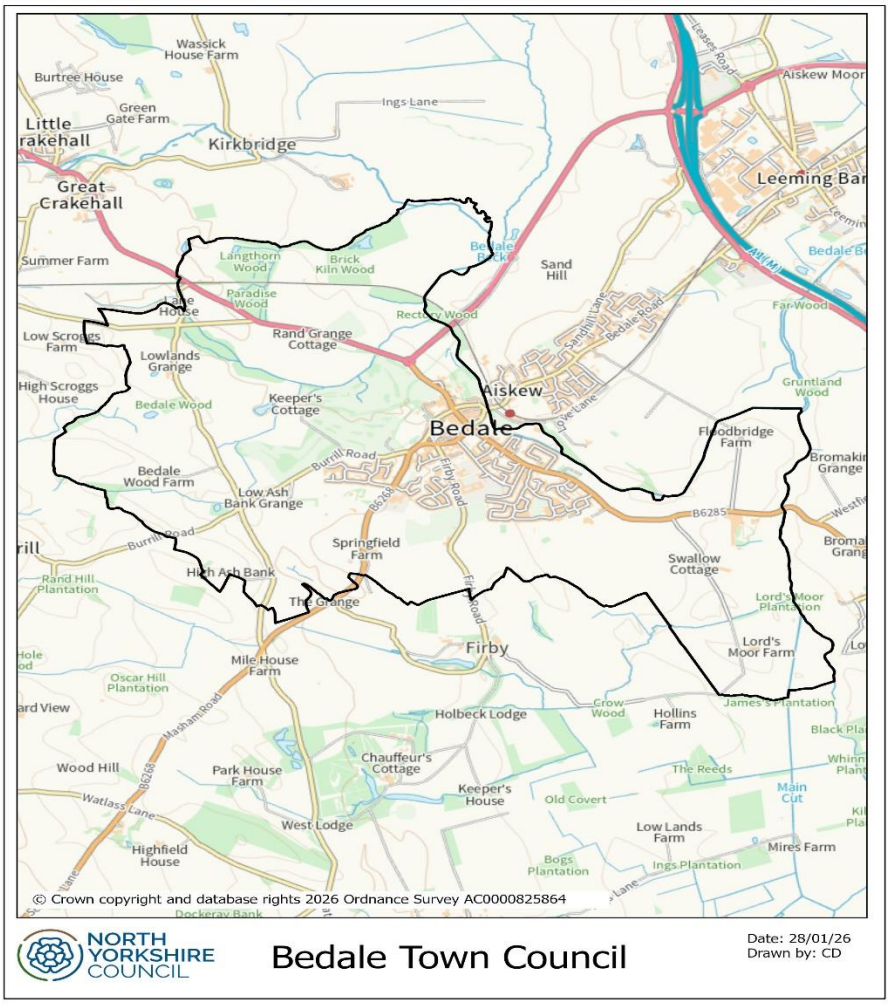
2.13 9 respondents were either definitely or somewhat in agreement that the proposed model would meet the needs of its community.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (90%) indicated support for Rand Grange parish to merge with Bedale. It is therefore proposed to merge the parish of Rand Grange with Bedale to form a single parish council.

3.2 The parish would be known as the parish of Bedale.

3.3 A map of the recommended parish area is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the existing parish of Rand Grange shall be amalgamated with the parish of Bedale

Recommendation 2 – that the new parish boundary is as detailed in the attached map.

Recommendation 3 – that the new parish shall be known as Bedale

Recommendation 4 – there shall be a town council for the parish of Bedale

Recommendation 5 - the town council shall be named Bedale Town Council

Recommendation 5 – that 10 Councillors are elected to Bedale Town Council

Recommendation 5 – That the above take effect for administration purposes on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new Parish Council to held on 6 May 2027 for a term of 4 years. Changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 4A – Consultation survey
Annex 4B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Rand Grange parish

We are consulting residents of Rand Grange parish and Bedale parish about the future governance of Rand Grange parish meeting and Bedale Town Council.

Bedale Town Council has asked the council to undertake a community governance review (CGR) to consider a merger with Rand Grange parish in order to ensure that parish level governance arrangements continue to operate as effectively as possible.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

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All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Rand Grange
- ☐ I live in Bedale
- ☐ I work in Rand Grange
- ☐ I work in Bedale
- ☐ I own a business in Rand Grange
- ☐ I own a business in Bedale
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Rand Grange
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Bedale
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

There has been a request to merge Rand Grange parish meeting with Bedale parish which has a Town Council. What is your opinion?

- ○ Yes, I support this idea
- ○ No, I do not support this idea
- ○ I am unsure

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Rand Grange Parish and Bedale Parish?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?

- ◯ Yes, definitely
- ◯ Yes, somewhat
- ◯ No
- ◯ I am unsure

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

This consultation will help confirm if it is the best approach for Rand Grange Parish and Bedale Parish. Your feedback is valuable and will help inform the decision.

Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Rand Grange & Bedale

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 10 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 10 cases fall into this category.

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Please tick which best describes you:

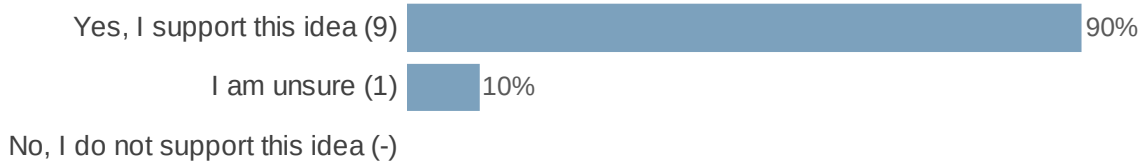


I represent Bedale on North Yorkshire Council

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

dl8	DL8	DL8
DL8	DL8	DL8
DL8	DL8	DL8
DL8		

There has been a request to merge Rand Grange parish meeting with Bedale parish which has a Town Council. What is your opinion?



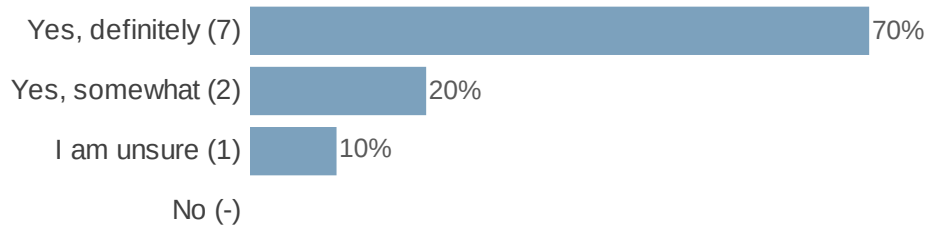
Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

makes sense to merge when Rand Grange parish meeting is so small and so few people are impacted
Makes sense
Rand Grange Parish Meeting is not active - unsurprisingly, as the parish has almost no residents. Those who do live there are in Bedale for all practical and societal purposes, and should therefore be able to contribute to and benefit from Bedale Town Council's activities. Also, Bedale Athletic and Sports Association, one of the town's best known facilities, is currently in Rand Grange rather than Bedale which seems counter-intuitive.
This makes total sense. RAnd only has 10 residents and the admin burden is much better covered by the local Town Council
There is not enough information readily available that explains what the existing conditions are for both parishes and how the proposed merger will change these conditions.
I understand that Rand Grange Parish Council has not met for many years, and therefore the residents have had no "voice". Post merger with Bedale Town Council they will once again be enabled to take part in local governance. The alternative of resurrecting Rand Grange Parish meeting would involve undesirable bureaucracy and expense.
A Town Council should be more authoritative than a Parish Council; and should be taken notice of more readily, by higher authorities, such as the County Council
This would improve representation for the residents of Rand Grange
Rand Grange is geographically close to Bedale and identifies with the town

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Rand Grange Parish and Bedale Parish?

No	No comments
I approve of them	No
I support the merge entirely.	I agree with the views of Bedale Town Council.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?



Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Make the webpage and navigation a lot simpler in future
no

Appendix 5 – Draft Recommendations for Spennithorne Parish Meeting

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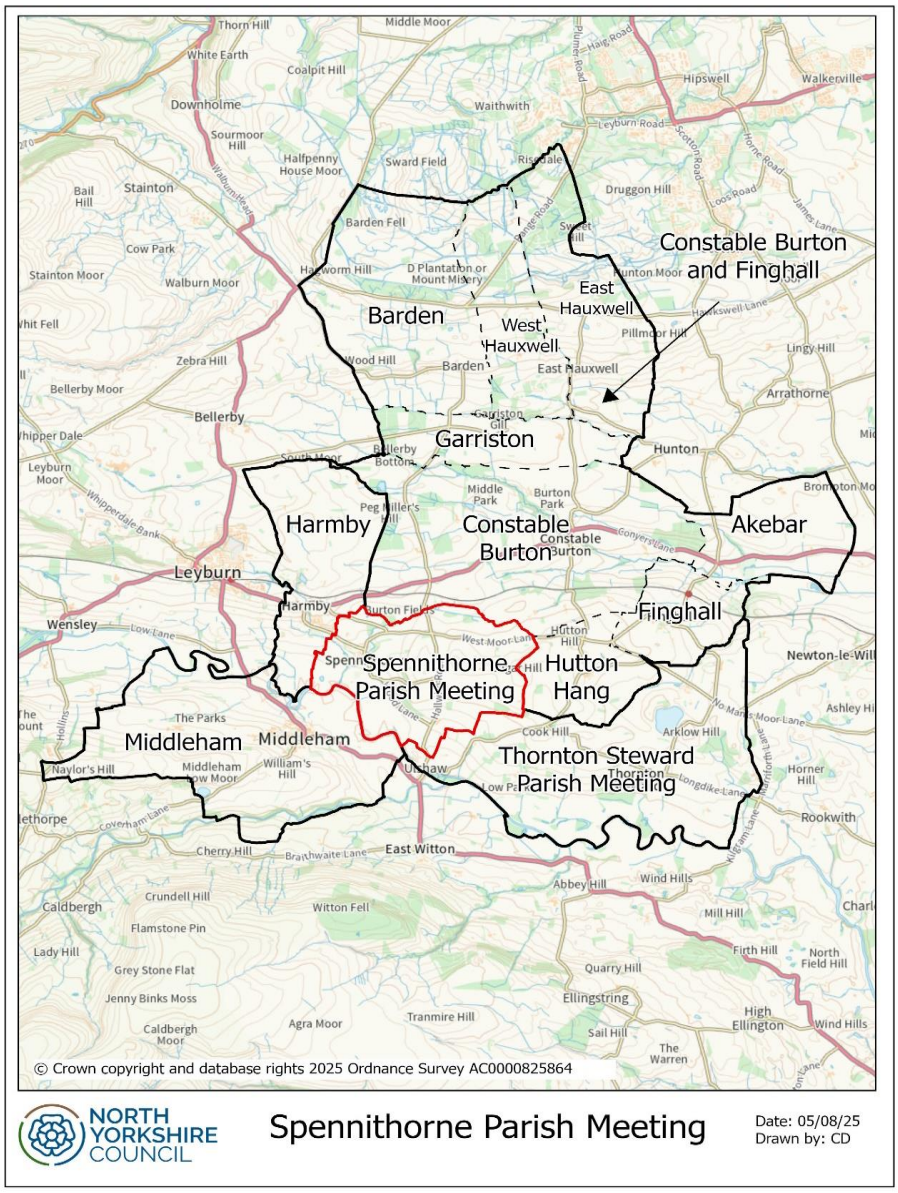
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Spennithorne parish is situated within the Scotton and Lower Wensleydale division and is part of the Richmond and Northallerton parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Spennithorne parish currently has 160 electors and 103 properties.

1.3 Spennithorne has a number of neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Harmby.



1.4 Whilst the area of Spennithorne is parished it does not have a parish council and is referred to as a parish meeting. This means it does not elect Councillors or hold parish council meetings. Parish meetings must assemble annually between 1 March

and 1 June and on at least one other occasion during the year. These meetings are open to the public but only registered electors of the parish can speak and vote.

1.5 Parish meetings can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Spennithorne raised a precept of £2,650 in 2025/26.

1.6 Spennithorne Parish Meeting initially requested to merge with a neighbouring parish with Harmby being the preferred option.

History of the area

1.7 In November 2023 Spennithorne agreed at a parish meeting to continue as a parish meeting as initially there was little appetite from Harmby to merge with Spennithorne.

1.8 In May 2025 the Chair E-mailed advising that the clerk has resigned.

1.9 The parish meeting continued to struggle for volunteers and had no interest in the clerk position.

1.10 Harmby Parish Council have now confirmed they are in favour of a merger with Spennithorne.

1.11 Harmby currently has 337 electors and 199 properties and there are 5 Councillors on the parish council.

1.12 There was no response from the Divisional Representative.

Five year electorate forecast

1.13 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Spennithorne and Harmby is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Spennithorne	160	168	+8
Harmby	337	348	+11

** based on 2024 electorate totals*

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Spennithorne Parish Meeting

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	1132
Consultation responses received	24
Response rate	2.1

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Constable Burton and Finghall, Harmby, Middleham Town and Thornton Steward as following the CGR request made by Spennithorne to merge with a neighbouring parish, these were the areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 5A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 5B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for the Spennithorne CGR was 24.

2.6 Of the 24 respondents, 7 reported that they lived in Spennithorne and 13 in a neighbouring parish, of which 7 was Harmby. 2 respondents were community organisation representatives and 2 others did not state.

2.7 The majority of respondents chose to merge with a neighbouring parish, as detailed in the table below.

Option	**Number**	**Percentage**
Yes, I support this idea	19	79%
No, I do not support this idea	3	13%
I am unsure	2	8%
Total	24	100%

2.8 Of the 19 residents supporting a merger 18 supported the suggestion of merging with Harmby, with 1 suggesting a merger with Constable Burton and Finghall.

2.9 When asked if the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, a majority of 16 respondents agreed that it would, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Yes, definitely	13	54%
Yes, somewhat	3	13%
No	3	13%
I am unsure	5	21%
Total	24	100%

2.10 All consultation responses received have been analysed and taken into account when forming Stage 2 recommendations.

2.11 Annex 5B summarises the feedback received.

2.12 The comments generally supported the idea of the merger as the two villages already have long standing joint community ventures, currently work together on a frequent basis and share amenities.

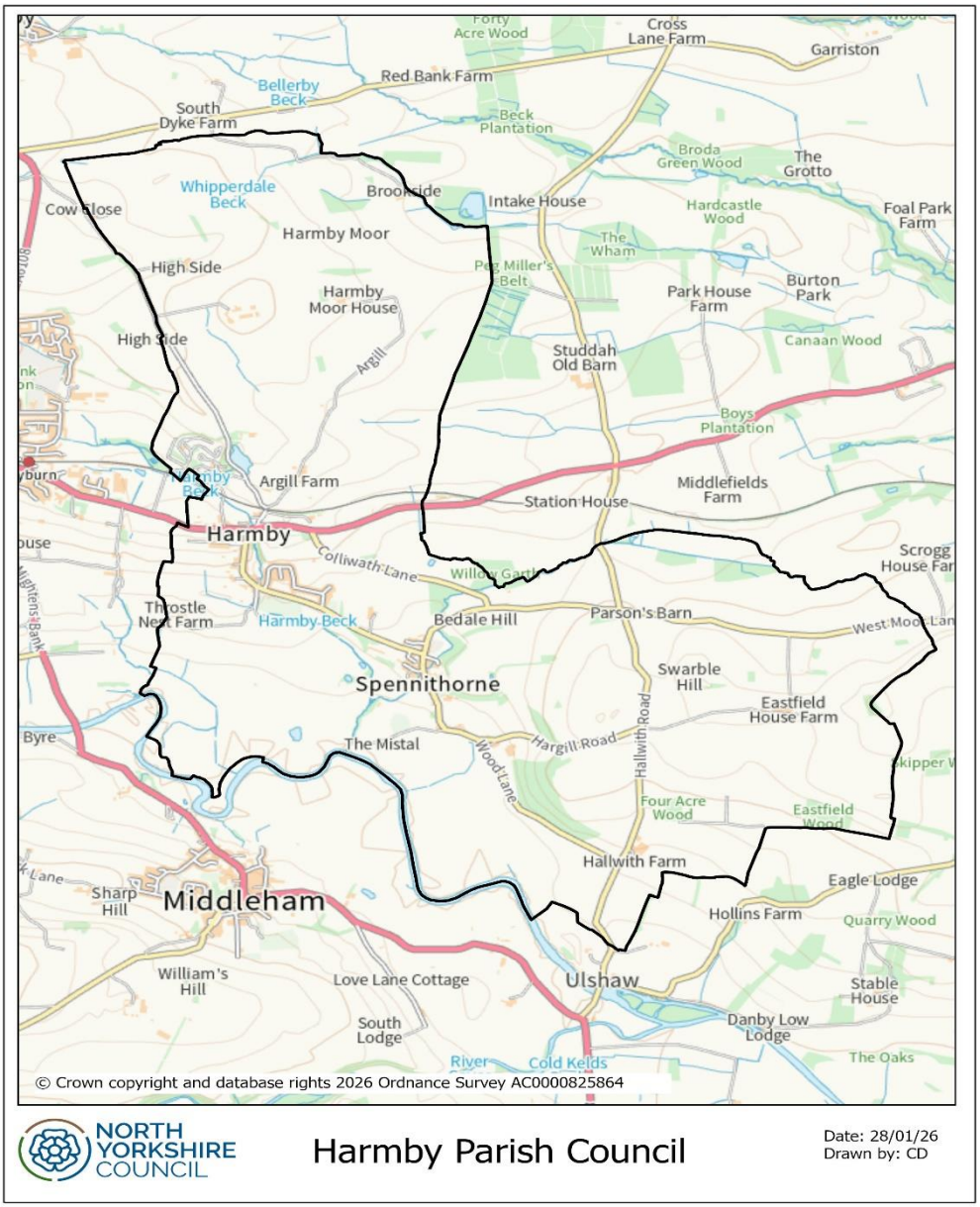
2.13 The reason the CGR request was initially made was due to the difficulties in recruiting volunteers to the parish meeting. It was felt that a merger with a strongly led Council would improve matters.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of the 79% responses (95%) indicated support for Spennithorne to merge with the neighbouring parish of Harmby. It is therefore proposed to merge the parish of Spennithorne with Harmby to form a single parish council.

3.2 The parish would be known as the parish of Harmby.

3.3 A map of the recommended parish of Harmby is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the existing parish of Spennithorne be amalgamated with the parish of Harmby

Recommendation 2 – that the new parish boundary is as detailed in the attached map.

Recommendation 3 – the new parish shall be known as Harmby

Recommendation 4 – there shall be a parish council for the parish of Harmby

Recommendation 5 - that the Parish Council be named Harmby Parish Council.

Recommendation 6 – that 5 Councillors are elected to Harmby Parish Council.

Recommendation 7 – that the above take effect for administration purposes on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new Parish Council to held on 6 May 2027 for a term of 4 years. Changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 5A – Consultation survey
Annex 5B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Spennithorne parish meeting

We are consulting residents of Spennithorne parish, Harmby, Constable Burton, Middleham and Thornton Steward about the future governance of Spennithorne parish meeting.

Spennithorne parish have asked the council to review their current boundaries and undertake a community governance review (CGR) to consider a merger with a neighbouring parish in order to ensure that parish level governance arrangements continue to operate as effectively as possible.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Spennithorne
- ☐ I work in Spennithorne
- ☐ I own a business in Spennithorne
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Spennithorne
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

There has been a request to merge Spennithorne parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?

- ◯ Yes, I support this idea
- ◯ No, I do not support this idea
- ◯ I am unsure

If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?

- ◯ Merge with Harmby which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Constable Burton and Finghall which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Middleham Town which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Thornton Steward parish meeting
- ◯ Other suggestion, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Spennithorne parish?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?

- ◯ Yes, definitely
- ◯ Yes, somewhat
- ◯ No
- ◯ I am unsure

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

This consultation will help confirm if it is the best approach for Spennithorne parish. Your feedback is valuable and will help inform the decision.

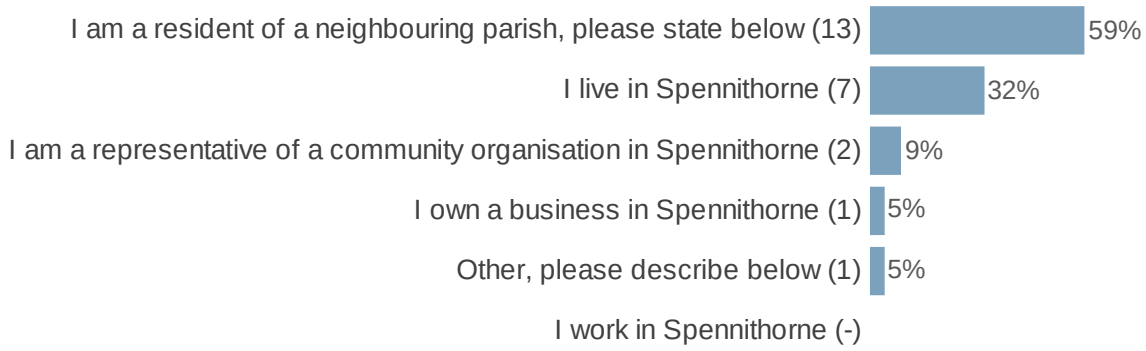
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Spennithorne

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 24 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 24 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

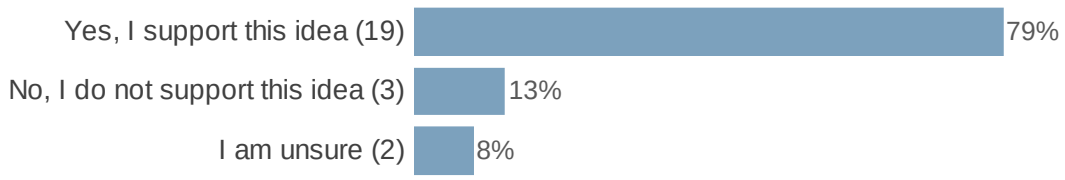


Harmby	Harmby	Thornton Steward
Middleham	Middleham	Harmby
Harmby	resident of Harmby	Middleham
Neighbouring Parish Council	Thornton Stewart	Harmby

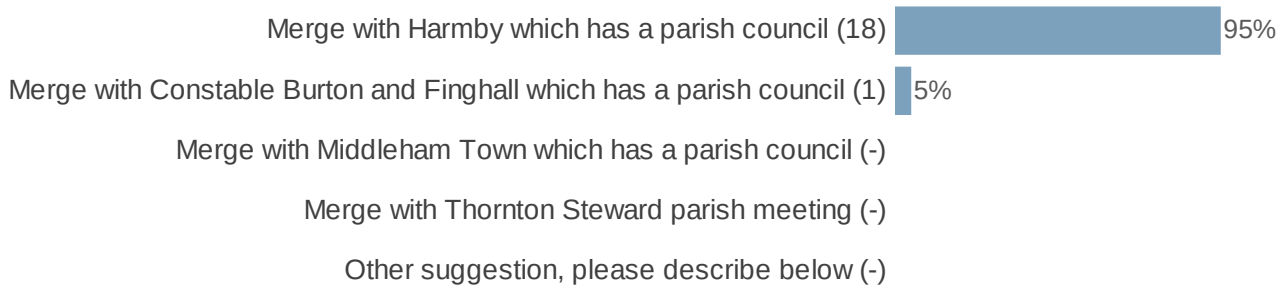
Please state the first part of your postcode: **(for example YO21)**

DL8	DL8	DL8	Dl8	DL8	dl85	DL8
DL84	DL8	DL84	DL84	DL8	DL8	DL8
DL8	DL8	DL8	Dl85	HG44	DL8	DL8
DL8	DL85					

There has been a request to merge Spennithorne parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?



If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?



Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

The villages of Harmby and Spennithorne already have a number of long standing joint community clubs/associations including the Sports Association, ta football club and a cricket club. The villages are less than half a mile apart.
Middleham has specialist interests - stables, Low Moor etc. so that might not be best served by a merger. There is a link between the school however that might be improved with a merger.
Harmby and Spennithorne share amenities such as the Village Hall, Sports Field, Church, Pub. However they are each below a critical number of people to effectively run all of these, and neither the Parish Council or Parish Meetings are as effective as they could be. The two villages come togetrher well when events take place e.g. Setting up community ownership of the Old Horn, Church events, Spennithorne and Harmby Villages Show, events at the Old Horn.
The Council discussed the Community Governance review papers at its meeting on the 24th September 2025, in particular the request from Spennithorne Parish meeting to merge with a neighbouring Parish. Middleham Town Council felt that it would not be a good fit for it to merge with Spennithorne Parish meeting due to their being neighbouring Parishes in much closer proximity, such as Harmby Parish Council.
Harmby and Spennithorne have certain joint facilities already and often work together as a community.
The two villages are geographically close and share many facilities for example sports clubs, cemetary, village hall, WI.
Nearest.
They have a long, contiguous boundary and share more common issues than Spennithorne and Middleham, whose only link is the federation of their two schools.
Spennithorne has a more direct and wider border with these
At present Spennithorne and Harmby have joint activities and so it would seem logical for the parish councils to merge.
Spenni and harmby have logical ties
Middlehams needs do not link with Spenniethornes. The racing stables and local challenges do not aligned there are better fits.
We have operated under the guise of a soft merger for years at any rate. The Old Horn community pub was formed on the back of Spennithorne and Harmby residents. Many Harmby residents are shareholders in the pub. The football, cricket teams are all under the umbrella of Harmby / Spennithorne. Makes complete sense to merge, buying power and quotes for works will be better. No use being an island, merging with Harmby will enhance both parish councils instead of seeing natural decline. Thank you for considering.
the two villages share a number of amenities, including village hall, sports ground, cemetery, and are frequently considered by residents to be constituent elements of a shared community
Two small villages next to adjoining villages

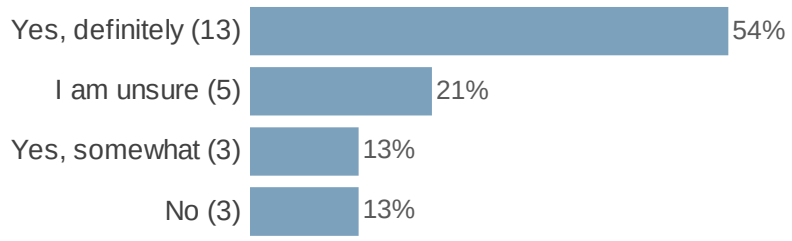
Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

The two villages are immediately adjacent to each othre and share many facilities. Harmby has the village hall and the football and sports field. Spennithorne has the primary school, the church, the cricket ground and a community owned pub.
After having a Parish Meeting on 15/10/2025 the unanimous decision was not to merge with Spennithorne. The individuals present at the meeting felt it would increase the workload, increase meetings and times of meetings and give us less say in how we spend our precept.
I do not support any merger with Harmby. Harmby Parish council already have enough responsibilty for ?? parishioners, the cemetery, all the sports facilities: football, tennis etc.
Spennithorne and Harmby are frequently linked together and are only separated by two fields. If we were merged and therefore larger, we might get more open representation. Spennithorne have always posted their information on their board. People there have seemed more informed when their council was fully staffed. We already have a joint committee for the cemetery. We also have a joint village show and a joint WI. They have the church in their parish and we have the village hall and sports field in our parish. People from both parishes were instrumental in establishing a community pub in Spennithorne. A new merged parish council might reinvigorate the information we receive, for example, minutes online, (2015 seem to be the last ones online) notice of annual meetings that members of the public can attend, etc. It might also prompt councillors to engage more with parishoners and promote more community empowerment. We might also get a new notice board that was less cloudy and therefore easier to read. Merging would therefore improve both parishes.
I understand they are linked parochially with Harmby so presume links are strong
The driving reason for our request for a CGR is that there is a massive problem trying to recruit volunteers to take positions on the Parish Meeting. We are still without a Parish Clerk and there is no interest whatsoever to fill the vacancy. Merging with Harmby who have a strong team will improve matters. Spennithorne and Harmby already have many links, sporting and other community ties which make a merger worth strong consideration.
There already overlaps between the two parishes
I do not know where the request has come from and am not aware of a request by the Parish Meeting. My reason for supporting a merger with Harmby is that I believe Spennithorne should have a Parish Council. There are a number of existing links with Harmby and facilities used by both villages - school, church, pub village hall as well as sporting links. Spennithorne Parish Meeting is effectively inactive. There has been no meeting since February of this year. There is a Parish Chairman but the post of Parish Clerk has been vacant for some time and, as far as I am aware, remains unfilled. If a merger with Harmby were to proceed, the combined parish should be warded to ensure Spennithorne has its own separate representation. Further, the Harmby Spennithorne development gap must be preserved and not prejudiced by a merger of the parishes.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Spennithorne parish?

I don't know anything about this.
I don't live in Spennithorne but from speaking with some residents there I get the feeling that the Parish Meeting struggles to get things done and can get bogged down in relatively small issues e.g. trying to work out future ownership of the Pinfold.
A merger would inevitably mean that issues unique to Spennithorne could not receive the same level of attention as they would if Spennithorne remained as a stand alone village meeting
The Parish Meeting is not functioning as it should, mainly because no one wants to be Clerk.
It makes sense for these two small communities to combine their meetings.
No
Simply choose a community or parish with similar Demographics.
As in the previous answer.
No
The proximity of the two villages and their shared facilities (stated above) mean that one parish council would be a sensible solution for this smallest level of local government.
Spennithorne should merger with another small small area(s) to make the adiministration more efficient.
I think it is a good idea to merge.
No
If the merger between spennithorne and Harmby were to happen then there needs to be equal representation to ensure that the needs of both communities are met fairly.
See above

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?



Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

We have had no sight of what/why Spennithorne wish to merge, so it is hard to have a view. We have had no information from the Middleham Parish Council.
This has been talked about in both villages for a while and most people that I've spoken with seemed to think it was logical and was bound to happen. Then it was stalled, apparently because one of the villages would not agree, and people could not understand why.
Complete as soon as possible please.
No thanks
No
No.
Brilliant timing
No
I am grateful for it. I hope it leads to greater, more open engagement in our local area, which I feel is very important now that we are part of a larger council.
No
Linking Spennithorne and Harmby's governance makes sense from staff recruitment and procedural points of view, but does increase the risk of any future building development planning applications being granted and ultimately merging the physical areas, creating many problems, (an example is the recently declined building proposals in Spennithorne). If a merger were to go ahead, the actual separate village boundaries must be kept entirely clear with the attendant green space between.
I am unsure what the proposed model is, but I have given my views on what I believe should be done.

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Appendix 6 – Draft Recommendations for Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting

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Current governance arrangements 2

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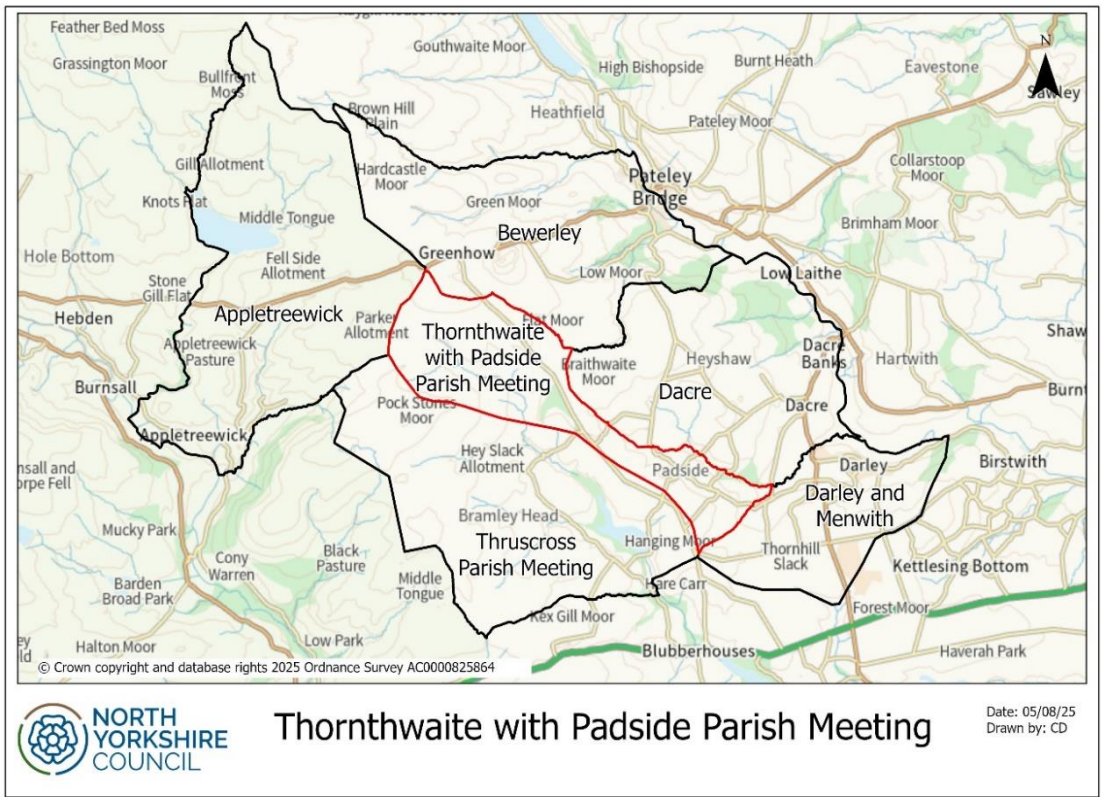
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting is situated within the Pateley Bridge and Nidderdale division and is part of the Skipton and Ripon parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the small village of Thornthwaite and the small hamlet of Padside.

1.2 Thornthwaite with Padside parish currently has 156 electors and 79 properties.

1.3 Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting has five neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Appletreewick Parish Council, Bewerley Parish Council, Dacre Parish Council, Darley with Menwith Parish Council and Thruscross Parish Meeting.



1.4 Whilst the area of Thornthwaite with Padside is parished it does not have a parish council and is referred to as a parish meeting. This means it does not elect Councillors or hold parish council meetings. Parish meetings must assemble annually between 1 March and 1 June and on at least one other occasion during the year. These meetings are open to the public but only registered electors of the parish can speak and vote.

1.5 Parish meetings can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish, although as Thornthwaite Parish Meeting is inactive a precept is not currently raised.

History of the area

1.6 In January 2020, Harrogate Borough Council (the principal authority at the time), received correspondence from the former Clerk of Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting advising that the Chair was due to resign, and that a replacement would likely be difficult to find. The Clerk therefore requested further information regarding the procedure for abolishing the parish.

1.7 Following consultation with Harrogate Borough Council's Democratic Services and Elections teams, a Community Governance Review (CGR) was suggested to merge Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Council with a neighbour, rather than abolish the parish. At the time, Thruscross Parish Meeting was considered the best option for a merger as both parishes resided in the same Harrogate Borough Council ward, and North Yorkshire County Council division. Due to COVID-19, this CGR did not take place.

1.8 The former Clerk of Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting resigned at a later date and as no replacement was found, the Parish Meeting became inactive.

1.9 In June 2025, the Dacre Parish Clerk emailed North Yorkshire Council (NYC) to advise that Dacre parish councillors were keen to explore the possibility of merging with Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting. Dacre Parish Council was aware that the parish meeting had been inactive for several years and noted that the parish sits geographically alongside Dacre parish and shares a number of roads and facilities.

1.10 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included a defined list of parishes that would be reviewed on 16 July 2025.

1.11 As the request for a CGR of Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting was made after the Standards and Governance Committee report was finalised in June, Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting was not included in the terms of reference approved at Full Council. As one of the recommendations agreed was that authority be delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services to consider any further requests for a CGR and the terms of reference amended accordingly, the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services approved the addition on 6 August 2025.

1.12 As Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting has remained inactive for several years, it is not within the interest of the public to keep the current governance arrangements as local electors are not currently represented by an active parish meeting. A merger with Dacre Parish Council will ensure that electors are represented by a parish council.

1.13 Dacre parish currently has 650 electors and 381 properties.

1.14 The NYC Division Member for Pateley Bridge and Nidderdale, Councillor Andrew Murday, was informed of the CGR request and has confirmed his support for a merger with Dacre Parish Council.

Five year electorate forecast

1.15 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Thornthwaite with Padside parish and Dacre parish is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Dacre	650	657	7
Thornthwaite with Padside	156	156	0

** based on 2024 electorate totals*

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	460
Consultation responses received	14
Response rate	3.04%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Thornthwaite with Padside parish and Dacre parish as following the CGR request made by Dacre Parish Council to merge with Thornthwaite with Padside Parish meeting, these were the two areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 6A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 6B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting was 14.

2.6 Of the 14 respondents, 10 reported that they lived in Dacre and two lived in Thornthwaite with Padside. One respondent was the Division Member for Pateley Bridge and Nidderdale, and another consultation response was made on behalf of Dacre Parish Council.

2.7 The majority of respondents chose to merge Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting with a neighbouring parish, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Merge with a neighbour	9	64%
No, I do not support this idea	0	0%
I am unsure	5	36%
Total	14	100%

2.8 The 9 respondents in favour of the option to merge Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting with a neighbour were all in favour of a merger with Dacre Parish Council, rather than another neighbouring parish. The other possible options for a merger were with Appletreewick Parish Council, Bewerley Parish Council, Darley with Menwith Parish Council or Thruscross Parish Meeting.

2.9 Annex 6A summarises at page 2 the reasons people gave for their choice to merge Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting with Dacre Parish Meeting. The most popular reason was that both areas have strong geographical links and therefore make the most sense to amalgamate.

2.10 Respondents also commented that both parishes have similar objectives and concerns and therefore surmised that there are likely to be shared solutions to these problems.

2.11 Some respondents commented that they did not have sufficient information about the rationale for the suggested merger to make an informed comment. These comments have been noted and it is acknowledged that further detail regarding the existing governance arrangements of Thornthwaite Parish Council, as outlined under section 1 above, would have been beneficial to respondents.

2.12 5 respondents were unsure about the proposal to merge Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting with a neighbour. The main reason for these responses was respondents being unclear on the rationale for the merger, as well as the implications of a merger on existing governance arrangements. Further detail on the proposed recommendations will be provided during the Stage 2 public consultation, which will commence on 19 March 2026.

2.13 Dacre Parish Council submitted a consultation response outlining their support of a merger with Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting. The reasons for this included significant geographical links between the parishes and the need to ensure that Thornthwaite with Padside electors have effective local representation.

2.14 Councillor Andrew Murday, Division Member for Pateley Bridge and Nidderdale submitted a consultation response and advised that he was in favour of the option to merge Thornthwaite with Padside with a neighbour. His reasons for his response included that the residents of Thornthwaite with Padside have had no parish meeting for several years and that geographically, the most logical amalgamation would be with Dacre Parish Council. Councillor Murday also agreed that a merger between the two parishes would meet the needs of the Thornthwaite with Padside community.

2.15 When asked whether the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, the majority of respondents were in agreement, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Yes, definitely	6	43%
Yes, somewhat	3	21%
No	0	0%
I am unsure	5	36%

Total	14	100%

2.16 9 respondents were either definitely or somewhat in agreement that the proposed model would meet the needs of its community, whilst 5 respondents were unsure.

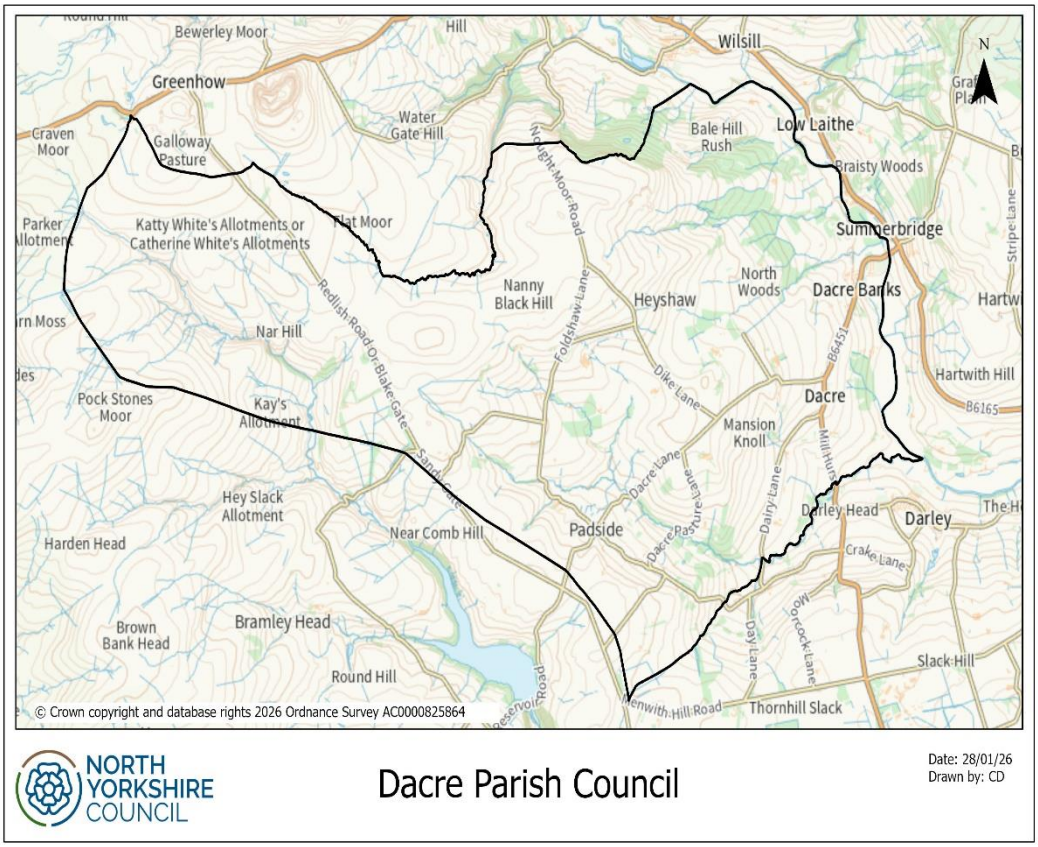
2.17 The main reason for the unsure responses was respondents being unclear on what was being proposed. One individual commented that they felt NYC did not take into account the representations made by the community. All consultation responses received have been analysed and taken into account when forming Stage 2 recommendations and can be found at Annex 6B.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (64%) indicated support for Thornthwaite with Padside Parish Meeting to merge with a neighbour, with 100% of these responses in favour of a merger specifically with Dacre Parish Council. It is therefore proposed to merge the parish of Thornthwaite with Padside with the parish of Dacre to create a single parish council.

3.2 The parish would be known as the parish of Dacre.

3.3 A map of the recommended new parish of Dacre is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the existing parish of Thornthwaite with Padside shall be amalgamated with the parish of Dacre

Recommendation 2 – that the new parish boundary is as detailed in the attached map

Recommendation 3 – the new parish shall be known as Dacre

Recommendation 4 – there shall be a parish council for the parish of Dacre

Recommendation 5 – the parish council shall be named Dacre Parish Council

Recommendation 6 – that 7 Councillors are elected to Dacre Parish Council.

Recommendation 7 – that the above take effect for administration purposed on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new Parish Council to held on 6 May 2027 for a term of 4 years. Changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 6A – Consultation survey
Annex 6B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Thornthwaite with Padside parish

We are consulting residents of Thornthwaite with Padside parish and Dacre parish about the future governance of Thornthwaite with Padside parish meeting.

Thornwaite with Padside parish have asked the council to review their current boundaries and undertake a community governance review (CGR) to consider a merger with a neighbouring parish (more specifically Dacre parish) in order to ensure that parish level governance arrangements continue to operate as effectively as possible.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Thornthwaite with Padside
- ☐ I live in Dacre
- ☐ I work in Thornthwaite with Padside
- ☐ I work in Dacre
- ☐ I own a business in Thornthwaite with Padside
- ☐ I own a business in Dacre
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Thornthwaite with Padside
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Dacre
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

There has been a request to merge Thornthwaite with Padside parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?

- ○ Yes, I support this idea
- ○ No, I do not support this idea
- ○ I am unsure

If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?

- ◯ Merge with Appletreewick which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Bewerley which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Dacre which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Darley and Menwith which has a parish council
- ◯ Merge with Thruscross parish meeting

Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Thornthwaite with Padside parish?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?

- ◯ Yes, definitely
- ◯ Yes, somewhat
- ◯ No
- ◯ I am unsure

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

This consultation will help confirm if it is the best approach for Thornthwaite with Padside parish. Your feedback is valuable and will help inform the decision.

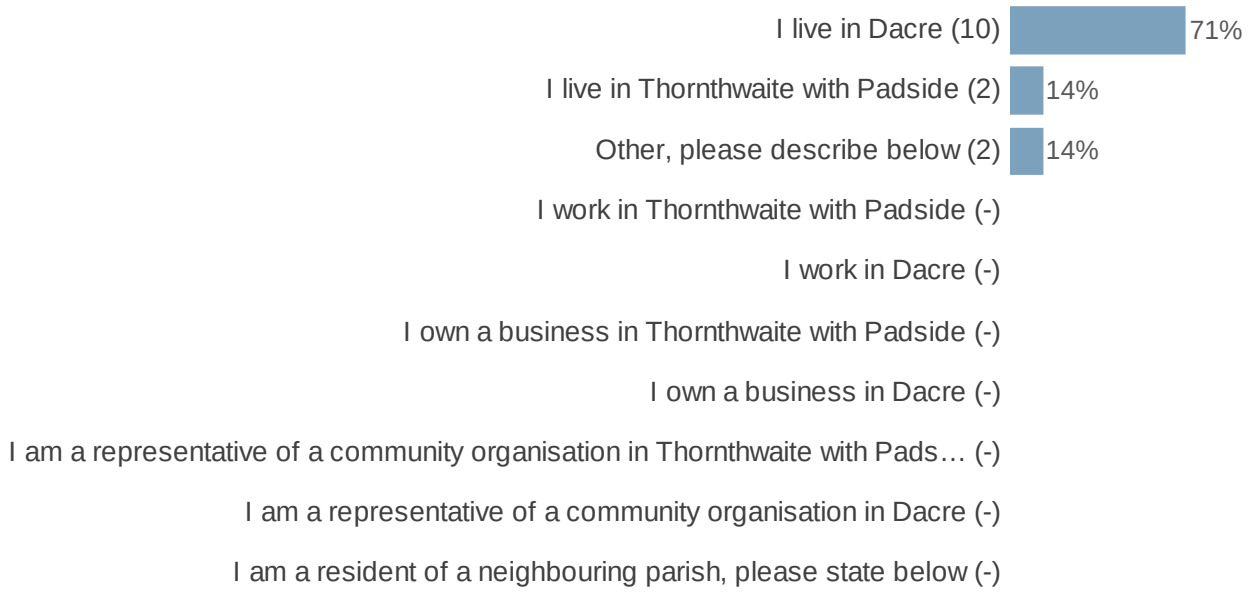
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Thornthwaite with Padside & Dacre

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 14 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 14 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

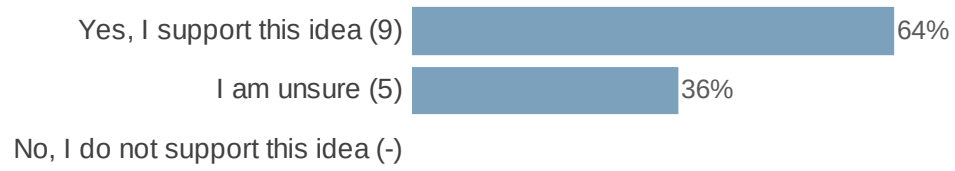


NYC councillor for Pateley Bridge and Nidderdale
Dacre Parish Council

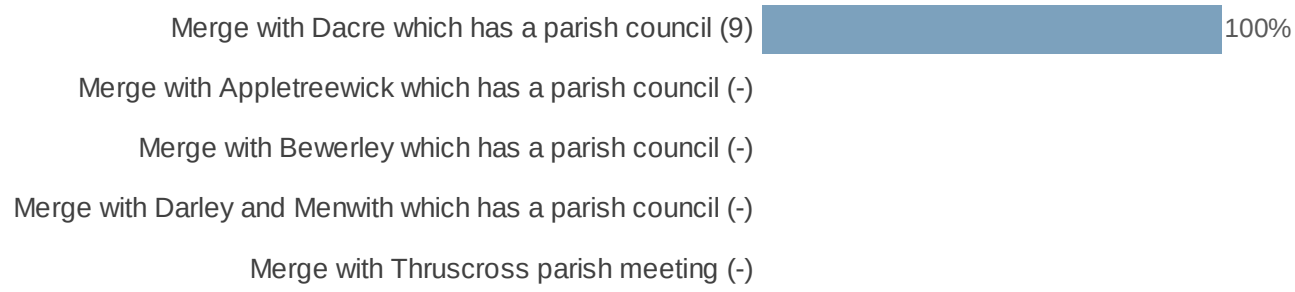
Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

HG4	Hg34	HG3	hg3
HG3	HG3	HG3	Hg3
Hg3	HG3	HG3	
HG3	Hg3	Hg3	

There has been a request to merge Thornthwaite with Padside parish meeting with another neighbouring parish. What is your opinion?



If 'Yes', there are a number of potential options. Which do you feel would serve your parish better?



Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

At present the residents of Thornthwaite and Padside have had no parish meeting for at least 3 years. Geographically, the most logical amalgamation would be with Dacre Parish.
In the absence of any detail it is difficult to form a judgment as to whether a merger would serve the needs of the local communities
Dacre parish wraps around Thornthwaite and is of a similar size. To merge with a larger parish, ie Darley would in my opinion leave us with a very limited say in the representation of the enlarged parish area. Dacre & Thornthwaite are a much closer match
Haven’t had any information from anyone as to why therefore how am I expected to supply any opinion
What is the rationale for the merger? It has not been made clear why a market should take place, therefore how is one meant to form an opinion?
Economy of scale to achieve efficient oversight and execution
I am not clear as to the reasoning for the request to change
Geographically, it looks the best fit.
There is a natural affinity between Dacre and Thornthwaite parishes due to geography and topography of the land. Children from both parishes attend the same primary schools. Both parish communities have similar issues to deal with so there can be shared solutions to these problems.

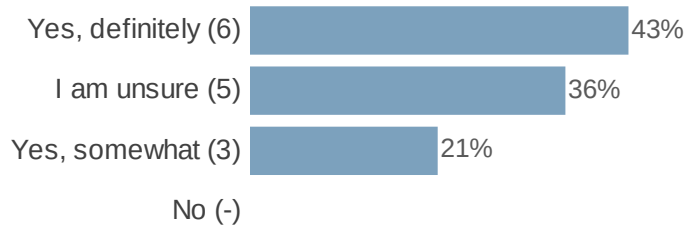
Why do you feel this is the most appropriate solution?

I can image that Thornthwaite and Padside is too small and disperse a population to operate easily. Likewise I'd support s merger between Dacre and Summerbridge.
I am unsure as I do not know the reason
Thornthwaite and Padside are adjacent to Dacre parish. Residents of both are likely to have the same objectives and concerns
Both parishes share significant geographical links. Dacre Parish Council is keen for electors in Thornthwaite with Padside to have effective local representation. Dacre Parish Council is also aware that there are funds held by Thornthwaite with Padside parish meeting and it feels that it can help put these to use for the benefit of electors.

Do you have any comments about the proposed changes to governance in Thornthwaite with Padside parish?

I support the amalgamation with Dacre Parish.
I am in support. Having lived here since 2006 it has become obvious that the parish meeting has no support from the community. Impossible to find any volunteers
I haven't been informed by anyone of any pros and cons so how can I make a decision
What is the rationale for it??
No
Ive read a lot, but nothing specific about this.
No
That they may suffer the same lack of visibility of Parish council work done, even when merged with Dacre.
No
we think that we need to be represented locally
Dacre Parish Council fully supports a change to include Thornthwaite with Padside parish within Dacre Parish.

Do you think the proposed model will meet the needs of its community?



Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

It would help if somewhere there were an explanation of what is proposed in detail and of the implications on present and future arrangements
Due to 2 very recent instances involving NYCC it seems that community representation is merely lip service so that you can meet a legal obligation. It has been clearly demonstrated on these occasions that NYCC do not represent or do not take any account of representations made by the community or elected officials. I have no doubt that you already know what this result will be. I'm a very disappointed parishioner who is eagerly awaiting a reason to trust the people who we employ & who should be answerable to the council members. Forever optimistic!!
Yes lots How can anyone make a decision when you do not supply any information
No
I believe that the proposal would be of definite benefit to Thornthwaite parish where the small population struggles to find sufficient personnel willing to serve on community committees.
The governance review and access for feedback was badly in it's explanation and presentation. I suspect that the engagement and feedback related to this exercise will be disappointing.
No
Dacre Parish Council notes discussions it has held at a number of its own meetings and with the local North Yorkshire Council member, County Councillor Murday regarding this matter.

Appendix 7 – Draft Recommendations for Kirby Hill and District Parish Council

Contents

1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area 2
Current governance arrangements 2
History of the area 2
Five year electorate forecast 3
2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Kirby Hill and District 4
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations 5
Annex 7A – Consultation survey 6
Annex 7B – Summary of consultation responses 6

1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Kirby Hill and District Parish Council is situated within the Wathvale and Bishop Monkton division and is part of the Wetherby and Easingwold parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Kirby Hill and District Parish Council is formed by a group of 5 civil parishes, 3 of which have very low electorates in comparison to the other 2, as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Ellenthorpe civil parish	23	1
Humberton civil parish	33	1
Thornton Bridge civil parish	22	1
Milby civil parish	678	2
Kirby Hill civil parish	370	4
TOTALS	**1,126**	**9**



History of the area

1.3 Kirby Hill and District Parish Council initially contacted North Yorkshire Council in 2022 to request to reduce the number of councillors, and potentially merge 3 parishes to be represented by a single councillor. It was agreed to include the

parish within the planned reviews to be undertaken in 2025-2026. Communication with the parish council was reestablished again in 2025 to revisit the request.

1.4 Under the Local Government Act, each parish within a group of parishes forming a parish council must return at least one councillor.

1.5 Prior to this review commencing, a range of options were explored that could satisfy parish council concerns that the existing arrangements are no longer fit for purpose and representation is not well aligned to the electorate of the areas. The parish council provided a preferred solution, which formed the basis of the first stage of consultation for this review.

1.6 The preferred potential solution involved merging some civil parishes within the group, to create 3 civil parishes that would form the group for the council, and with a reduction in council size from 9 to 8, as follows:

Kirby Hill and District Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Milby civil parish	678	4
Kirby Hill civil parish	370	3
A new civil parish area (taking in Ellenthorpe civil parish, Humberton civil parish, and Thornton Bridge civil parish)	78	1
TOTALS	**1126**	**8**

Five year electorate forecast

(for relevant area(s) under review)

1.7 The 2030 electorate forecast for all parishes in the group is expected to be 1,025 (calculated using 2024 electorate), which appears to be a reduction from the current 2025 electorate, estimates were based on a peak registration year of 2024 (general election).

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Kirby Hill and District

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	646
Consultation responses received	28
Response rate	4.3 %

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to all households in the Kirby Hill and District Parish Council area, being those directly affected by this review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 7A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 7B.

2.4 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review.

2.5 Of the 28 respondents, 16 (57.1%) reported that they lived in Kirby Hill and District parish council area, and one consultation response was made on behalf of the parish council. 9 respondents were from neighbouring parishes, 1 from someone who owns a business in the parish council area, and 1 representative of a community organisation in the parish council area.

2.6 The majority of respondents were in support of the proposals, as detailed in the table below:

Option	Number	Percentage
I support the potential for change	20	71.4%
I do not support the potential for change	5	17.9 %
I am unsure	3	10.7 %
Total	28	100%

2.7 Of the 16 respondents who live within the parish council area, 2 were ‘unsure’ of the proposal, 1 did not support the proposal and 13 supported the proposal. The majority of comments referred to it ‘making sense’ to realign the governance arrangements and adjust the representation to be more aligned with electorates.

2.8 Some respondents referred to planned housing developments in Kirby Hill, Boroughbridge and the surrounding areas. There is potential to consider a wider review alongside other neighbouring parishes to reflect the changing shape of the towns and villages that line the external boundary of the parish council towards the Langthorpe and Boroughbridge parishes, though that is out of scope of this specific review, it being a rearrangement of governance arrangements within the existing parish council boundaries. NYC is open to more detailed suggestions about this in future, working with all parishes involved. One respondent explained:

Residents in Kirby Hill and Langthorpe look to Boroughbridge as their Community Hub, providing all their amenities, town centre shopping, parking, doctors, dentist, etc. The creation of a Boroughbridge and District Parish Council would cement the community together and provide the area with true community democratic governance.

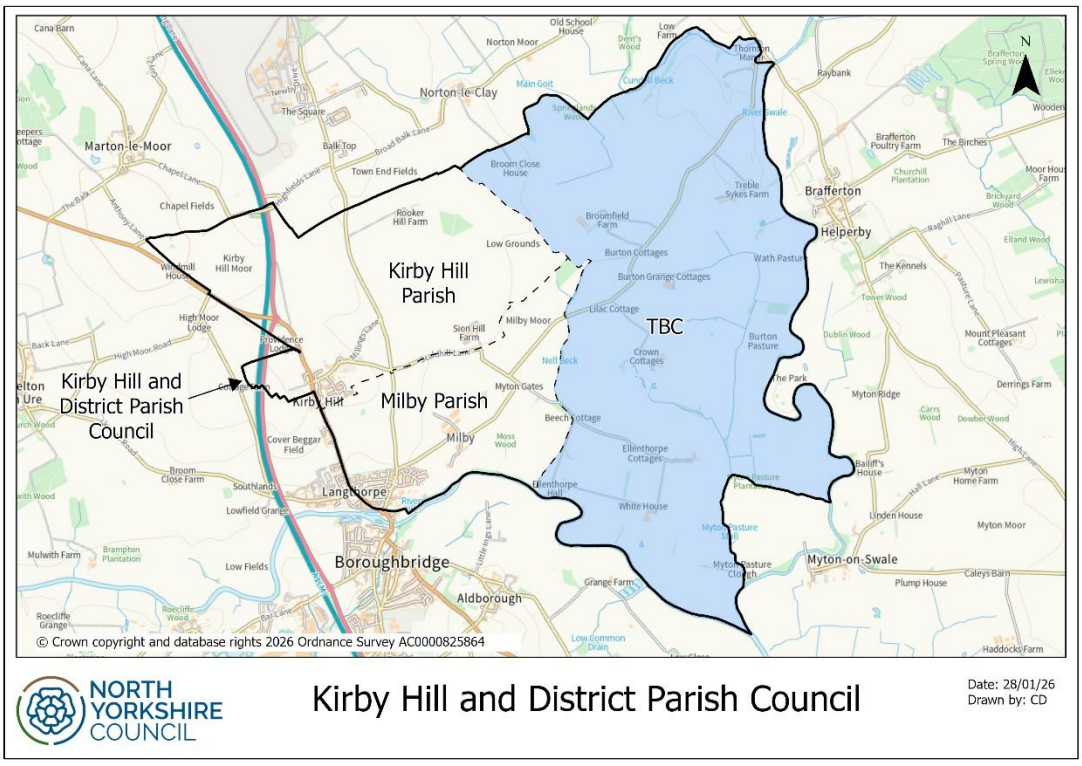
2.9 The majority of respondents against the proposals are not residents of the parish council (4 of the 5),and are not directly impacted by the change, though their comments are useful for future wider reviews of the parishes in that area.

2.10 One comment from a neighbouring resident suggested reducing further the councillor numbers to 3 for Milby and 2 for Kirby Hill, which would see a total council reduction to 6 (from 9). This would be a significant change for the parish council and is beyond the requested reduction. Any further reductions would need to be considered at a future review.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (71.4 %) indicated support for proposals set out in consultation stage 1, it is therefore proposed to proceed with the proposal to merge 3 of the smaller civil pashes to create a single parish, and that new civil parish to remain grouped within their current parish council arrangement, but with adjusted councillor representation.

3.2 A map of the recommended change is shown below:



3.3 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – to maintain both Milby civil parish and Kirby Hill civil parish as they are now

Recommendation 2 – to amalgamate the civil parishes of Ellenthorpe, Humberton, and Thornton Bridge to create a single civil parish (as shown shaded in blue and marked 'TBC' in the map above)

Recommendation 3 – to group that new [name] civil parish with Kirby Hill and Milby, that group to be called Kirby Hill and District (similarly to how they are now)

Recommendation 4 – the group to have a parish council called Kirby Hill and District parish council (as it is named now)

Recommendation 5 – that council to have a total council size of 8 (reduction of 1 from 9) with representation as follows:

Kirby Hill and District Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Milby civil parish	678	4
Kirby Hill civil parish	370	3
New Civil Parish Name? (taking in Ellenthorpe civil parish, Humberton civil parish, and Thornton Bridge civil parish)	78	1
TOTALS	**1126**	**8**

Recommendation 6 – That these new arrangements take affect administratively on 01 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.4 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026. That consultation will also seek views on a proposed name for the newly merged parish area, for which there are 2 options given by the parish council, of 'Humberton and District' or 'Lower Swale'.

Annex 7A – Consultation survey
Annex 7B – Summary of consultation responses

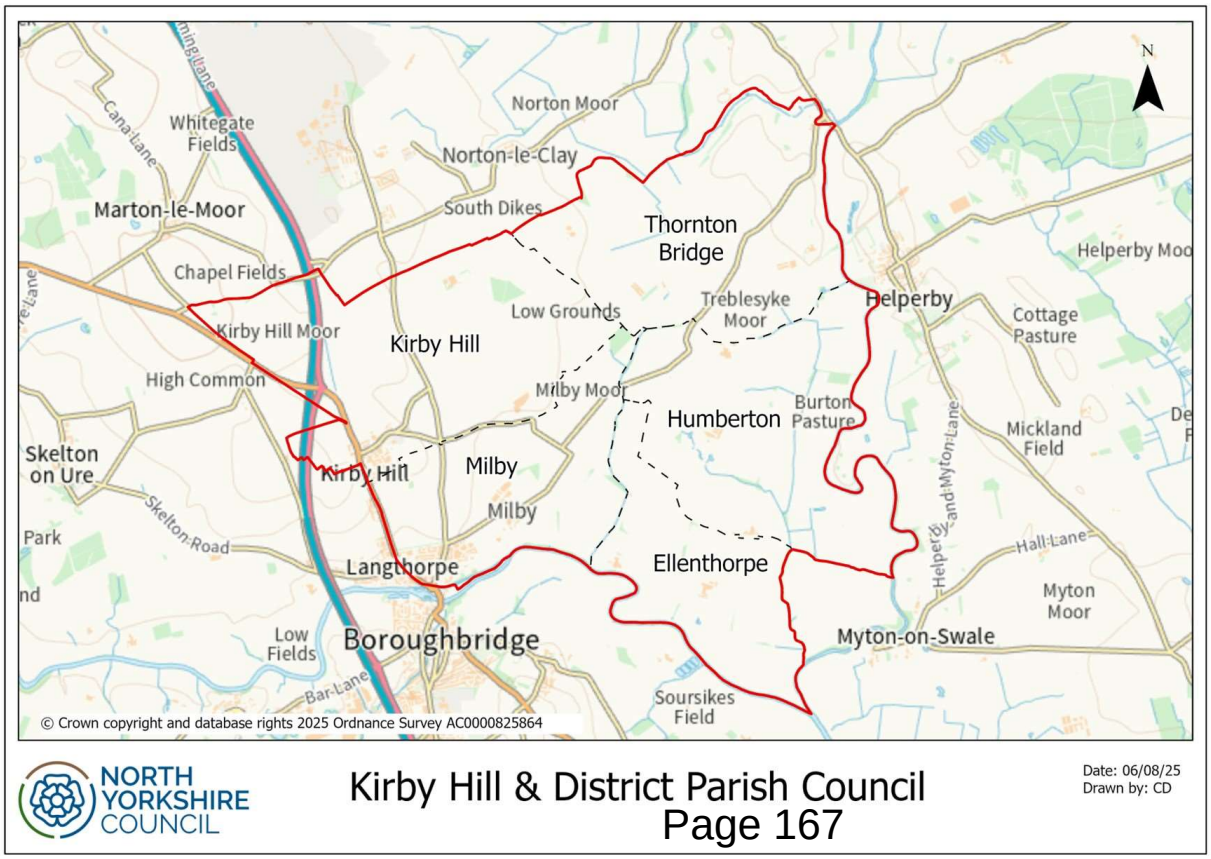
Community Governance Review for Kirby Hill and District Parish Council

Kirby Hill and District Parish Council is formed by a group of five parishes.

There are single councillors representing between 22 and 33 electors each in three of the parish areas, and Milby parish (which has the most electors) has fewer councillors than Kirby civil parish.

The current arrangements for the parish council are as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Ellenthorpe civil parish	23	1
Humberton civil parish	33	1
Thornton Bridge civil parish	22	1
Milby civil parish	678	2
Kirby Hill civil parish	370	4
Totals	1126	9



The Parish Council has requested to reduce the number of councillors for the grouped parish council, and to change the number of councillors representing parishes to reflect changes in the distribution of electors across the five parishes generally.

As three of the parishes have low elector numbers (Ellenthorpe, Humberton and Thornton Bridge) in comparison to Milby and Kirby, there is potential to merge those three parishes to create a single parish within the group forming the council as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Milby civil parish	678	4
Kirby Hill civil parish	370	3
A new civil parish area (taking in Ellenthorpe civil parish, Humberton civil parish, and Thornton Bridge civil parish)	78	1
Totals	1126	8

The suggested possible option satisfies the request to reduce the number of councillors on the grouped parish council and redistributes councillors to be more representative of the numbers of electors in those areas. The changes are as explained as follows:

1. Milby civil parish remains geographically the same, councillor representation increases from two to four

2. Kirby Hill civil parish remains geographically the same, councillor representation reduces from four to three

3. Three civil parishes would formally merge (Ellenthorpe, Humberton and Thornton Bridge) to form a new single civil parish represented by one councillor

4. The total council size reduces from nine to eight.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

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All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Kirby Hill and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I work in Kirby Hill and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I own a business in Kirby Hill and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Kirby Hill and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

What is your opinion with the potential for change to satisfy the following parish council request?
Milby civil parish remaining geographically the same and councillor representation increasing from two to four;
Kirby Hill civil parish remaining geographically the same and councillor representation reducing from four to three;
The three civil parishes of Ellenthorpe, Humberton and Thornton Bridge to merge to form a new single civil parish, represented by one councillor, with the total council size reducing from nine to eight:

- ◯ I support the potential for change
- ◯ I do not support the potential for change
- ◯ I am unsure

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

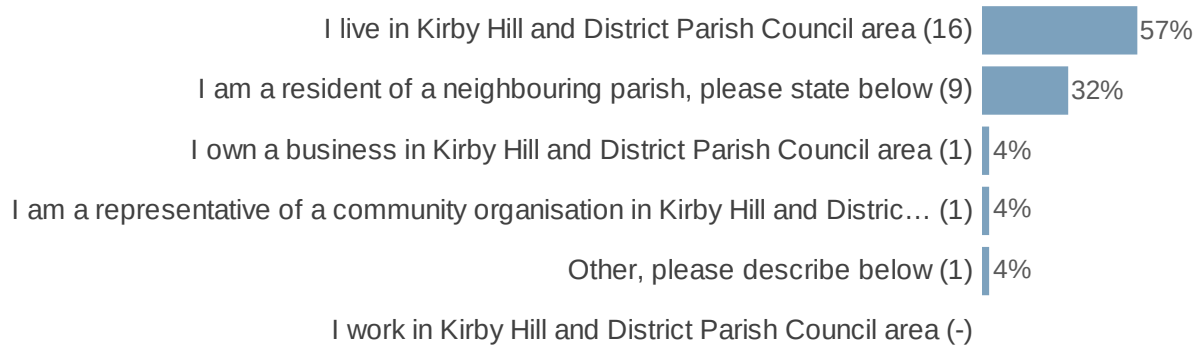
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Kirby Hill and District

This report was generated on 19/12/25. Overall 28 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 28 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

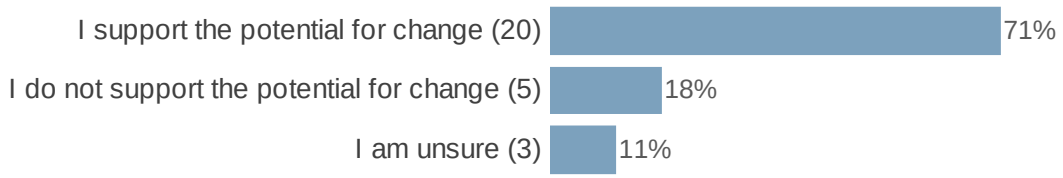


Boroughbridge Town Council
Boroughbridge
Boroughbridge
Langthorpe
Milby
Boroughbridge
Parish clerk, representing the Kirby Hill and District Parish Council

Please state the first part of your postcode: **(for example YO21)**

YO51	YO51	TO51	yo51	YO61	YO51	YO51	YO51	YO51
YO51	Yo51	Yo51	Yo51	yo51	YO51	YO51	YO51	YO51
YO51	YO51	YO51	YO51	YO51	YO51	YO51	YO51	Yo51
YO51								

What is your opinion with the potential for change to satisfy the following parish council request?
Milby civil parish remaining geographically the same and councillor representation increasing from two to four;
Kirby Hill civil parish remaining geographically the same and councillor representation reducing from four to three;
The three civil parishes of Ellenthorpe, Humberton and Thornton Bridge to merge to form a new single civil parish, represented by one councillor, with the total council size reducing from nine to eight:



Please give reasons for your response:

Milby has grown substantially and needs better representation.
It makes sense and might get people more involved in the Parish council
The largest population is now Milby therefore it makes sense to have a higher number of councillors to represent the growing population.
It makes sense to have more councillors for the larger areas of Kirby Hill & Milby.
Become more cost effective. Reduce bureaucracy. More emphasis on the role.
There are plans for further house building in the Kirby Hill Parish
It seems sensible to merge the smaller, more isolated Parishes. It makes sense to increase Milby representation. I would not like to see Kirby Hill representation be reduced as it will only have to increase in the future as more houses are built. Focus should be on actively seeking new members of the Council and reviewing current Council membership as at least 2 members own land affected by building applications and really cannot have any involvement in any planning matters, whether relating to their own land or others as these applications cut across the whole Parish area. This reduces the viability of the Council.
It makes absolute sense for representation to better match the elector population in each area
I agree, however I believe there should be a wider governance review that considers joining the parishes of Kirby Hill & Milby, Langthorpe and Boroughbridge Aldborough & Minskip as the parishes are so close to each other and share facilities at Boroughbridge which is seen as the hub.
It's logical but 1. The outlying parishes sharing a single councillor are in very different areas and might have very different concerns: can the single councillor represent all of them fairly? 2. Kirby Hill is likely to equal or exceed the Milby population if proposed housing developments proceed on the nod; are you prepared to have another CGR within 2-3 years?
The change is necessary because the current configuration does not reflect where the majority of the people are. Because of the housing developments in Milby there has been a big increase in people so should there be in representation as well. Mind you it will be as well to keep an eye on developments up in Kirby Hill with developments in the fields between KH and Milby also the developmenmt of the MSA which will really affect just KH. The 3 smaller wards of Thornton Bridge, Humberton and Ellenthorpe can easily be absorbed into one physically large but still ultimately small in population ward.

Please give reasons for your response:

I would prefer Kirby Hill maintains 4 representatives and Milby increases to 3. This reflects that Kirby Hill is the lead parish for the parish council and has a distinct historic and important place in local matters. Kirby Hill is the area of the parish under most pressure from planning applications, has the major road access through it, is home to the local primary school, church and is an established community. Taking these matters into account I feel it would be detrimental to the residents of Kirby Hill village if parish councillors from the other representative areas could form a majority that would outweigh the representatives for Kirby Hill. I would support the merger of the 3 smaller parishes to form a single parish with one representative.
Makes sense
Kirby Hill remaining geographically the same is borderline madness. There is an opportunity to fix the obviously incorrect boundaries and we are not taking it?! The idea that a parish boundary should go up the middle of a road, is simply ridiculous and some sort of historic oversight. There is a sign deep into Kirby Hill stating that you're in Langthorpe! This is deeply confusing to visitors. Fix the boundary. It's simple.
I fully support the amalgamation of the three small parishes and the reduction of the number of Councillors to1.. However, in ths case of Milby and Kirby Hill I think there is scope to reduce the number of Councillors forther, i.e. only 3 for Milby and 2 for Kirby Hill, which would mean that each Councillor in these two Parishes would represent around 200 parishoners.
It makes sense to increase councillor representation in Milby parish
Seems reasonable
Kirby Hill & District Parish Council Would be better aligned / Merged with Langthorpe and Boroughbridge to create a Boroughbridge and District Council. This would be more aligned to the spirit of community cohesion. Residents in Kirby Hill and Langthorpe look to Borougbridge as their Community Hub, providing all their ammenities, town centre shopping, parking, doctors, dentist, etc. The creation of a Boroughbridge and District Parish Council would cement the community together and provide the area with true communtiy democratic governance. Tinkering around the edges achives nothing. A proposal worth thinking about ?
The proposal for change was instigated by the parish council
AS a resident of Milby parish, I think it is important that there is appropriate representation of my area within the parish council
Make sense

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

NO
Councillors to work to implement speed calming measures on the road leading up to Grantham Arms where changes from 30 to 60. Need speed cameras beforehand someone is killed. Also to campaign against more new homes in Milby and Kirby Hill. Road, school and healthcare infrastructure cannot cope. Would like greater voice of the parish council.
Yes, another exercise in spending more taxes.
It feels as if there is an almost fait au complit attitude towards the planning applications for housing estates attaching to Kirby Hill. The fact that these estates will more than double the size of the village seems irrelevant. It is all well and good hiding behind protocols and process but it may be worthwhile spending some money on obtaining the support of a true professional planner to assist in defending the village from these developments, unless, of course the Council would like to support these? All the developers employ professional planning specialists to win these battles, we cannot rely on arm chair experts, no matter how well intentioned. I have not heard anyone in favour of these developments (local residents), so assuming the majority of residents of Kirby Hill oppose these, please use some of the assets that KH PC has and spend it on a professional planning defence before it is too late.
Community council is doing a fantastic job, in my opinion. I have no reason to support a change.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

With the substantial amount of house building in the area, it seems sensible to make the proposed changes but it is also very important to make sure the small, more rural settlements are well represented too.
Why not leave each outlying parish with a single councillor reflecting that community's concerns, then reapportion the remainder between Milby and Kirby Hill?
parish councils are important to the communities they represent. However I feel their observations are often ignored by planning etc.
You may also wish to consider a redrawing of the Langthorpe/Kirby Hill boundary. The Langthorpe Northern boundary does not make sense i that it goes virtually to the BlueBell pub on the left of Leeming Lane going up the Hill but barely half way up on the right hand side. Also as you leave Kirby Hill on the way to the Ripon roundabout you enter Langthorpe for a short distance before going back into Kirby Hill. Doesn't make sense.
Fix the boundary. It is broken.
No
Please listen to the parish councils regarding the huge volume of new builds in the Boroughbridge district. The developers wish to build hundreds more houses when it cannot cope with the present new housing sites.
Tinkering around the edges !
As a local resident, I find it difficult to understand how the local parish council's views are taken effectively into account within the wider governance process. I understand that views are fed through into wider Council meetings but it is not clear how much sway these local views hold. It would be helpful for local residents to understand how decisions are taken at a wider Council level and how the local parish councillors opinions are taken into account.
No

Appendix 8 – Draft Recommendations for Lillings Ambo Parish Council

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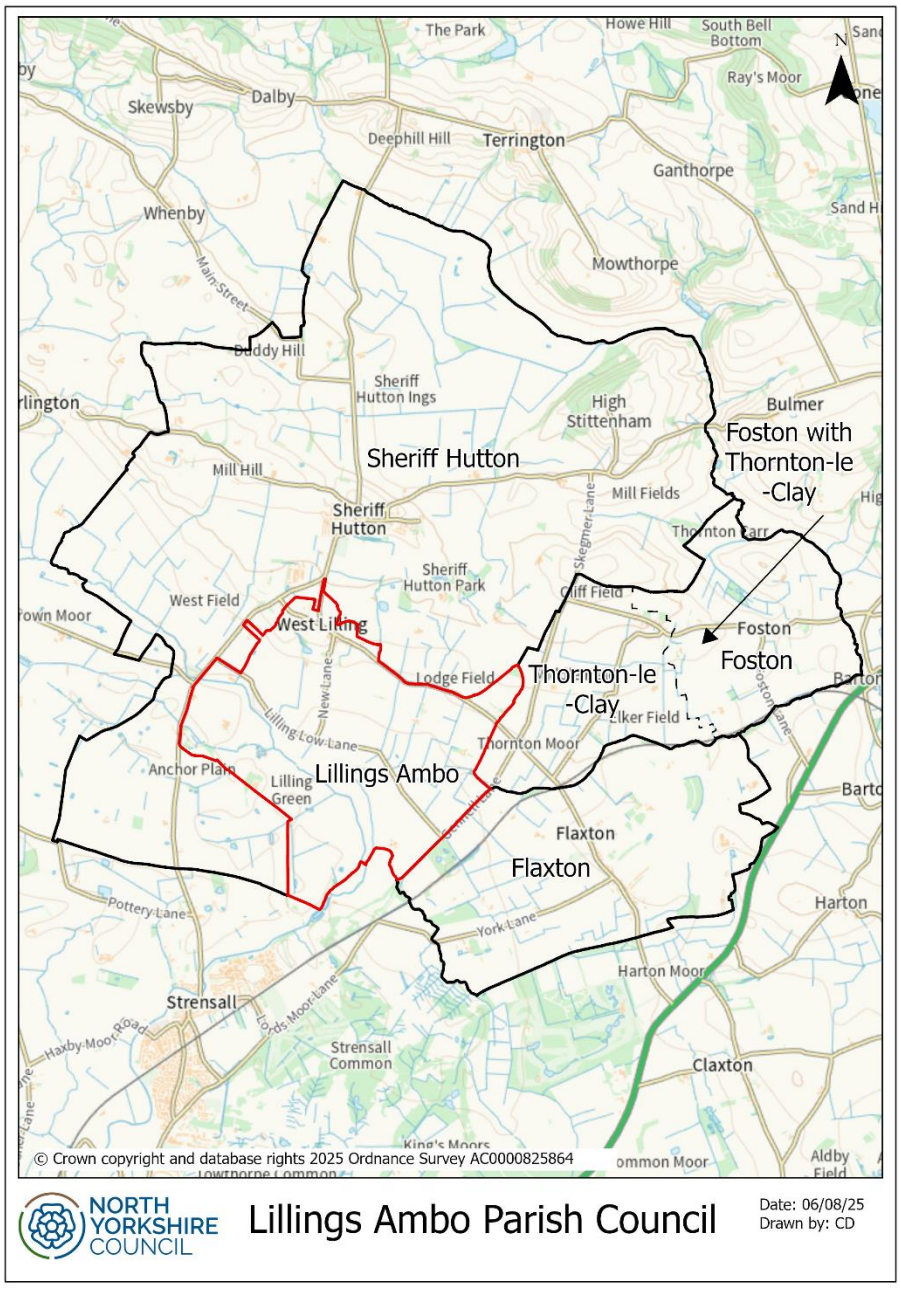
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Lillings Ambo Parish Council is situated within the Sheriff Hutton and Derwent division and is part of the Thirsk and Malton parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the village of West Lilling and the area known as Lilling Green.

1.2 Lillings Ambo parish currently has 129 electors and 70 properties.

1.3 Lillings Ambo Parish Council has 3 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Flaxton Parish Council, Foston with Thornton-le-Clay grouped Parish Council and Sheriff Hutton Parish Council.



1.4 Lillings Ambo Parish Council is comprised of 5 elected parish councillors. In order to meet and take decisions at least 3 councillors must be present. Parish Councils must hold an annual meeting and at least 3 other meetings each year.

1.5 Parish councils can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Lillings Ambo Parish Council raised a precept of £1,000 for the 2025/26 financial year.

History of the area

1.6 In February 2024, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) was contacted by the Lillings Ambo Parish Clerk who explained that the parish council had been struggling to recruit parish councillors, and a new Clerk for some time, and that the cost of running the parish council was excessive considering the small number of properties it represented. As a result, Lillings Ambo Parish Council had resolved at a parish council meeting to consider amalgamating with another parish council, with Sheriff Hutton being their preference, subject to ensuring some local representation on the parish council and Sheriff Hutton Parish Council's views.

1.7 In February 2025, NYC was notified that Lillings Ambo Parish Council had become inquorate due to several resignations. The usual vacancy procedures were followed but there was no subsequent interest in the vacancies. The Parish Council therefore became inactive.

1.8 Section 91(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the principal authority (NYC) can make an order to appoint to a parish council until such time as the vacancies on it have been filled by either election or co-option. Since 6 September 2024, the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services has had delegated powers to make such a temporary appointment.

1.9 On 10 June 2025 3 NYC Division Members, Councillors Caroline Goodrick, Nigel Knapton and Janet Sanderson were temporarily appointed to Lillings Ambo Parish Council to maintain quoracy and allow the parish council to conduct business and co-opt additional members.

1.10 Following the temporary appointments to Lillings Ambo Parish Council, Democratic Services contacted the Division Member for Sheriff Hutton and Derwent, Councillor Caroline Goodrick who agreed that Sheriff Hutton Parish Council was the most suitable option for being combined with Lillings Ambo Parish Council, and that the lack of interest in the vacancies suggested that the parish council was unlikely to be co-opt new councillors.

1.11 In July 2025, the Sheriff Hutton Parish Clerk was contacted about the possibility of combing both parish councils. In response, the Clerk advised that the matter would be brought forward to the councillors at the next parish council meeting in August.

1.12 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Lillings Ambo Parish Council. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included Lillings Ambo Parish Council on 16 July 2025.

1.13 As Lillings Ambo Parish Council has remained inactive for a year, it is not within the interest of the public to keep the current governance arrangements as local electors

are not currently represented by an active parish council. Combining Lillings Ambo Parish Council with Sheriff Hutton Parish Council would ensure that electors are represented by a parish council. Sheriff Hutton Parish Council has since advised that they wish to see the results of the Stage 1 consultation before making a decision.

1.14 Sheriff Hutton Parish Council currently has 870 electors and 511 properties.

Five year electorate forecast

1.15 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Lillings Ambo parish and Sheriff Hutton parish is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Lillings Ambo	129	141	12
Sheriff Hutton	870	915	45

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Lillings Ambo Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	866
Consultation responses received	26
Response rate	3.0%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Flaxton parish, Foston parish, Thornton-le-Clay parish, Lillings Ambo parish and Sheriff Hutton parish as following the CGR request made by Lillings Ambo Parish Council to merge with a neighbour, these were the areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 8A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 8B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for Lillings Ambo Parish Council was 26.

2.6 Of the 26 respondents, 8 reported that they lived in Lillings Ambo, with one of these respondents also stating that they worked and owned a business in Lillings Ambo. 15 respondents were residents of a neighbouring parish. 5 of these respondents were from Flaxton, 6 were from Sheriff Hutton and one was from Foston with Thornton-le-Clay grouped Parish Council. A further 3 respondents did not indicate which neighbouring parish they lived in.

2.7 76% (19) of respondents indicated that they were aware that Lillings Ambo Parish Council had experienced difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors.

2.8 100% (26) of respondents were in favour of combining Lillings Ambo Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils, either by forming a single parish council which could be warded, or by forming a grouped parish council.

2.9 The majority of respondents chose to combine Lillings Ambo Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Lillings Ambo Parish Council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage

Combine Lillings Ambo Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Lillings Ambo Parish Council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded	14	54%
Combine Lillings Ambo Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Lillings Ambo Parish Council and form a grouped parish council	12	46%
I am unsure	0	0%
Other suggestion, please describe below	0	0%
Total	26	100%

2.10 Of the 26 respondents, 22 were in favour of Lillings Ambo Parish Council being combined with Sheriff Hutton Parish Council, two were in favour of Lillings Ambo being combined with Flaxton Parish Council, and one suggested Foston with Thornton-le-Clay Parish Council.

2.11 Annex 8B summarises at page 2 the reasons people gave for their preferred option. The most popular reason for the choice to merge Lillings Ambo Parish Council with Sheriff Hutton Parish Council was geographical proximity which was referenced by 15 respondents. Several respondents commented that the current boundary line between both parishes would be better made into one cohesive block. A sense of a shared community identity with Sheriff Hutton was also referenced. One resident of Lillings Ambo commented *"we very much consider ourselves part of the Sheriff Hutton community. We have little to do with Flaxton and Foston"*.

2.12 Respondents also commented that both parishes have shared facilities and amenities, such as a village hall, church, market days, post office, leisure activities and clubs and a shared village newsletter, implying that combining both parishes into one would make sense from a community cohesion perspective.

2.13 Other reasons in favour of Lillings Ambo being combined with Sheriff Hutton Parish Council were the fact that when active, Lillings Ambo Parish Council had advised NYC that their preference was Sheriff Hutton, as well as the fact that Sheriff Hutton Parish Council is perceived as an active and well run parish council with a much larger electorate to find parish council members. One respondent commented *"West Lilling is too small and has very little to take decisions about and therefore the meetings lack purpose. Hence little interest for councillors."*

2.14 Two respondents, who were both residents of Flaxton, were in support of Lillings Ambo Parish Council being combined with Flaxton Parish Council. The reason given for this choice was that Flaxton Parish Council was well run.

2.15 Sheriff Hutton Parish Council submitted a consultation response outlining their support of combining Lillings Ambo Parish Council with Foston with Thornton-le-Clay Parish Council. The reasons for this being that both parish councils were of similar size, and both had few facilities. A suggestion was also made that Lillings Ambo Parish Council be dissolved and a parish meeting created in its place. These comments have been taken on board however a parish meeting still requires a level of interest from residents and a Clerk and Chair to be appointed.

2.16 Flaxton Parish Council and Foston with Thornton-le-Clay Parish Council both submitted consultation responses in favour of Lillings Ambo being combined with Sheriff Hutton Parish Council. Flaxton Parish Council commented that there was greater synergy between Lillings Ambo and Sheriff Hutton and Foston with Thornton-le-Clay Parish Council felt that Sheriff Hutton has the closest association with Lillings Ambo.

2.17 The Division Member for Sheriff Hutton and Derwent, Councillor Caroline Goodrick agreed that Sheriff Hutton Parish Council is the most suitable option for a merger but has advised that if Sheriff Hutton Parish Council do not wish to combine with Lillings Ambo, Lillings Ambo Parish Council could be dissolved and a parish meeting formed.

2.18 Additional comments about the CGR included that some residents found the covering letters distributed to households difficult to understand, as they did not contain information specific to this individual community governance response. These comments have been taken on board, although each letter included a QR code for residents to access the CGR webpage and online survey. Alternative ways of responding to the survey included an email address and telephone number to request a paper copy of the consultation survey. One respondent commented that a paper copy of the survey should have been posted to each affected resident, however the cost implications of this were considered too great.

2.19 Other comments included the view that a CGR to combine Lillings Ambo Parish Council with a neighbour would be effective in reducing costs. One respondent also commented that they did not want to see the current Sheriff Hutton parish councillors forced to resign to make way for Lillings Ambo councillors. In response to this comment, Lillings Ambo Parish Council has struggled to attract interest from residents in the past so it is not felt that there would be strong competition for seats if the two parish areas were combined. Sheriff Hutton Parish Council currently has 7 councillors, and if the two parishes were combined, it is proposed that the new parish council be represented by 8 councillors.

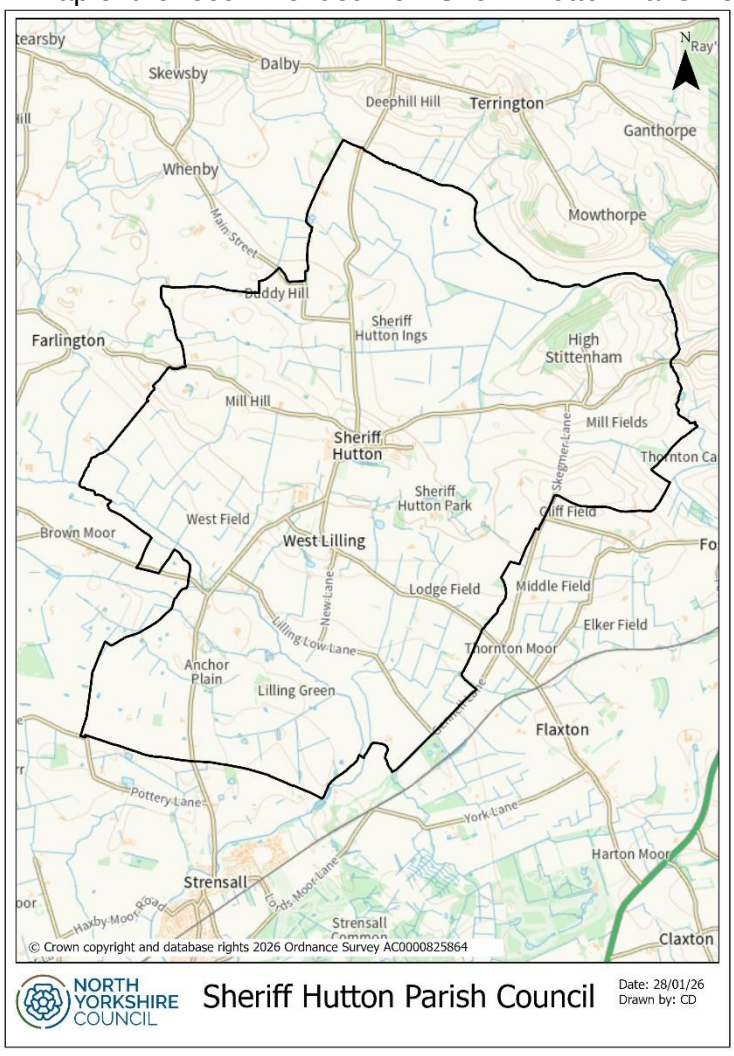
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (100%) indicated support for combining Lillings Ambo Parish Council with a neighbouring parish council, with the majority of these responses in favour of a single parish council, which could be warded. 88% of respondents were in favour of a merger specifically with Sheriff Hutton Parish Council. It is therefore proposed to combine the parish of Lillings Ambo with the parish of Sheriff Hutton to create a single parish council which would not be warded.

3.2 Discussions with the Clerk of Sheriff Hutton Parish Council have been ongoing throughout the review. Concerns have been raised by Sheriff Hutton Parish Council about the additional workload involved, as well as the capacity of the parish council to take on more issues from an increased electorate as a result of extending the parish council boundary. A further meeting of Sheriff Hutton Parish Council is scheduled to take place on 12 February, at which point councillors will be in a position to discuss the outcome of the Stage 1 consultation.

3.3 The recommendations listed below are therefore subject to support from Sheriff Hutton Parish Council for combining with Lillings Ambo Parish Council. If this is not received, it is recommended that Lillings Ambo Parish Council retains its current governance arrangements.

3.4 A map of the recommended new Sheriff Hutton Parish Council is shown below:



3.5 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the existing parishes of Lillings Ambo and Sheriff Hutton shall be amalgamated to constitute a new parish comprising the area outlined in black on the map

Recommendation 2 – the new parish shall be known as Sheriff Hutton

Recommendation 3 – there shall be a parish council for the parish of Sheriff Hutton

Recommendation 4 – the name of that council shall be Sheriff Hutton Parish Council

Recommendation 5 – the existing parishes of Lillings Ambo and Sheriff Hutton shall cease to exist

Recommendation 6 – the number of councillors to be elected for the parish of Sheriff Hutton shall be 8

Recommendation 7 – implementation is recommended to take affect administratively on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

Recommendation 8 – recommendations 1 - 6 are subject to support from Sheriff Hutton Parish Council. If this is not received, Lillings Ambo Parish Council will retain its existing governance arrangements, and no further action will be taken.

3.6 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026, subject to receiving support from Lillings Ambo Parish Council.

Annex 8A – Consultation survey
Annex 8B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Lillings Ambo parish

We are consulting residents about the future governance of Lillings Ambo Parish Council. Due to a lack of residents willing to become parish councillors, North Yorkshire Council is undertaking a community governance review to ensure that parish level governance arrangements are operating as effectively as possible.

Lillings Ambo Parish Council is not currently functioning as there are no councillors to attend parish meetings. Three North Yorkshire Council Division Members are currently temporarily appointed to the parish council to enable it to stay quorate.

Before it became inactive, the parish council considered merging with a neighbouring parish, with Sheriff Hutton being their first choice. Sheriff Hutton is a neighbouring parish council represented by seven councillors.

Flaxton Parish Council and Foston with Thornton le Clay grouped Parish Council are the other neighbouring parish councils that could be considered for a merger.

There are several options as indicated below:

1. Dissolve the parish council and add the parish to a neighbouring parish council to form a grouped parish council. At least one parish councillor would represent the parish on the parish council.

2. Dissolve the parish council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded.

3. Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting. A parish meeting would consist of all the registered electors living in the parish and a meeting must take place at least two times per year. Volunteers would be required to fulfil the role of clerk and chair of the parish meeting.

4. No changes to current arrangements and retain the parish council in its current form.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Lillings Ambo
- ☐ I work in Lillings Ambo
- ☐ I own a business in Lillings Ambo
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Lillings Ambo
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Are you aware that Lillings Ambo Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ I do not know

Which of the following would be your preferred option?

- ○ Combine Lillings Ambo Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Lillings Ambo Parish Council and form a grouped parish council
- ○ Combine Lillings Ambo Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Lillings Ambo Parish Council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded
- ○ Some other option - please give details below
- ○ I do not know

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Lillings Ambo combined with?

- ◯ Sheriff Hutton Parish Council
- ◯ Flaxton Parish Council
- ◯ Foston with Thornton le Clay grouped Parish Council

Please tell us why you chose this option?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

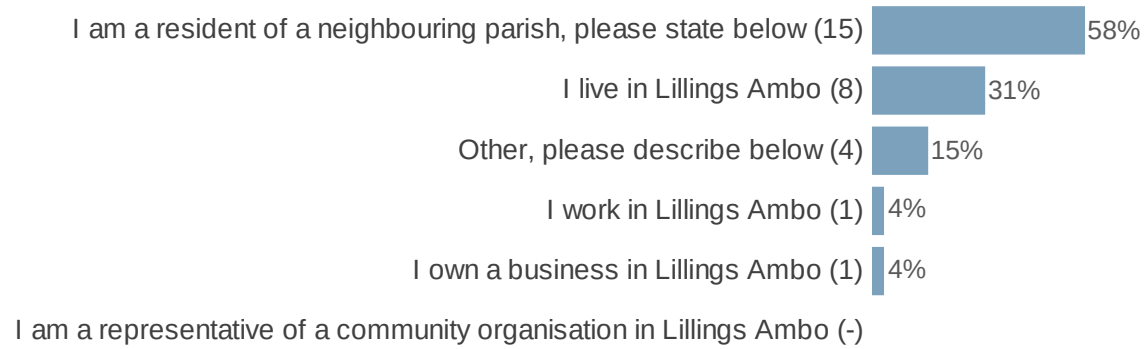
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2025-26 CGR - Lillings Ambo

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 26 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 26 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

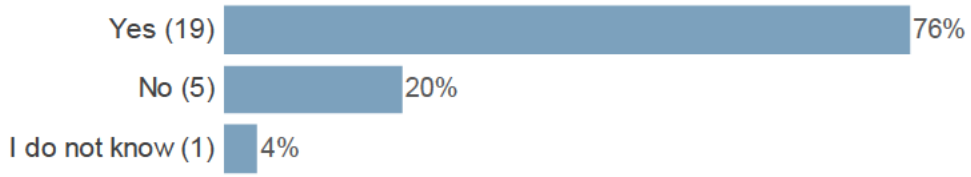


Flaxton
Resident of Sheriff Hutton
Sheriff Hutton
Sheriff Hutton
Sheriff Hutton. it seems that Sheriff Hutton P.C could well join with Lillings Ambo with representatives from West Lilling becoming part of a joint council.
Flaxton
Resident of Flaxton parish
Sheriff Hutton
Flaxton Parish Council
Flaxton
Flaxton
Foston & Thornton-le-Clay Parish Council
Sheriff Hutton
Boston with Thornton Le Clay
Sheriff Hutton Parish Council

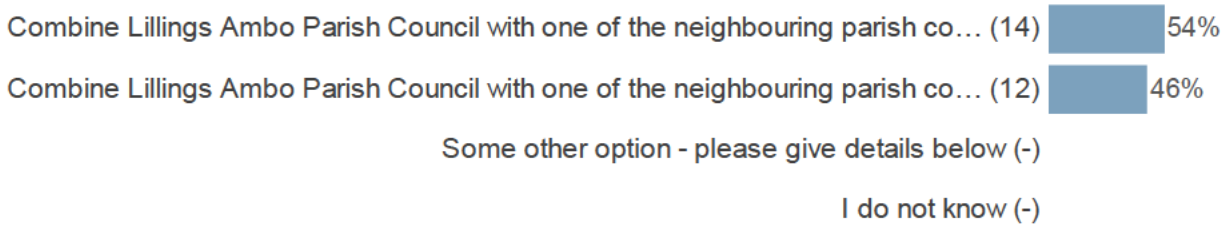
Please state the first part of your postcode: **(for example YO21)**

YO60	Yo60	YO60	Yo60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60
YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	yo60	YO60
Yo60	YO60	YO60	yo60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60
YO60							

Are you aware that Lillings Ambo Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors?



Which of the following would be your preferred option?



Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Lillings Ambo combined with?



Please tell us why you chose this option?

The main population of Lillings Ambo Parish is located much closer to the Sheriff Hutton village than its other neighbouring parishes.
We very much consider ourselves part of the Sheriff Hutton community. We have very little to do with Flaxton and Foston. It is only due to a quirk in the boundary that we are in Lillings Ambo at all [redacted] If it was decided to group us with Fodton or Flaxton that I would want the grouped parish council as believe that those two councils have very involvement with the Sheriff community and where we live, so a representative would be essential. We use Sheriff facilities ie village hall, church, shop, pub, tennis club, history group. We also take part in Sheriff events ie market, events at the church, quizzes, village show and we did use the school. We have nothing to do with Flaxton or Foston and in our view it would make very little sense to be part of that parish. Should it be decided to link our location with Foston /Flaxton, I would strongly request that the boundary is redrawn to include our little group of four houses in YO606QG to be part of Sheriff Hutton. Thank you
Lilling people naturally "looks" towards Sheriff Hutton. I would say that Lilling people generally take part in Sheriff Hutton interest groups and activities rather than Thornton/Foston/Flaxton group activities. I chose this option too because I would not like to see Lilling completely lose it's historic identity and be subsumed by Sheriff Hutton. I would say too that the boundary between Lilling and Sheriff Hutton is strange and variable. Looking at the map, linking Lilling and Sheriff Hutton makes a more cohesive bloc.
We are geographically close to the village of Sheriff Hutton.

Please tell us why you chose this option?

It's the most logical council for them to merge with. Thonton and Flaxton are too far away to make it viable
The great majority of the population of the Lillings Ambo parish live in West Lilling, which is directly adjacent to Sheriff Hutton. The issues and challenges facing West Lilling are almost entirely synonymous with those in Sheriff Hutton. Moreover, it would make sense to have a single view of planning issues, when most of those are concentrated on or near the existing shared parish boundary. For their part, the inhabitants of West Lilling look to Sheriff Hutton for services (e.g. Post Office, shop, pub and village hall), recreation and worship, which are in most cases within 800 metres, whereas Flaxton is almost 3 miles distant and does not offer the same resources. With the removal of the district level of governance and democratic accountability we now have something of a vacuum between the parish and county levels. Accordingly, I consider that there would be merit in looking at ways in which community engagement in lower-level governance can be encouraged by increasing the democratic accountability of parish councils. [redacted] and generates high levels of community engagement in all aspects of parish life.
As this was their preferred choice.
The geography would be logical to group with Sheriff Hutton.
Sheriff Hutton Parish Council is active and functioning well
From the map previously displayed, it seems that Lillings Ambo joins Sheriff Hutton area on three sides and an malgamation would be the most practical arrangement.
Our parish council is well run
We are less than a mile from Sheriff Hutton and regularly use the village hall and other amenities. West Lilling is too small and has very little to take decisions about and therefore the meetings lack purpose. Hence little interest for councillors. Not aware the PC in West Lilling has delivered any benefits.
Lillings Ambo has the closest links with Sheriff Hutton. It uses their newsletter and meeting venues. Sheriff Hutton should not be forced to have a member from Lillings Ambo if it risks losing a member from Sheriff Hutton.
So that Lillings Ambo has a representative on the parish council. The cost of running one council would be reduced.
Sheriff and Lilling largely operate as one (one village newsletter covers both). Operating a PC for 50ish dwellings is a nonsense, particularly given the excessives rules that are applied.
more synergy
Closest and most sensible PC, and retain prominent representation of the village.
Sheriff Hutton is a larger village and would seem to be more suited to absorb Lillings Ambo. It is geographically closer to Sheriff Hutton than Flaxton or other possibilities. Depends what actual residents of Lillings want and whether Sheriff Hutton would be willing to take it on.
Sheriff Hutton is the main focal point within the local area for all community activities and has the facilities to provide these. It also has a good sized population from which to draw to find members for the Parish Council, unlike Flaxton, Foston and Thornton-le-clay. Lilling is close enough to Sheriff, in geographical terms, to be seen as part of the one parish and not as a nuisance add-on.
Logical choice to have fewer smaller councils. Sheriff Hutton is well established and we get regular updates via the village newsletter. No contact with any other Parish Council.
Lillings Ambo has the closest association with Sheriff Hutton
Residents of Lilling have close ties with Sheriff Hutton regarding leisure activities and clubs.
It seems the most practical option - look at the boundaries & see where the facilities are!
It would make a more viable parish council as the 2 parish councils are of similar size. Also, Foston PC is the same as Lillings Ambo in terms of having no facilities.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

The introduction to this communication needs to make it clearer which of the parishes you are being asked to comment on if you want people to respond.
The letter that introduced this issue is far too generic. It does not encourage people to find out more or actually explain what the letter is really for. It does not really mention Lillings Ambo or the parish council difficulties. For many people to this letter is headed directly into the re- cycling bin because it is not clear.
No.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
I think that parish councils need to be more accountable to their residents which is not the case currently and sadly they don't always see resident priorities or reflect majority views. NYCC needs to be more involved in ensuring this happens.
No
This paper version should have been sent to residents rather than the generic letter, which was difficult to obtain the relevant correct information from. The mis-information on social media is evidence that helpful/clear information is not available.
Sooner the better and this process should be replicated anywhere with less than say 250 households. The costs do not justify small PCs when a single larger P would suffice.
Communication could have been clearer, as many people found the information confusing.
No
It is not very clear from the letter that was sent out about the review how to exactly find the survey online!
The generic letters sent to residents caused confusion and concern. Councillors should have been equipped to attend Parish Council meeting to explain what was happening.
Residents of Sheriff Hutton would like to keep our parish councillors as they are a good team and look after residents' issues and queries. I would not like to see any of them forced to resign to make way for Lillings councillors.
No
If Lillings Ambo was not merged with Foston PC, could Lillings Ambo not be changed into a parish meeting, rather than a parish council.

Appendix 9 – Draft Recommendations for Newall with Clifton Parish Council

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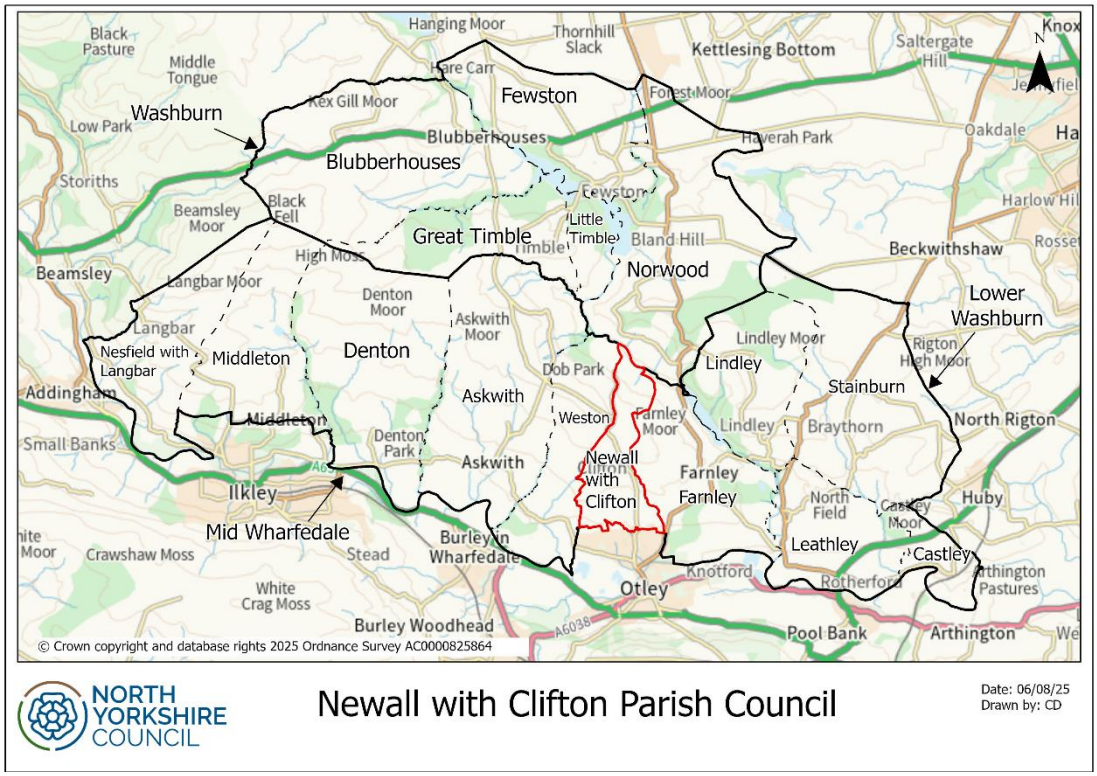
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Newall with Clifton Parish Council is situated within the Washburn and Birstwith division and is part of the Skipton and Ripon parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the small village of Clifton. Despite the parish name, the village of Newall sits across the North Yorkshire Council (NYC) border in the Otley and Yeadon ward of Leeds City Council.

1.2 Newall with Clifton parish currently has 120 electors and 69 properties.

1.3 Newall with Clifton Parish Council has 3 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Lower Washburn grouped Parish Council, Mid Wharfedale grouped Parish Council and Washburn grouped Parish Council.



1.4 Newall with Clifton Parish Council is comprised of 5 elected parish councillors. In order to meet and take decisions at least 3 councillors must be present. Parish Councils must hold an annual meeting and at least 3 other meetings each year.

1.5 Parish councils can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish, although as Newall with Clifton Parish Council is inactive a precept is not currently being raised.

History of the area

1.6 In September 2022 Harrogate Borough Council (the principal authority at the time) was notified that Newall with Clifton Parish Council had become inquorate due to several resignations leaving only one remaining parish councillor. The usual vacancy procedures were followed but there was no subsequent interest in the vacancies. As a result, the parish council became inactive.

1.7 In June 2025, the Mid Wharfedale Parish Clerk emailed NYC to advise that Mid Wharfedale parish councillors were keen to explore the possibility of merging with Newall with Clifton Parish Council. Mid Wharfedale Parish Council was aware that the parish council had been inactive for several years and noted that the Newall with Clifton parish area fitted in well with Mid Wharfedale from a community identity perspective.

1.8 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a Community Governance review (CGR) be carried out for Newall with Clifton Parish Council. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included Newall with Clifton Parish Council on 16 July 2025.

1.9 As Newall with Clifton Parish Council has remained inactive for several years, it is not within the interest of the public to keep the current governance arrangements as local electors are not currently represented by an active parish council. A merger with Mid Wharfedale Parish Council will ensure that electors are represented by a parish council.

1.10 Mid Wharfedale Grouped Parish Council currently has 662 electors and 367 properties.

1.11 The NYC Division Member for Washburn and Birstwith, Councillor Nathan Hull, was informed of the CGR request and has confirmed his support for a merger with Mid Wharfedale Parish Council.

Five year electorate forecast

1.12 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Newall with Clifton parish and the 5 parishes that form Mid Wharfedale grouped Parish Council is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Newall with Clifton	120	120	0
Askwith (Mid Wharfedale Group)	197	212	15
Denton (Mid Wharfedale Group)	77	85	8
Middleton (Mid Wharfedale Group)	82	85	3

Nesfield with Langbar (Mid Wharfedale Group)	157	157	0
Weston (Mid Wharfedale Group)	149	167	18

**Based on 2024 electorate totals*

1.13 The 5 year electorate forecast for Mid Wharfedale Grouped Parish Council is 706 electors.

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Newall with Clifton Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	1053
Consultation responses received	12
Response rate	1.1%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in the parishes of Castley, Farnley, Leathley, Lindley, and Stainburn, which are grouped together to form Lower Washburn Parish Council, the parishes of Askwith, Denton, Middleton, Nesfield with Langbar and Weston, which are grouped together to form Mid Wharfedale Parish Council, Newall with Clifton parish and the parishes of Blubberhouses, Fewston, Great Timble, Little Timble and Norwood which are grouped together to form Washburn Parish Council. Following the CGR request made by Mid Wharfedale Parish Council to merge with Newall with Clifton, these were the areas under review, as well as the neighbouring parish councils.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 9A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 9B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for Newall with Clifton Parish Council was 12.

2.6 Of the 12 respondents, 4 reported that they lived in Newall with Clifton. 9 respondents were residents of a neighbouring parish, although one respondent advised that they lived in Newall with Clifton and also ticked the box ‘I am a resident of a neighbouring parish’, presumably in error. 4 of these respondents were from Lower Washburn Parish Council, 3 were from Mid Wharfedale and one respondent did not advise which neighbouring parish they lived in.

2.7 58% (7) of respondents indicated that they were aware that Newall with Clifton Parish Council had experienced difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and was not currently meeting as it is not quorate.

2.8 58% (7) of respondents were in favour of combining Newall with Clifton Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils, either by forming a single parish council which could be warded, or by forming a grouped parish council.

2.9 The majority of respondents chose to combine Newall with Clifton Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and forming a grouped parish council, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Combine Newall with Clifton Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and forming a grouped parish council	4	33%
Combine Newall with Clifton Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and merging with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded	3	25%
I am unsure	5	42%
Other suggestion, please describe below	0	0%
Total	12	100%

2.10 Of the 12 respondents, 4 were in favour of Newall with Clifton being combined with Mid Wharfedale Parish Council, two were in favour of Newall with Clifton being combined with Lower Washburn Parish Council, and one suggested Washburn Parish Council.

2.11 Annex 9B summarises at page 3 the reasons people gave for their preferred option. The most popular reason for the choice to merge Newall with Clifton Parish Council with Mid Wharfedale Parish Council was due to their geographical affinity. It was noted that Mid Wharfedale parish meetings took place in the parish of Askwith, which is relatively near to Newall with Clifton parish. The fact that Mid Wharfedale Parish Council had advised that they would be willing to take on Newall with Clifton parish was also commented on. Respondents also commented that both parishes have similar objectives and concerns and therefore surmised that there are likely to be shared solutions to these problems.

2.12 5 respondents indicated that they were unsure of their preferred option. One respondent advised that they would prefer Newall with Clifton to retain their own parish council. Another respondent expressed concern about the effectiveness of parish council governance in the past, commenting that residents felt excluded from decision making processes.

2.13 Two respondents were in support of Newall with Clifton Parish Council being combined with Lower Washburn Parish Council. The reasons for this choice included both parish councils being situated on the border of Otley, and therefore having similar characteristics through links to the town, as well as links to the Nidderdale National Landscape.

2.14 One respondent supported combining Newall with Clifton Parish Council with Washburn Parish Council. When asked why they selected this option, the individual advised that they had no preference regarding which neighbouring parish council Newall with Clifton should join but wished to express a need for greater support. They commented that the parish is geographically dispersed and that in the past they felt unsupported by the former principal authority, Harrogate Borough Council. While these issues fall outside the scope of this governance review, combining Newall with Clifton Parish Council with Mid Wharfedale Parish Council is considered the option most likely to ensure that residents feel represented.

2.15 In August 2025, Mid Wharfedale Parish Council advised via email that they were happy to be considered for a merger with Newall with Clifton Parish Council. The reasons for this included significant geographical links between the parish councils making Mid Wharfedale a good fit. Mid Wharfedale councillors advised that they wanted to keep the grouped parish council arrangement, and if a merger took place, Newall with Clifton parish would be added to the existing Mid Wharfedale grouped Parish Council, creating a sixth parish which would be represented by one councillor.

2.16 The Division Member for Washburn and Birstwith, Councillor Nathan Hull supports the proposal to combine Newall with Clifton Parish Council with Mid Wharfedale grouped Parish Council on the basis that Newall with Clifton Parish Council has been inactive for some time, and therefore the residents are not properly represented, as well as the fact that Mid Wharfedale Parish Council is willing to take on Newall with Clifton.

2.17 Lower Washburn Parish Council and Washburn Parish Council did not provide a formal consultation response however the Lower Washburn Clerk has previously advised that Mid Wharfedale seemed a better option for combining with Newall with Clifton Parish Council.

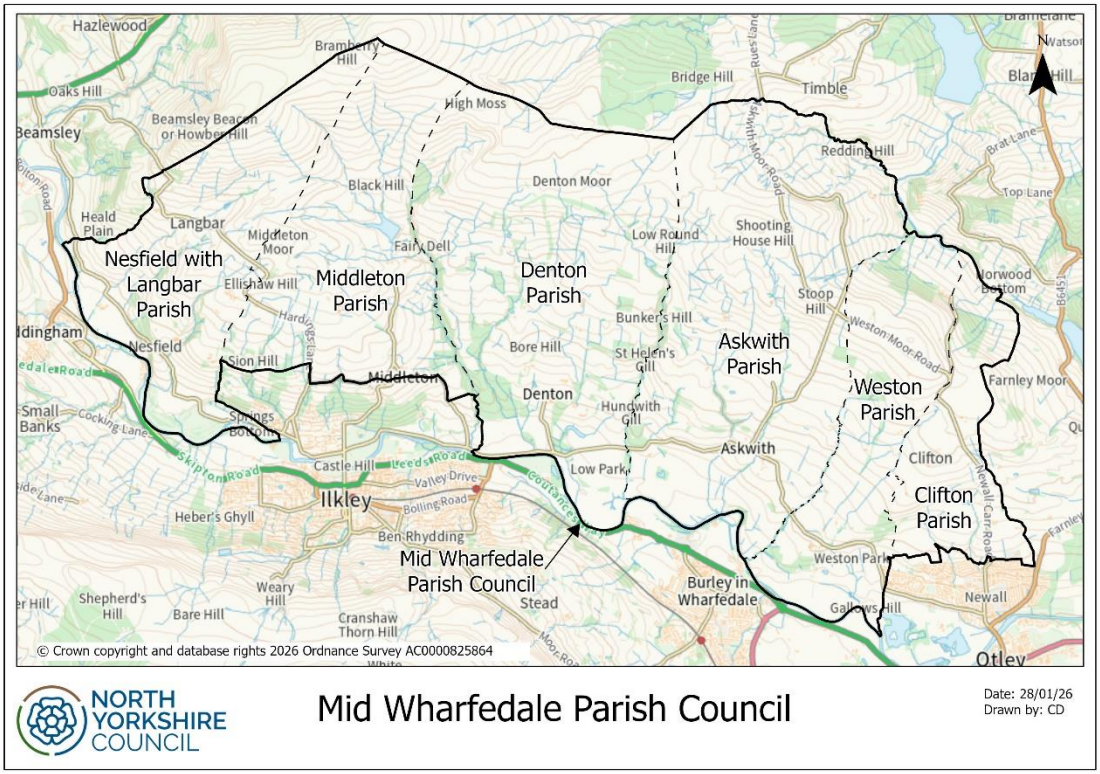
2.18 Additional comments about the CGR included further reasons in support of Newall with Clifton Parish Council being combined with either Mid Wharfedale Parish Council or Lower Washburn Parish Council, as well a plea from one Newall with Clifton resident for further general support.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (58%) indicated support for combining Newall with Clifton Parish Council with a neighbouring parish council, with the majority of these responses in favour of creating a grouped parish council. 57% of respondents were in favour of a merger specifically with Mid Wharfedale Parish Council. It is therefore proposed to combine the parish of Newall with Clifton with Mid Wharfedale grouped Parish Council.

3.2 Despite the parish name of Newall with Clifton, the village of Newall sits across the NYC border in the Otley and Yeadon ward of Leeds City Council. The village of Newall has not been part of Newall with Clifton parish since 1903. For this reason, it is suggested that the parish be renamed Clifton, to reflect that Newall has not been a part of the parish for over a century.

3.3 A map of the recommended new Mid Wharfedale Parish Council is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – Newall with Clifton Parish Council shall be dissolved

Recommendation 2 – the parish of Newall with Clifton be renamed Clifton

Recommendation 3 – the parish of Clifton shall be added to the Mid Wharfedale group of parishes of Askwith, Denton, Middleton, Nesfield with Langbar and Weston

Recommendation 4 – the name of the group shall be Mid Wharfedale Parish Council

Recommendation 5 – The parish council of Mid Wharfedale be comprised of the parishes detailed below:

Aswith
Clifton
Denton
Middleton
Nesfield with Langbar
Weston

Recommendation 6 – there should be 12 councillors elected to the parish council

Recommendation 7 – the number of parish councillors to be elected for each parish shall be

Askwith	**3**
Clifton	**1**
Denton	**2**
Middleton	**1**
Nesfield with Langbar	**3**
Weston	**2**
Total	**12**

Recommendation 8 – implementation is recommended to take affect administratively on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 9A – Consultation survey
Annex 9B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Newall with Clifton parish

We are consulting residents about the future governance of Newall with Clifton Parish Council. Due to a lack of residents willing to become parish councillors, North Yorkshire Council is undertaking a community governance review to ensure that parish level governance arrangements are operating as effectively as possible.

Newall with Clifton Parish Council has not been functioning since September 2022. This means that there are no councillors to attend parish meetings.

Mid Wharfedale is a neighbouring grouped parish council comprised of five individual parishes. It is represented by 11 councillors. Mid Wharfedale Parish Council has expressed an interest in taking on the area of Newall with Clifton Parish Council, as councillors feel that the area fits in well with Mid Wharfedale and has a shared community identity.

There are several options as indicated below:

1. Dissolve the parish council and add the parish to a neighbouring parish council to form a grouped parish council. At least one parish councillor would represent the parish on the parish council.

2. Dissolve the parish council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded.

3. Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting. A parish meeting would consist of all the registered electors living in the parish and a meeting must take place at least two times per year. Volunteers would be required to fulfil the role of clerk and chair of the parish meeting.

4. No changes to current arrangements and retain the parish council in its current form.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- [ ] I live in Newall with Clifton
- [ ] I work in Newall with Clifton
- [ ] I own a business in Newall with Clifton
- [ ] I am a representative of a community organisation in Newall with Clifton
- [ ] I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- [ ] Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Are you aware that Newall with Clifton Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and is currently not meeting as it is not quorate?

- ◯ Yes, I am aware
- ◯ No, I am not aware
- ◯ I am unsure

Which of the following would be your preferred option?

- ◯ Combine Newall with Clifton Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and forming a grouped parish council
- ◯ Combine Newall with Clifton Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and merging with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded
- ◯ I am unsure
- ◯ Other suggestion, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Newall with Clifton combined with?

- ◯ Mid Wharfedale Grouped Parish Council
- ◯ Lower Washburn Grouped Parish Council
- ◯ Washburn Grouped Parish Council

Please tell us why you chose this option?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

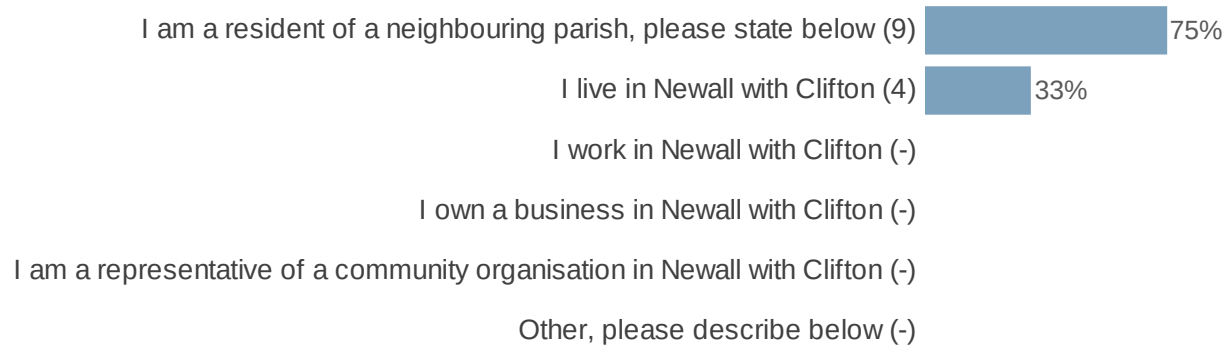
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2025-26 CGR - Newall with Clifton

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 12 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 12 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:



Farnley/ Lower Wharfedale
Mid wharfedale - weston
I live in the Lower Washburn parish
Farnley
Mid wharfedale - weston
Middleton Parish
Denton (Lower Washburn)
Nothing is being done..our pavements have become very narrow and are dangerous. Manholes are blocked. Please help.

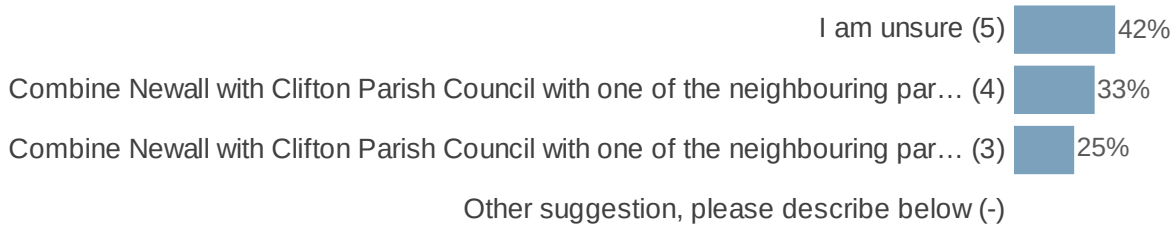
Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

LS21	LS21	LS21	LS29
LS21	LS21	ls21	LS29
LS21	LS21	LS21	LS21

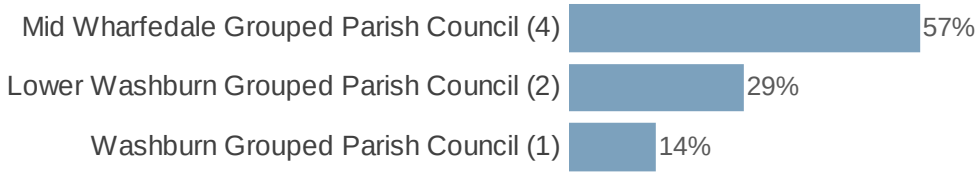
Are you aware that Newall with Clifton Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and is currently not meeting as it is not quorate?



Which of the following would be your preferred option?



Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Newall with Clifton combined with?



Please tell us why you chose this option?

Ideally I would like us to have our own Parish council.
Waste of time having any Parish Council in this area. If you want to speak out, then you are risking your property being attacked with acid or burnt to the ground. Residents are not included for debate and land owners illegally get away with unlawful building and use of land , even when reported to the planning department at Harrogate.. In the past the only members on the Parish Council were there to make sure what they wanted was passed and after that left they removed access to the Parish Website so local residents had no idea what was going on. There are too many private secret meetings and those residents who would like to make a difference for the whole community are excluded from having any say.
Adjacent and willing to take on the parish - a natural fit.
We are both parish councils on the border of Otley and so have similar characteristics having a rural part but also close links to the town.
I think as N&C is relatively sparsely populated it has more in common with Farnley/Lower Washburn than mid Wharfedale. I also feel it seems to be a logical part of the Lower Washburn because the main road which runs through it is a connecting feature. Also, I believe at least part of it is within the Nidderdale 'National Landscape' and this also seems to be a good reason not to include it in a parish such as Mid Wharfedale which has no relationship to the 'National Landscape'
More natural fit
Geograpically Mid Wharfedale is the nearest in ffinity to Newall and Clifton. The Mid Wharefale metings are held in Akwith which is very newr to Newall and Clifton.
Because of its distance from the Washburn Councils
I really dont mind just give us some support

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

I have lived here for 3 years and my understanding was that we were now linked with Askwith parish council but have not had any official indication
North Yorks ((Harrogate) has included land in C&N in their housing plan- in an area just north of Otley adjacent to Farnley Parish. It would make more sense from a number of perspectives related to this potential development to have C&N area in the same parish as Farnley.
Mid Wharefale Parish Council is an active Parish Council, and is very open to members of the public.
We are geographally well spread out as a community..seperate homes and groups of people and its hard to bring us all together. When we had a ouncil we fdlt we had little support from Harrogte...bht roadside verges and pavements are in places dangerous. So ang help would be appreciated..thanks

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Appendix 10 – Draft Recommendations for Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council

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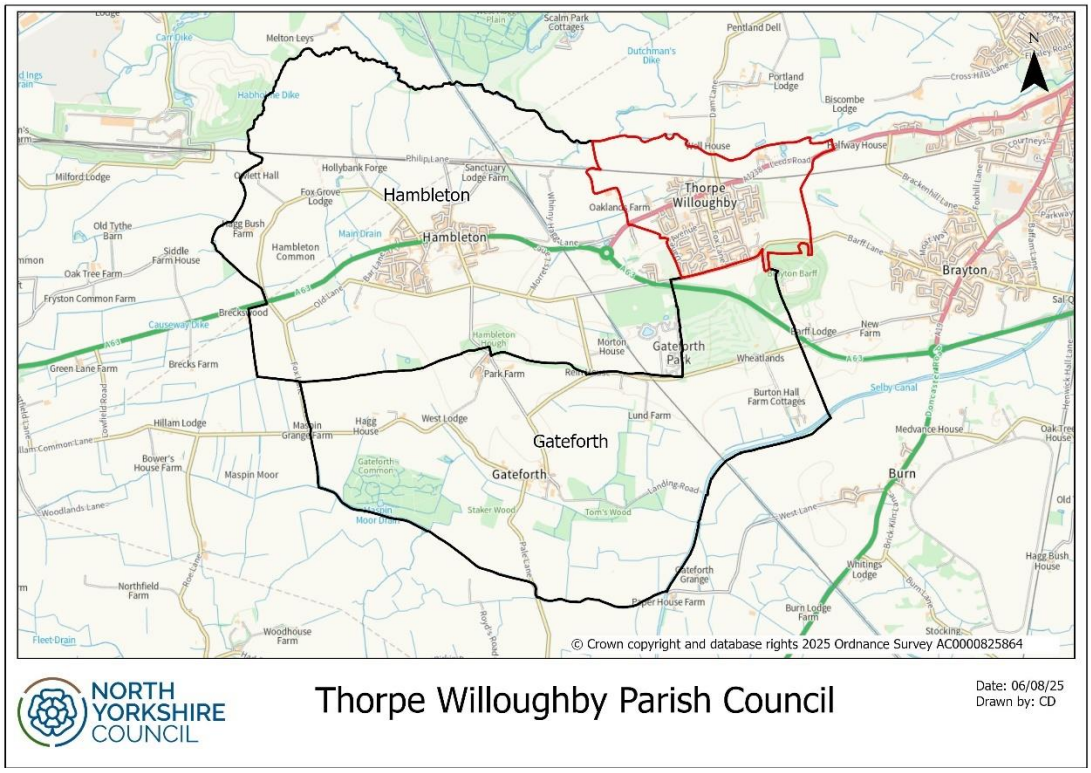
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council is situated within the Thorpe Willoughby and Hambleton division and is part of the Selby parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the village of Thorpe Willoughby and is situated north of the Selby Bypass on the A63.

1.2 Thorpe Willoughby parish currently has 2859 electors and 1645 properties.

1.3 Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council has two neighbouring parish areas that are relevant to this review, as shown in the map below which are Gateforth parish and Hambleton parish.



1.4 Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council is comprised of 10 elected parish councillors. In order to meet and take decisions at least 4 councillors must be present. Parish Councils must hold an annual meeting and at least 3 other meetings each year.

1.5 Parish councils can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council raised a precept of £80,500 for the 2025/26 financial year.

History of the area

1.6 In May 2017, Selby District Council (SDC) (the principal authority at the time) received a request from Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to amend its parish boundary to include the land up to the Selby Bypass. In April 2018, SDC resolved to

approve the request to amend the parish boundary subject to final agreement from Hambleton Parish Council. Hambleton Parish Council provided a response which did not state final agreement, and the proposal was therefore brought back to SDC in July 2018. SDC resolved to refuse the proposal to amend the parish boundaries on the basis that Hambleton Parish Council did not agree to the proposals that had been submitted.

1.7 In September 2023, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) was contacted by the Thorpe Willoughby Clerk who requested a change to the boundary between the parishes of Thorpe Willoughby, Gateforth and Hambleton to incorporate the area to the south and west of Thorpe Willoughby between the village and the Selby Bypass, with the Bypass forming the new boundary line. The Clerk advised that the parts of Gateforth and Hambleton inside the Selby Bypass were inaccessible unless travelling through Thorpe Willoughby, and any homes built in these areas would consider themselves part of Thorpe Willoughby, and be served by Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council, whilst the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 monies go to Gateforth and Hambleton Parish Councils.

1.8 The Thorpe Willoughby Clerk was advised that the process for changing the boundaries of the 3 affected parish councils was achieved via a Community Governance Review (CGR).

1.9 In October 2023, the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services considered several outstanding CGR requests, including Thorpe Willoughby. As Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council was functioning well, the CGR request was not deemed urgent and it was determined that the request to amend the parish boundary be revisited in 2025, at which point a county wide CGR was planned ahead of the May 2027 local elections.

1.10 In May 2025, the Division Member for Thorpe Willoughby and Hambleton contacted NYC to request that the previous CGR request be considered again.

1.11 In June 2025, Democratic Services contacted the Clerks of Gateforth and Hambleton Parish Councils advising of the previous CGR request. Both parish councils advised that they were aware of the request to amend the parish boundaries, but that the matter had not been discussed recently.

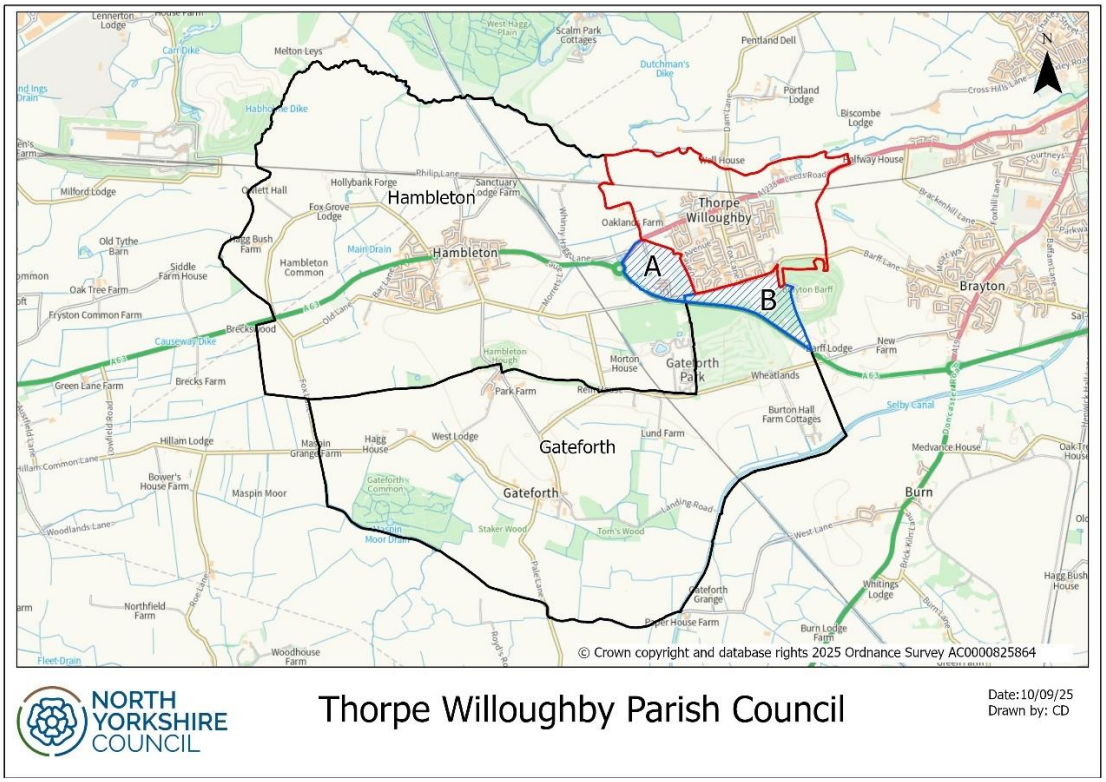
1.12 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council on 16 July 2025.

1.13 Gateforth Parish Council currently has 183 electors and 97 properties. Hambleton Parish Council currently has 2025 electors and 1177 properties.

1.14 Area A in the below map shows the area of Hambleton parish which is proposed to move to Thorpe Willoughby parish. 109 electors currently live in Area A. Area B on the map shows the area of Gateforth parish which is proposed to move to Thorpe Willoughby parish. There are currently no electors in Area B.

1.15 The NYC Division Member for Thorpe Willoughby and Hambleton, Councillor Cliff Lunn, was informed of the CGR request and has confirmed his support for Area A in

Hambleton parish and Area B in Gateforth parish to be moved to Thorpe Willoughby parish.



Five year electorate forecast

1.16 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Thorpe Willoughby parish, Gateforth parish and Hambleton parish is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Gateforth	183	193	10
Hambleton	2025	2467	442
Thorpe Willoughby	2859	2891	32

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	2919
Consultation responses received	150
Response rate	5.1%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in the parishes of Gateforth, Hambleton and Thorpe Willoughby as following the CGR request made by Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to change its boundaries, these were the areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 10A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 10B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council was 150.

2.6 Of the 150 respondents, 95 reported that they lived in Thorpe Willoughby. Of these 95 responses, 8 respondents selected multiple boxes to describe themselves, for instance one respondent advised that they lived in Thorpe Willoughby and worked in Thorpe Willoughby so ticked two boxes. 42 respondents reported that they lived in Hambleton. Of these 42 responses, 4 respondents selected multiple boxes to describe themselves. 3 respondents reported that they lived in Gateforth.

2.7 Of the 12 respondents who ticked multiple boxes to describe themselves, 4 ticked more than two boxes. This means that of the 161 boxes ticked, 16 respondents were counted more than once, totalling 145 respondents who provided further information about themselves. A breakdown of the responses can be found at page 1 of Annex 10B. Of the 150 respondents, a further 5 did not provide any details about themselves.

Proposal to move Area A from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish

2.8 The majority of respondents chose for the area marked A on the map to be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
I support the proposal	115	77%
I do not support the proposal	31	21%
I am unsure	3	2%
Total	149*	100%

* *One respondent did not provide an answer to this question*

2.9 Of the 150 respondents, 115 were in favour of the proposal that the area marked A on the map to be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass and 31 respondents did not support the proposal.

2.10 Annex 10B summarises at page 2 the reasons people gave for their preferred option. The most popular reason in support of the proposal was that residents in Area A use Thorpe Willoughby amenities, but as residents of Hambleton Parish Council, do not contribute to the Thorpe Willoughby precept via council tax payments. Amenities referenced by respondents include the primary school, roads, sports clubs, parks and shops. Some respondents also commented that CIL and S106 funding for properties in Area A go to Hambleton Parish Council, rather than Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council, despite residents using facilities in Thorpe Willoughby.

2.11 The second most popular reason in support of the proposal was that the properties in Area A are disconnected from the village of Hambleton, with many respondents commenting that residents in Area A can only gain access to Hambleton through Thorpe Willoughby. Several respondents felt that the properties in Area A were geographically viewed as part of Thorpe Willoughby rather than Hambleton.

2.12 One respondent commented *"I live in the area marked A. Thorpe Willoughby is my village/area as it is where I use local facilities, it is the area I drive through to access my home, and my address is 'Thorpe Willoughby' so it only makes sense that my home be in the parish of the village I live in"*.

2.13 Another common theme for respondents supporting the proposal was that the construction of the Selby Bypass had created a logical boundary between the parishes of Gateforth, Hambleton and Thorpe Willoughby. Several respondents felt that the current parish boundaries were *"outdated"* and ought to be updated to align with the Bypass, with multiple respondents referring to the Bypass as a *"sensible boundary".*

2.14 Another reason given in support of the proposal was that amending the parish boundary lines would enable Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to have more input on planning applications in Area A. Some respondents felt that new housing in Area A impacted Thorpe Willoughby's infrastructure and amenities, including schools, roads and traffic, despite being in Hambleton parish. Another respondent commented that housing development in Area A was separated from Hambleton by the A1236 and the A63 roads and was adjacent to existing housing in Thorpe Willoughby parish.

2.15 31 respondents did not support the proposal that the area marked A on the map be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. The most popular reason for this choice was the financial implications for Hambleton Parish Council as they would lose the precept from the properties in Area A. Respondents also commented that council tax was likely to increase for the residents in Area A, as Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council raise a larger precept than Hambleton Parish Council.

2.16 One respondent wrote *"The change of boundary would only benefit Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council - Hambleton Parish Council will lose existing precept income which it relies on and it would also lose out on income from potential future developments on the land in Area A".*

2.17 Another common theme in the comments that did not support the proposal was that properties in Area A have been part of Hambleton parish for a long time, and the view that a historic boundary should not change due to the position of the Selby Bypass. One respondent commented *"I believe the historic boundary of the Parish of Hambleton should remain intact. This boundary existed before the bypass was built and therefore should remain unchanged"*.

2.18 Some respondents commented that Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council had previously requested a CGR to amend its parish boundary to include the land up to the Selby Bypass. Some respondents felt that the reasons for the refusal of this request had not changed and therefore should not be reconsidered under NYC.

2.19 Some respondents referred to the proposal as a *"land grab"* that would enable Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to gain more precept income from future housing development in Area A. Some respondents commented that the other CGRs being conducted by NYC did not involve a similar *"land grab".* In response, these comments are noted however several CGRs involve combining multiple parishes together, which will likely result in changes to current council tax arrangements.

2.20 Other reasons cited for opposing the proposal include potential confusion among residents in Area A if the parish boundary were to be altered, as well as concerns that residents in Area A may lose the ability to be buried in Hambleton Cemetery should they be transferred to Thorpe Willoughby parish.

2.21 Several respondents also commented that Thorpe Willoughby parish is a smoke controlled area, meaning that residents in Area A would be unable to use wood or multi fuel burners.

2.22 Some consultation responses referenced additional documents that were emailed directly to the CGR team, outlining further reasons for the respondent's choice. All responses have been considered as part of this consultation analysis.

2.23 3 respondents indicated that they were unsure of their preferred option. One respondent advised that that whilst the proposal seemed reasonable, they were unsure of the consequences of the boundary changes. One respondent commented that they had not received correspondence from the parish councils involved about how the proposal would affect their property. Another respondent advised that they did not see a reason to change the existing boundaries unless the residents of the houses affected by the boundary change were unanimously in agreement of the changes.

2.24 Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council submitted a consultation response in support of the proposal that the area marked A on the map be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. The reasons for this response include that the current boundary does not reflect the growing village of Thorpe Willoughby and has isolated residents who are classed as residents of Hambleton but have a Thorpe Willoughby postcode. Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council also referenced the impact of new housing development in Area A, causing residents to feel excluded from both parishes.

2.25 Hambleton Parish Council submitted a consultation response advising that they do not support the proposal that the area marked A on the map be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. The reasons for this response include that the proposal was viewed as a *"land grab"* from Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to gain precept income, as well as the fact that the boundary has been in place since the 1700s and a CGR has previously been requested and refused.

2.26 The Division Member for Thorpe Willoughby and Hambleton, Councillor Cliff Lunn submitted a consultation response in support of the proposed changes to Gateforth parish, Hambleton parish and Thorpe Willoughby parish. He stated *"I am very strongly in favour of the changes. I think it is unfair that precepts go to other parish councils whilst the people use facilities paid for by Thorpe Willoughby residents. The bypass has changed the geography of the villages"*.

2.27 The Member of Parliament for Selby and Kippax, Mr Keir Mather MP contacted the CGR team in December 2025, highlighting the concerns of Hambleton Parish Council regarding the boundary change proposal, including the loss of precept for Hambleton Parish Council, increased council tax payments for residents in Area A and the fact that the parish boundary has been in place for such a long period. The CGR team acknowledged receipt of this correspondence and confirmed that the views of Hambleton Parish Council would be taken into consideration when drafting recommendations.

Proposal to move Area B from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish

2.28 The majority of respondents chose for the area marked B on the map to be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
I support the proposal	114	79%
I do not support the proposal	29	20%
I am unsure	2	1%
Total	145*	100%

** 5 respondents did not provide an answer to this question*

2.29 Of the 150 respondents, 114 were in favour of the proposal that the area marked B on the map to be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the

boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass and 29 respondents did not support the proposal.

2.30 Annex 10B summarises at page 8 the reasons people gave for their preferred option. The most popular reason in support of the proposal was that any future development in Area B is likely to lead to new residents using Thorpe Willoughby's amenities, while as residents of Gateforth Parish Council, they would not contribute to the Thorpe Willoughby precept through council tax. Amenities referenced by respondents include the primary school, shops, roads, pharmacy, hairdressers and cafes in Thorpe Willoughby.

2.31 One respondent wrote *"Any development on area B will have a Thorpe Willoughby address and use the facilities of Thorpe Willoughby"*.

2.32 The second most common reason given in support of the proposal was that Area B is disconnected from the village of Gateforth, with many respondents noting that any future residents would only be able to access Gateforth via Thorpe Willoughby. Several respondents also felt that Area B is geographically regarded as part of Thorpe Willoughby rather than Gateforth.

2.33 One respondent commented *"This area is 500 meters from my home, which is in Thorpe Willoughby. Gateforth is miles away"*.

2.34 Another common reason in support of the proposal was that future housing development in Area B would be unlikely to impact the parish of Gateforth, but would significantly affect the parish of Thorpe Willoughby, as it would be Thorpe Willoughby amenities and infrastructure that would be used. Some respondents felt that Gateforth Parish Council should not have a say in planning applications in Area B that would not impact Gateforth village in any way, and that Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council ought to be able to comment.

2.35 Some respondents also commented that the Selby Bypass had created a logical boundary between the parishes of Gateforth, Hambleton and Thorpe Willoughby. Several respondents felt that the current parish boundaries were *"outdated"* and ought to be updated to align with the Bypass, with multiple respondents referring to the Bypass as a *"logical boundary"* given recent approved housing development.

2.36 29 respondents did not support the proposal that the area marked B on the map be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. The most popular reason for this choice was the view that historic parish boundary lines should be retained. Some respondents commented that parish boundaries do not need to be lined up with roads. Others commented that the Gateforth parish boundary line existed before the Selby Bypass was built and should therefore remain unchanged.

2.37 The second most popular reason for this choice was the financial implications for Gateforth Parish Council who would not gain the precept from future properties built in Area B. Respondents also commented that council tax was likely to be higher for any future residents in Area B, as Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council raise a larger precept than Gateforth Parish Council. Some respondents felt that the only reason for the proposal was for Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to gain additional precept income.

2.38 Other reasons not in support of the proposal include that Thorpe Willoughby parish is a smoke controlled area, meaning that future residents in Area B would be unable to use wood or multi fuel burners. Other respondents referred to the proposal as a *"land grab"* from Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council, with one respondent suggesting that the proposal could set a precedent to allow parish councils to claim land from their neighbours. Some respondents commented on the cost implications of the CGR.

2.39 A few respondents commented that Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council had previously requested a CGR to amend its parish boundary to include the land up to the Selby Bypass in 2017. Some respondents felt that the reasons for the refusal of this request had not changed and therefore should not be reconsidered under NYC.

2.40 Several free text comments in relation to the proposal that the area marked B on the map to be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass included text that either referred to comments about Area A in Hambleton or directed the reader to view their previous response about Area A in Hambleton. Whilst all comments have been considered, some of these responses were only relevant to the proposal concerning Area A, not Area B.

2.41 Two respondents advised that they were unsure of their preferred option. Both respondents had also indicated they were unsure of the proposal that the area marked A on the map to be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. One of the respondents advised that the proposal did not impact themselves or their property. The other respondent explained that their reason was the same for the previous proposal affecting Area A - that that whilst the proposal seemed reasonable, they were unsure of the consequences of the boundary changes.

2.42 Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council submitted a consultation response in support of the proposal that the area marked B on the map to be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. The reasons for this response include the impact of the approval of 110 new homes in Area B, as future residents will not feel part of Gateforth parish as Gateforth village is around 4 miles from development site. It was also commented that as there are currently less than 100 properties in Gateforth parish, an additional 110 homes in Area B would split the village in half, which seems disjointed.

2.43 Gateforth Parish Council submitted a consultation response in support of the proposal that the area marked B on the map to be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. The reasons for this response include that Area B has no access to Gateforth other than through Thorpe Willoughby and future development in Area B will impact Thorpe Willoughby parish. Gateforth Parish Council resolved to accept the proposal at their last parish meeting.

2.44 Of the 150 respondents, 64 provided additional comments about the CGR. A summary of these responses can be found on page 13 of Annex 10B. Some respondents included further reasons in support for both proposals, such as creating an enhanced sense of community as residents in Area A and potential new residents in Area B would feel part of the Thorpe Willoughby community, rather than isolated from the villages of Hambleton or Gateforth which are further away. Some

residents felt that the proposed boundary changes ought to have happened when the Selby Bypass was built and that the changes are long overdue. One respondent commented that the proposal should not be blocked by Hambleton Parish Council due to their own financial interest, whilst other respondents commented that the parish councils of Gateforth and Hambleton should not receive precept money for buildings that are closer to Thorpe Willoughby than either village.

2.45 One resident commented *"I live on the new estate at Thorpe Meadows and wasn't aware we were not technically in the parish of Thorpe Willoughby. Seems silly being part of a village that is nowhere near us. It would make me feel more part of the village if the boundary was changed".*

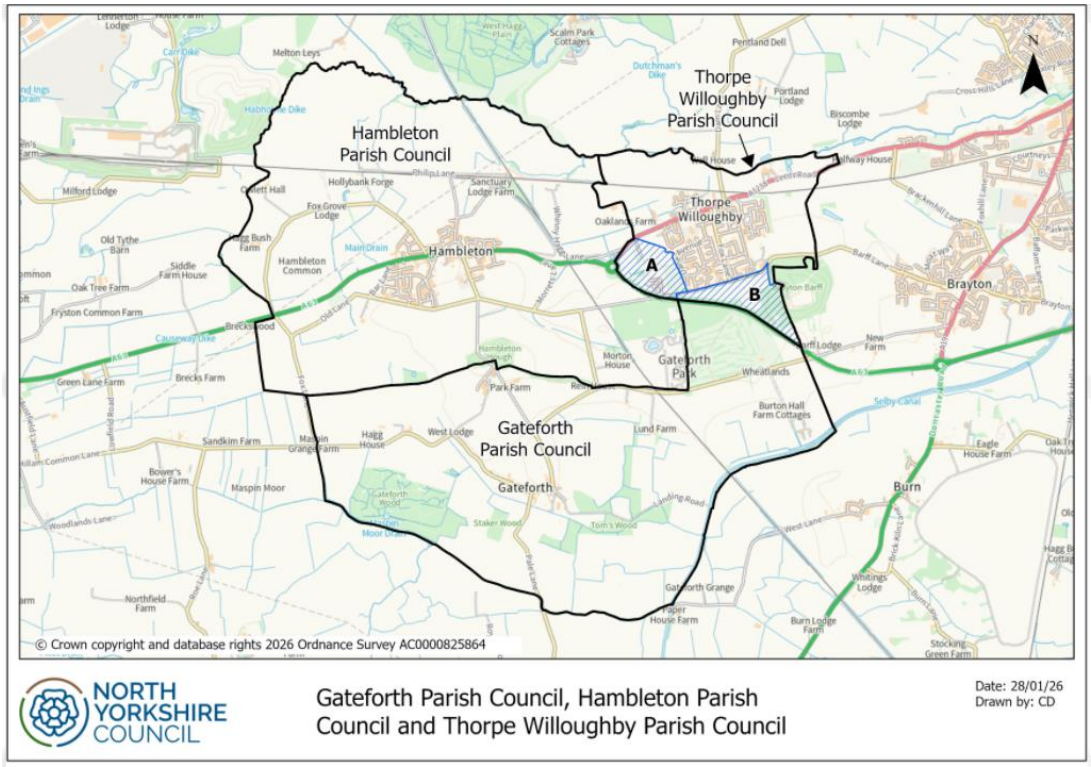
2.46 Some respondents included further reasons to explain why they were not in support of both proposals. Concerns were raised that the proposed changes may result in bad feelings between the parishes and cause unnecessary disruption to any affected residents. One comment raised that a boundary review was not a matter that the residents involved considered most important and that other issues such as excessive house building are of greater importance to residents. Other respondents mentioned the fact that Hambleton Parish Council would lose precept income from the residents in Area A, and that the proposals were viewed as a *"land grab"* from Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to gain funding and council tax benefits. Several respondents also commented that Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council requested a boundary change a number of years ago and that the reasons for the refusal do not appear to have changed.

2.47 One respondent raised concerns about the lack of communication about the CGR to the affected residents. In response to this comment, NYC sent letters about potential changes to all properties in the parishes of Gateforth, Hambleton and Thorpe Willoughby, inviting residents to have their say during the consultation.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (77%) indicated support for the area marked A on the map to be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. The majority of responses (79%) were in favour of the area marked B on the map to be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line be amended to run along the Selby Bypass. It is therefore proposed that the area marked A in Hambleton parish and the area marked B in Gateforth parish move to Thorpe Willoughby Parish.

3.2 A map of the recommended changes to Gateforth Parish Council, Hambleton Parish Council and Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council is shown below:



3.3 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the parish boundary between the parish of Hambleton and the parish of Thorpe Willoughby is amended so that the area marked A on the above map ceases to be part of Hambleton parish and becomes part of the parish of Thorpe Willoughby.

Recommendation 2 – the parish boundary between the parish of Gateforth and the parish of Thorpe Willoughby is amended so that the area marked B on the above map ceases to be part of Gateforth parish and becomes part of the parish of Thorpe Willoughby.

Recommendation 3 – the existing council sizes shall be retained with 7 councillors elected to Gateforth Parish Council, 8 councillors elected to Hambleton Parish Council and 10 councillors elected to Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council.

Recommendation 4 – implementation is recommended to take affect administratively on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.4 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 10A – Consultation survey
Annex 10B – Summary of consultation responses

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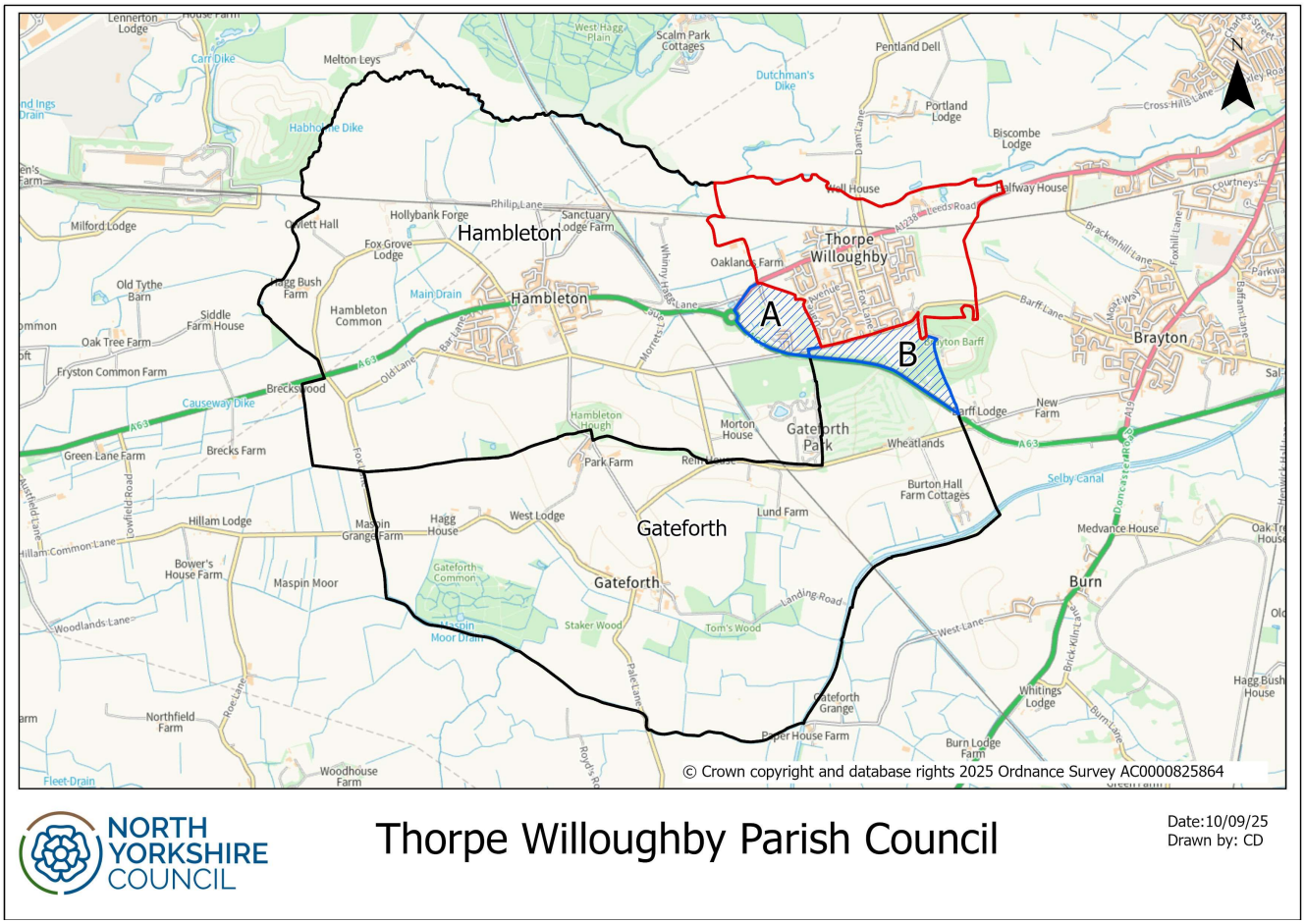
Community Governance Review for Thorpe Willoughby, Hambleton and Gateforth

North Yorkshire Council is undertaking a community governance review of the parishes of Thorpe Willoughby, Hambleton and Gateforth.

A request has been received from Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council that the south western boundary of the parish be moved so that it runs alongside the bypass. Those parts of Hambleton and Gateforth parishes currently inside the bypass would then form part of Thorpe Willoughby. These two areas of land can only be accessed through the village of Thorpe Willoughby and any homes built on those areas of land would be considered to be a part of Thorpe Willoughby.

New housing has been built in the area of land to the west which is in Hambleton parish. CIL and S106 monies from the new housing will be allocated to Hambleton Parish Council.

A previous planning application for housing to the south, in Gateforth parish, has been rejected, but further applications may be made.



In undertaking a community governance review, the council is required to ensure that governance arrangements within an area are reflective of the identities and interests of that area and that it is effective and convenient.

The council must also take account of the views of local people and residents and other interested parties are invited to have their say on the proposals by taking part take part in this consultation.

If the consultation indicates that there is support for the proposals, the council will undertake a second round of consultation in relation to the electoral arrangements for the three parish councils. This will look at numbers of parish councillors, any warding arrangements and year of election.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Thorpe Willoughby
- ☐ I live in Hambleton
- ☐ I live in Gateforth
- ☐ I work in Thorpe Willoughby
- ☐ I work in Hambleton
- ☐ I work in Gateforth
- ☐ I own a business in Thorpe Willoughby
- ☐ I own a business in Hambleton
- ☐ I own a business in Gateforth
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Thorpe Willoughby
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Hambleton
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Gateforth
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

What is your opinion of the following proposal?
The area marked A on the map be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line run along the bypass:

◯ I support the proposal ◯ I do not support the proposal ◯ I am unsure

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

What is your opinion of the following proposal?
The area marked B on the map be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line run along the bypass:

◯ I support the proposal ◯ I do not support the proposal ◯ I am unsure

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

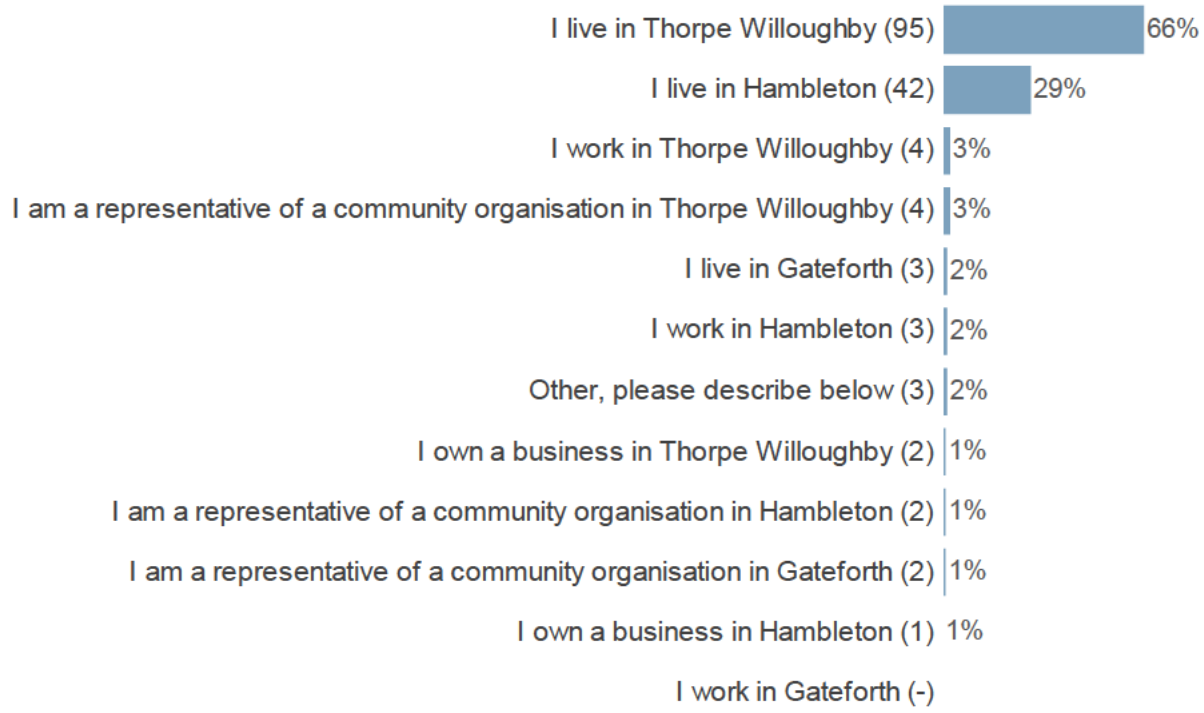
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Thorpe Willoughby, Hambleton & Gateforth

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 150 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 150 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:



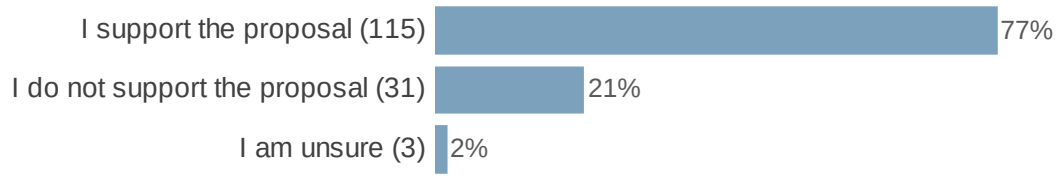
[redacted]
I am retired
Retired home owner

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

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What is your opinion of the following proposal?

The area marked A on the map be moved from Hambleton parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line run along the bypass:



Please give reasons for your response:

Monies from any new estates should be going to the local parish and more importantly the school in the village where the houses are not the neighbouring village school which the children in all probability won't be attending. The school will be expected to take the extra pupils with no or little financial support?
Both of these areas (A and B) are remote from the population centres of Gateforth and Hambleton yet housing built and proposed housing will benefit these parishes in monetary terms. Residents of these areas and any future developments will use Thorpe Willoughby's local parish public services without contributing to the cost. In addition children from these developments do and will use our school and doctors etc. The other reason is that it's obvious that the A63 bypass is a (un)natural boundary
If Planning for housing is going to affect the schools and services in Thorpe Willoughby then TW should have oversight of that not Hambleton
Currently the new housing estate use all the facilities in Thorpe Willoughby ie roads, footpaths, school etc but the money goes to other parishes not Thorpe Willoughby
The bypass now cuts through the boundary and should be moved as all vehicles pass through our village there is no direct access to hambleton
The redrawing of the boundary appears to makes sense as any housing built on the proposed areas would materially be part of the village of Thorpe Willoughby
The areas highlighted can only accessed through Thorpe Willoughby. Therefore the residents that live in these areas are using services such as roads, the primary school, local amenities and possibly the very small doctors surgery in Thorpe Willoughby. To pay tax to a different village seems ludicrous. The parishes were set up before the Selby bypass was built. This road has now been in operation for decades and the parish divide is no longer correct.
It makes sense for the boundary to be whete the division of the railway line is. Especially if Hambleton have a say over future development of that land as it wull likely be Thorpe Willoughby facilities they will use.
It seems logical that any housing development on this land which is located in an area separated from Hambleton by the A1236 and the A63 roads, and would be adjacent to existing housing within Thorpe Willoughby, be considered part of Thorpe Willoughby. It follows that any CIL and/or S106 monies would benefit the residents of Thorpe Willoughby and not an adjacent parish.
It is unfair and unreasonable that the precept for dwellings located in the Village of Thorpe Willoughby go to Hambleton Parish who make no contribution to the upkeep or maintenance of Thorpe Willoughby
I support the proposed parish boundary adjustment because the new housing, while currently in Hambleton parish, directly affects Thorpe Willoughby's community infrastructure. Specifically: Schools, Roads and Traffic, Local Services and Amenities, Fair allocation of CIL & S106 funding (if not already allocated). The boundary adjustment is a practical & fair response to the pressures the new development places on Thorpe Willoughby ensuring the parish can maintain the above.
It's logical and takes into account a (man-made) obvious border
The by-pass appears to be the logical border between the two villages.
Geographically and physically part of Thorpe Willoughby, no reason for the area not to Ben moved

Please give reasons for your response:

More development on these sites will generate more traffic in Thorpe Willoughby where all the every day facilities are. It makes sense htherefore that the sites A and B should be in Thorpe Willoughby.
Makes sense to have houses belonging to the same parish. Builds a greater sense of community in my opinion.
It makes sense. People living in these areas will primarily use the facilities of Thorpe Willoughby and will feel that Thorpe Willoughby is there home. I imagine they will have a Thorpe Willoughby postal address.
Inhabitants of Area A have expressed their desire to remain in Hambleton Parish which is where they and their families have considered home for many years and generations. Even though the bypass has cut off their direct access to Hambleton requiring them to travel through Thorpe Willoughby they maintain their inclusion to Hambleton Parish. I strongly believe therefore that Area A should remain in Hambleton Parish.
The village boundaries are a part of history which should be retained. The introduction of road and rail in modern times are not a reason to change it. When this was raised on previous occasions the residents involved at that time expressed a wish to remain in Hambleton.
Since the Selby By Pass was completed and the North East Railway line runs between Thorpe Willoughby and Hambleton any new development east of these will have a Thorpe Willoughby address and it makes sense that the proposal to amend the boundary.
Thorpe Willoughby needs the support and funding for more facilities
The boundary needs to reflect the reality of the modern day area of Thorpe Willoughby
Outdated existing boundary , doesn't reflect village residents needs and infrastructure.
The area marked A on map, is within the geographical area of Thorpe Willoughby village , roads and local amenities will be used by the residents of area A , they will be physically integrated into Thorpe Willoughby , this should be formally recognised at parish council boundary level. Relatively recent road building, that is the by- pass marks a sensible boundary. At present the boundary is outdated.
Access through Thorpe Willoughby, using amenities in TW. More than likely going to school in TW.
It is ridiculous that housing having an impact on Thorpe Willoughby is allowed to benefit Hambleton of which it is no where near
They are part of our village
It’s common sense
The housing in the designated area falls in the village of Thorpe Willoughby, whereby the residents take full advantage of the infrastructure & amenities of Thorpe Willoughby & don’t contribute towards this with the current boundaries in place
it would make sense for it to follow the boundary of the bypass
These areas can only be reached by going through the village. People living there will use village facilities so the mo ey should go to the village.
Thorpe Willoughby should benefit from any income new homes generate
Thorpe has undergone substantial expansion in recent years, with many of these properties sitting in other parishes. These properties will use the infrastructure and amenities that sit within Thorpe Willoughby, but the parish council will receive no funding towards these amenities. There are also more developments planned that will further pressure on the village amenities for which the parish council will receive no funding. This cannot continue under the current boundaries.
Bypass is a natural boundary. Precepts from houses using Thorpes facilities go to adjoining parishes.
Outdated boundary.
It is an outdated boundary and these houses are clearly in Thorpe Willoughby and use the amenities
This affects my property and I have had no correspondence from either Parish council on how the boundary move impacts my property. Some communication from the Parish Council would have been beneficial.

Please give reasons for your response:

All the houses built in recent years are in the village itself. The new owners all use the roads, shops, schools in the village. I am totally shocked that monies are then given to other parishes that they supposedly fall under when they have to enter and drive into the villages to get to their homes. The people living in the new houses and proposed houses do not and will not use a single road to access their house. They do not use the schools, shops or other infrastructure in the other parishes
It's fair and accurately reflects the actual situation. Thorpe Willoughby should be funded for all of its residents.
Thorpe willoughby needs funding
Hundreds of new houses are being built on land physically within the village and yet Thorpe Willoughby council don't currently benefit from the council taxes paid by the residents. A boundary change would mean Thorpe Willoughby parish council would benefit
I live in the area marked A. Thorpe willoughby is my village/area as it is where I use local facilities, it is the area I drive through to access my home, and my address is 'Thorpe Willoughby' so it only makes sense that my home be in the parish of the village I live in.
Area A is physically within Thorpe Willoughby, with the sports association even being named after Thorpe Willoughby instead of Hambleton.
Physically it is part of Thorpe Willoughby village and borders other houses in Thorpe Willoughby. Hambleton is generally considered over the other side of the bypass and roundabout
The dwellings built or propsed to be built are using TW village amenities, therefore precept should be in TW
The residents in these properties wil use and belong to Thorpe Willoughby village, it is only right that a proportion of the council tax goes to the parish they live in (Thorpe Willoughby)
The residents use Thorpe Willoughby facilities, I.e the school, shops and roads to leave their houses therefore Thorpe Willoughby PC should receive their precepts.
If the new residents are going to be using Thorpe Willoughby services, their Parish Precept should be paid to Thorpe Willoughby, so it makes sense to move this boundary. The original boundary was probably introduced before the bypass was built and followed the rear gardens of the houses on Dane Avenue, or whatever field boundary was there at that time, so there was no other suitable alternative location for the boundary. This now needs updating.
Because the proposed new development will be classed as Thorpe Willoughby village but any monies will go to Hambleton parish so we as Thorpe Willoughby will not benefit from the new development.
It naturally fits in our village community as we live here now the bypass is in reality our 'boundary' for our community. The children will go to school in our village & families use our shops & chemist & enjoy the park & TW war memorial & village fetes etc
I don't like Hambleton 😂
I agree people in Thorpe Willoughby are supporting the facilities of the village and are contributing to our parish, not others.
The village amenities will be used by any new builds in the vicinity and there will need to be investment to meet demend which won't be available if it goes to Hambleton
Such that the council tax paid by residents JM the new development actually benefits the area for which amenities will be shared.
The proposed housing developments are clearly in Thorpe Willoughby.
Monies raised need to support infrastructure and facilities of Thorpe Willoughby
The expansion of housing in section A has resulted in individuals utilising the infrastructure of Thorpe Willoughby but the cost of providing these is not currently supported by the Parish precept, with this being paid to Hambleton. It's unjust that residents are supporting expansion whilst other Parish councils are receiving money which is not supporting the new residents living in these new build properties.

Please give reasons for your response:

As this area is part of Thorpe Willoughby all monies, taxes, rates etc should come to Thorpe Willoughby parish council and not Hambleton.
Area A has been part of Hambleton Parish for many decades. The Parish council relies on any revenue from this area to provide the necessary services for the community. The loss of this revenue will create a major issue to maintain existing services such as the Cemetery. It is unclear why Thorpe Willoughby suddenly requires this revenue at the expense of existing services Hambleton funds appears to be unnecessary
To allow Thorpe Willoughby to receive the council tax payed by these residents to support the upkeep of Thorpe Willoughby
i didnot support the privous atemped to alter ths parish boundary
I did not support the previous try to have the boundry line changed
To fully integrate the areas that are Thorpe W into the existing Thorpe W.
Fairness of residents dispersants regarding regional expenditure and facilities usage.
Natural boundary of the bypass. Houses builtvin Thorpe Willoughby use village shops, school etc but pay precepts to Hambleton.
Makes it fairer for Thorpe Willoughby village and residents
I think it's sensible to move the boundary to the bypass. As the houses in the area marked A use the facilities within Thorpe Willoughby.
The bypass makes it a sensible boundary for the properties in Thorpe Willoughby.
The housing development on field lane falls under hambleton PC but uses Thorpe Resources, roads,schools and park areas. The potentially newly approved housing estates will also fall into the same category. It does not make sense for the PC of Thorpe Willoughby to pick up costs but not the precept.
common sense - the bypass is more the natural boundary now.
Don't believe there's a benefit to either parish - seems an unnecessary process, boundary has been in place for years. This appears to have been suggested after planning approval on this land for more houses. People could buy these houses, thinking they are in Hambleton, and then boundary changes. Not fair on the owner. People in this area will pay higher council tax and could affect the school their kids go to. Don't believe another parish can ask for land from another - seems unfair.
There is no reason to use the bypass as a convenient boundary. Hambleton parish had no say in where the bypass would run so it should not be used as a reason to change the parish boundary. This is a land grab to enable Thorpe Willoughby to gain precept income from any future property development at Hambletons expense.In addition any new residents on this land would be financially worse off due to the lower council tax paid inn Hambleton.
We have been residents of Hambleton for over 40 years and do not see any benefits of changing boundaries. The old saying of if it’s not broken don’t fix it comes to mind.
Why change? Is it for the council tax for new houses for Thorpe Willoughby?
The area has no access to Gateforth except through Thorpe Willoughby, if any development takes place the village impacted will be Thorpe Willoughby. As such at the latest meeting, Gateforth Parish Council has resolved to accept the proposal that the parcel of land marked B on the map is transferred to the control of Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council.
I live in Hambleton. If I wanted to be in Thorpe Willoughby l would have bought a house there. I want to be able to be buried in the Hambleton graveyard having lived in Hambleton for over 40 years and plan to stay here. It's just greed
This land can only be accessed through the village so it must become part of Thorpe Willoughby.
The boundaries are out of date. Building sites and planning need to be covered by the parish affected

Please give reasons for your response:

See attached sheet for full reasons. Key points: - Not raised by TWPC and/or residents. Raised by district councillors - Previously denied - reasons for the refusal not changed - This is a 'land grab' to gain precept as 145 homes are approved on this - Uncessary change - no benefit to either PC residents - Hambleton residents won't be able to be buried in our cemetery - Residents in 'Thorpe Willoughby' will pay higher precept - Residents will then be in a smokeless zone and have to pay to adapt their property to comply - Boundary has been in place since 1700's - doesn't have to go to a neat line of the bypass - This is just a review request to gain income
We do not wish to live in Thorpe Willoughby Parish. If we had wanted to do so we would have bought a house in Thorpe Willoughby. We choose to continue living in Hambleton Parish.
Having talked with other residents of the village, the moving of boundaries which have been set since the 1700's feels distinctly unreasonable. All Villages are subject to increases in the populations; and the accommodation required for this growth will continue, the arbitrary position of the roads in the area is not, in my mind, a strong enough reason to warrant a transfer of of precept to an adjacent PC. Particularly as the residents effected will incur higher PC precept charge. So no, the movement of historical boundaries do not register as a wise and needy move in my mind.
Hambleton should not have its land taken by a neighbouring village.
I have a multifuel stove which is used regularily, and would become useless with a move to a smoke control area. The boundary has been in existence for years and has been challenged before and declined. Our council tax would incresae and as we are on a fixed income due to illness and retirement it would make out finances stretched.
I can see no reason to change boundaries that have been in place for centuries. I feel the only reason to maybe change would be if the people who live in the houses concerned unanimously wanted to be part of Thorpe Willoughby. t should be unanimous and not majority also.
Almost from time immemorial the identified land has been part of Hambleton and on previous occasions the majority vote, when asked, has to be remaining as such. Why, as the only parish in CGR currently wanting a "land grab". I suggest this action is purely fiscal. Residents moving would pay higher precept, lose the right to burial in Hambleton cemetery and move to a smoke control area causing possible financial loss.
Residents in the Hambleton Parish that are affected do not want to change to Thorpe Willoughby Parish as they have already been asked this question previously and rejected the move.
It seems totally unnecessary, and if the parish precept increase is the real reason for the `land grab' then Hambleton, already poorly serviced, will lose out.
It makes more sense so far as resources and infrastructure

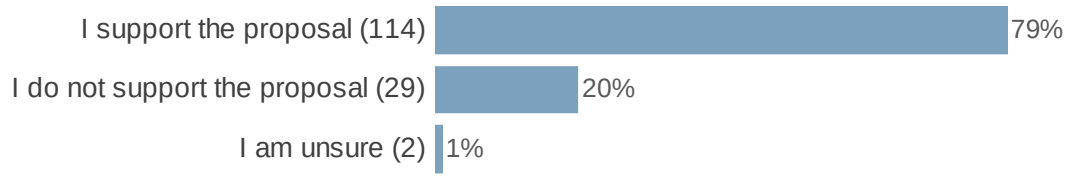
Please give reasons for your response:

This organisation has the following objections to the proposal and how it affects the area marked A on the map: 1. Residents currently living in area A, who will be affected by the change, have expressed objections to the change directly to this organisation. It has taken these objections into account and has encouraged the residents to complete a survey. To summarise the residents' concerns: Some rely on a heating source in their home that is not allowed in the Thorpe Willoughby Parish (Smoke Control Area). There was a concern that the precept payment is 50% higher in Thorpe Willoughby than Hambleton. Rights to burial in Hambleton Cemetery is exclusive to residents of Hambleton only. This organisation believes these are all valid reasons to object to the CGR and submits these along with its own reasons. 2. The change of boundary would only benefit Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council (TWPC) - Hambleton Parish Council (HPC) will lose existing precept income which it relies on and it would also lose out on income from potential future developments on the land in Area A. Future residents on such developments may use shared facilities including both village primary schools, doctor's surgery and highways but these are not a financial burden on TWPC precept and both PCs maintain large play areas and woodland, but HPC is also responsible for maintaining its recreational playing fields (used by the local junior football team as a base) and a burial ground. 3. This is the only CGR in which a PC is looking to take land from other parishes - other CGRs seek to join forces for practical reasons and to ensure good governance, not financial gain. 4. There is no reason this historical boundary needs to be moved to line up with a modern road. Parish boundaries do not follow paths and roads, nor do they need to. 5. TWPC has made this request before, and it was rejected. This organisation sees no reason the outcome should be any different this time around.
1. Hambleton residents pay lower precept rates (council tax) and are eligible to be buried in the Hambleton Cemetery - if the boundary changes, those affected will lose those benefits of being a Hambleton resident 2. Affected properties would be in a Smoke Control Area and a number of residents heat their properties with woodburning/multifuel burners 3. It was felt the only reason a change was requested is so the potential precept income from housing developments in the 2 areas would go to Thorpe Willoughby instead of Hambleton or Gateforth 4. Hambleton would lose precept income because the number of households in the parish would be reduced 5. This is the only CR where the initiating parish is proposing taking land from neighbouring parishes 6. A new road should not dictate a parish boundary. The by-pass proposed as the new boundary line was not something that Hambleton had control over or benefitted from; Hambleton would lose out again
This change is long overdue in our opinion. The boundary for sometime has not really reflected the growing village of Thorpe Willoughby and has segregated residents who by boundary are classed as residents of Hambleton but by postcode are living in Thorpe Willoughby. These residents feel excluded from both parishes so - out on a limb as it was. This is now even more noticeable as the new houses have been built (which more to come) so more residents will fall into this 'excluded category'.
See attached letter
Historic boundaries shouldn't be changed. NO proposals for the use of additional precept by Thorpe Willoughby. No benefit to households of contested areas but loss of cemetery. Will pay increased precept.
We as the Parish Council of Hambleton paid for a survey of the residents many years ago and it was unanimous that the resident DID NOT want to go in Thorpe. I have done a brief survey on those and new residents and they have said that they do not want to go into Thorpe. They say in these economic times residents of Thorpe pay almost 50% more residents in Hambleton (which they currently). Also they can be buried in Hambleton cemetery (Nearby). Surely the view of the residents should be the overriding issue.
Hambleton would lose precept. We would lose historic boundary.
I object to Hambleton losing precept income if the boundary line moves as suggested. Residents in the affected properties would lose out on e.g. burial rights in Hambleton cemetery, inability to use multi fuel burners. We would lose a historic boundary as I understand it, and I feel strongly it should remain.
I believe the historic boundary of the Parish of Hambleton should remain intact. This boundary existed before the bypass was built and therefore should remain unchanged.
It would not benefit Hambleton and Thorpe Willoughby has already benefitted from CIL and S106 monies from the additional housing already built in that parish.

Please give reasons for your response:

The boundaries around each Parish were established hundreds of years ago and should not be changed by a request from one Parish without agreement from the adjacent Parish concerned, unless there are very good reasons that it would benefit both Parishes. I do not believe Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council has provided one good reason to support their request. This proposal would benefit only one Parish to the detriment of the other. The present tenants of Hambleton who live within the area stated would end up paying more precept through their Council Tax and lose benefits that Thorpe Willoughby do not provide for their residents. Other residents would possibly have the additional costs of changing their type of heating systems, after being placed within a smokless zone area which Thorpe Willoughby is in. Hambleton Parish Council would lose precept payments from the present housing within the area, which would be transferred to Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council. Hambleton Parish Council would have to forfeit any long term, future precept payments that would be available should any land within the proposed area become available for house building. Thorpe Willoughby Parish would gain financially now and in the future through increased precept receipts but would provide no additional amenities that Hambleton can already provide.
Please see attached documents for observations and comments regarding this proposal.

What is your opinion of the following proposal?
The area marked B on the map be moved from Gateforth parish to Thorpe Willoughby parish and the boundary line run along the bypass:



Please give reasons for your response:

If in the future homes are to be built on this land, any funding should be directed to Thorpe Willoughby as it will be this village that has to support the people living there.
It can only be accessed via Thorpe Willoughby and is therefore in Thorpe Willoughby
Again, the most logical outcome of those proffered.
Thorpe Willoughby is a thriving village and should be managed by Thorpe Willoughby parish council not gateforth
This makes sense because any further development of this land will affect Thorpe Willoughby more than Gateforth,
This area is 500 meters from my home, which is in thorpe Willoughby. Gateforth is miles away.
Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council should receive the funding for housing built in the village. The bypass is a natural boundary line.
Houses in area B will consume facilities from Thorpe Willoughby rather than Hambleton so funds should be allocated accordingly
The bypass has created a new natural boundary and it makes logical sense for this to be included in Thorpe Willoughby as its now an unnatural separation.
Same as before. This is complete waste of taxpayer money. Parish councils are not a good use of funds. The service provided does not match the cost to residents.
Were any plannjng be granted, the residents would be de facto members of Thorpe Willoughby as they cannot get to Gateforth without travelling, but can walk easily to amenities within TW.
As stated in my previous response.

Please give reasons for your response:

I support the proposal because the new housing in Thorpe Willoughby adds directly to the existing community in Thorpe Willoughby, a few miles from Gateforth village itself.
makes common sense
The same as given for area marked A
Makes most sense.
As my previous reply said the school in Thorpe Willoughby should be getting the financial support plus why should another village have say over matters when any planning proposals for example do not impact them directly to the point they might support a planning application to Thorpe Willoughby knowing it might take some pressure off of them? This should have been sorted years ago not now when planning applications are being put through particularly on precious farm land.
See previous comments
If Planning for housing is going to affect the schools and services in Thorpe Willoughby then TW should have oversight of that not Gateforth
Thorpe Willoughby pc maintains the verges etc, if permission is eventually given to build, those houses would use Thorpe Willoughby amenities
The boundary should be changed to take in account of all access to the land is vis fox lane Thorpe Willoughby
As before. Houses built on this land would materially be Thorpe Willoughby and would benefit from services and amenities in the village
As before...it just makes more sense as the railway line dissects this area making it more accessible from Thorpe.
This area is separated from Gateforth by the A63 bypass to the south west and by Field Lane to the north. The border to the north is directly opposite residential properties within Thorpe Willoughby parish. It follows that any planning proposals within this area should be considered by Thorpe Willoughby parish council and not a neighbouring authority.
The boundary of the village of Thorpe Willoughby should be amended to reflect the natural road way running alongside the village and by changing this boundary any future development would then mean the precept goes to the correct village who provide the services.
Same reasoning as for adjustment A
Same as A
As before
Does not affect my parish (Hambleton) but geographically and physically part of Thorpe Willoughby, no reason for the area not to Ben moved
My response is as stated before. Development in the future will generate more traffic in Thorpe Willoughby. It seems logical that the site B is in Thorpe Willoughby.
Makes sense to have houses belonging to the same parish. Builds a greater sense of community in my opinion.
I believe that Area B should remain Green Belt.
Another historic boundary.
The land is a long way from Gateforth Village and any development on area B will have a Thorpe Willoughby address and use the facilities of Thorpe Willoughby. i.e. 2 Local food stores, 1 Pharmacy, 1 Fish and Chip Shop, 1 Hairdresser, 1 Public House and one Café. Gateforth have none of these.
The boundary needs to reflect the modern reality of life in Thorpe Willoughby
Outdated bondary

Please give reasons for your response:

As already said for area A, area B is both geographically and physically within the folds of Thorp Willoughby village. Residents of those proposed housing area will have post code and address of Thorpe Willoughby, therefore the boundary must move to show ownership of that. At present the boundaries is outdated.
Using access through Thorpe Willoughby, school and amenities from Thorpe Willoughby.
The village in which the housing sits should have the benefit
Its closer to thorpe Willoughby than gateforth
It’s common sense
The new properties will fall in the Thorpe Willoughby village where new residents would use the amenities & infrastructure of the village without contributing towards them with the present boundaries in place
it would make sense for the boundary to follow the bypass
These areas can only be accessed through the village so should be included in the parish boundary. People living there will use village facilities
Thorpe Willoughby should benefit from any income new homes generate
As per my previous response.
Outdated boundary.
This doesn’t impact me or my property so whatever the council decide is up to them.
Same again. The people on the bodies recently built and the new ones proposed. They do NOT use the parishes road they fall into to access them. It’s totally ridiculous that other parishes are getting money for houses built inside the infrastructure of the village if Thorpe Willoughby. They are no where near Slav easing roads of gateforth because. We are the other side of the bypass. Again Thorpe is becoming overcrowded and the fact the monies from these homes are going elsewhere is ridiculous
This is fair and accurately reflects the actual situation. Thorpe Willoughby should be funded for all of its residents.
Thorpe willoughby needs funding
As per my previous response; a boundary change means Thorpe Willoughby council can benefit from the taxes paid by the homeowners of all the new properties that are physically being built on land in the village.
It’s only accessible by entering Thorpe Willoughby, and all the local amenities for that area would be in Thorpe Willoughby.
Area B is physically in Thorpe Willoughby, with it being actually quite far from Gateforth - this land would be better off being in the Thorpe Willoughby Parish especially if there are plans to build houses on this land.
Physically it is part of Thorpe Willoughby village and borders other houses in Thorpe Willoughby. Gateforth is over the other side of the bypass and will be 10+ minutes drive away from any of these houses whereas Thorpe Willoughby is immediately on the doorstep
All redidents living in the area use TW amenities
The residents in these properties wil use and belong to Thorpe Willoughby village, it is only right that a proportion of the council tax goes to the parish they live in (Thorpe Willoughby)
The residents use Thorpe Willoughby facilities, I.e the school, shops and roads to leave their houses therefore Thorpe Willoughby PC should receive their precepts.
If the new residents are going to be using Thorpe Willoughby services, their Parish Precept should be paid to Thorpe Willoughby, so it makes sense to move this boundary. The original boundary was probably introduced before the bypass was built and followed Field Lane, so there was no other suitable alternative location for the boundary. This now needs updating.
Sane reason as before, Thorpe Willoughby has a very small boundary fur the number of houses and other parishes should not benefit financially but it’s our amenities that will be stretched.

Please give reasons for your response:

This area is also part of our village community and runs along a very popular part of the village opposite the cafe, shops , hair dressers & post box ! Any one who might live in houses here in the future are very much pointing in the direction of our village & be part of our community as the bypass had become a natural boundary in reality in the way that we live in our parish
Come join us!
I agree people in Thorpe Willoughby are supporting the facilities of the village and are contributing to our parish, not others.
Financial support for the local.community to.be able.to.support demand for the amenities that are available in Thorpe
Such that the council tax paid by residents JM the new development actually benefits the area for which amenities will be shared
Area b is clearly in Thorpe Willoughby.
The very small village of Gateforth does not support an influx of people. Thorpe Willoughby will be the source of what is needed by new residents
The expansion of housing in section A has resulted in individuals utilising the infrastructure of Thorpe Willoughby but the cost of providing these is not currently supported by the Parish precept, with this being paid to Hambleton. It's unjust that residents are supporting expansion whilst other Parish councils are receiving money which is not supporting the new residents living in these new build properties, particularly as access will only be available through Thorpe Willoughby.
This area is part of Thorpe Willoughby not Gateforth therefore all monies, taxes, rates etc should come to Thorpe Willoughby parish council.
Area B has been part of Hambleton for many decades. It is unclear what has changed for Thorpe Willoughby PC to suddenly require any income from this area at the expense of services provides by Hambleton PC who have received and budgeted for any income from this area for many years. A boundary change will have a negative impact on the Hambleton community and it seems unnecessary.
To allow Thorpe Willoughby to receive the council tax payed by these residents to support the upkeep of Thorpe Willoughby
I did not support the previous try to change the boundary line
Same reason as previously stated. These areas are already Thorpe and need to recognised as such
Yet again should any planning be granted for houses in the area marked B they will use the facilities of Thorpe Willoughby.
All properties in the area marked B should be able to use the facilities within Thorpe Willoughby
This would simplify future infrastructure and building planning by consolidation of the area into an appropriate council body.
see above.
Reasons are the same as above. Why is this necessary? Isn't there more important things to spend money on? Don't see any benefit except Thorpe Willoughby PC getting bigger and gaining more money from these homes. Villages change all the time - if you approve this then any parish can request this from their neighbour.
See previous comment
What next use the railway line as a boundary? Who pays the cost of a new address / house / business details?
Resolved by the parish council at the last meeting
As previously stated
This land can only be accessed through the village so it must become part of Thorpe Willoughby
As before

Please give reasons for your response:

Same reasons as above. All points apply to both areas of the review.
We do not agree to having to pay increased precept rates if the boundary changes. We do not want to lose any benefits of living in Hambleton, eg being buried in Hambleton cemetery.
Having talked with other residents of the village, the moving of boundaries which have been set since the 1700's feels distinctly unreasonable. All Villages are subject to increases in the populations; and the accommodation required for this growth will continue, the arbitrary position of the roads in the area is not, in my mind, a strong enough reason to warrant a transfer of of precept to an adjacent PC. Particularly as the residents effected will incur higher PC precept charge. So no, the movement of historical boundaries do not register as a wise and needy move in my mind.
The boundary line follows the road which doesn't affect any other boundaries. Please refer to the first proposals for the rest of my reasons.
As above
For the same reason as the Hambleton response - totally unnecessary.
1. The change of boundary would only benefit Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council - Gateforth PC would lose out on income from potential future developments on the land in Area B. 2. This is the only CGR in which a PC is looking to take land from other parishes - other CGRs seek to join forces for practical reasons and to ensure good governance. Changing a boundary for any other reason, especially one that seems to be financially motivated, should not be allowed and it would set a precedent to allow any parish to be able to claim land from another. 3. There is no reason this historical boundary needs to be moved to line up with a modern road. Parish boundaries do not follow paths and roads, nor do they need to.
1. Hambleton residents pay lower precept rates (council tax) and are eligible to be buried in the Hambleton Cemetery - if the boundary changes, those affected will lose those benefits of being a Hambleton resident 2. Affected properties would be in a Smoke Control Area and a number of residents heat their properties with woodburning/multifuel burners 3. It was felt the only reason a change was requested is so the potential precept income from housing developments in the 2 areas would go to Thorpe Willoughby instead of Hambleton or Gateforth 4. Hambleton would lose precept income because the number of households in the parish would be reduced 5. This is the only CR where the initiating parish is proposing taking land from neighbouring parishes 6. A new road should not dictate a parish boundary. The by-pass proposed as the new boundary line was not something that Hambleton had control over or benefitted from; Hambleton would lose out again
This change is also more needed now that ever before as the Secretary of State has just approved 110 houses to be built on land belonging to Gateforth Parish that is situated in Thorpe Willoughby. When built, these residents will most definitely not feel part of Gateforth Parish as it is 4 miles away from the actual site. There will be no community spirit with their Parish so they will feel very disconnected. Also it is important to note that in the village of Gateforth there are less than 100 households so these 110 houses when built will mean that it splits their village in half with a huge 4 mile divide between them which seems very disjointed.
See attached letter
Historic Boundary
Just because a by pass has been built does not mean that all boundaries should now follow the new by pass. We live in a democracy and surely the views of the residents should be taken into account.
Loss of historic boundary.
Loss of historic boundary as above.
I believe the historic boundary of the Parish of Hambleton should remain intact. This boundary existed before the bypass was built and therefore should remain unchanged.
It would not benefit Hambleton and Thorpe Willoughby has already benefitted from CIL and S106 monies from the additional housing already built in that parish.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

The boundary change can only be a good thing for the people of the TW village as it will mean that they have a sense of community for where they actually live rather than a village that is either 1 mile or 4 miles away. The current boundary is out of date and it would be more natural to use the edge of the bypass as a cut off point.
its long overdue in my opinion. There are already houses that are on Field lane past the sports club that are not officially part of the village by boundary and then another 80 were built on the old pig breeding site that are all in the same boat, all of these houses and villagers 'belong' to Hambleton by boundary but have a Thorpe Willoughby postcode and utilise all of TW's infrastructure yet don't contribute as such. Because of the boundary they also don't receive things like the village news broadsheet so I'm sure these residents feel disconnected from the village they should be part of. Ironically TW Sports Club which is on TW Parish Council owned land is also not in Thorpe Willoughby by boundary - how dis jointed is that!! This situation will be mirrored if the Sherwood brother land appeal is successful as those houses will be in Gateforth Parish but have a TW postcode and the new houses approved South of Leeds road are part of Hambleton but have a TW postcode. This boundary really needs changing to reflect the growing village.
The changes would enhance community spirit and make the residents of Thorpe Willoughby less opposed to development in these areas.
No
I fully support the proposal from Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council to move the parish boundary to the bypass which is a logical approach to have property and premises come under the Parish Council that serves them.
No I think this is a good idea
This should have taken place when the bypass was completed.
Thorpe Willoughby is smallest in area of all the parishes in the old Selby District and yet the amount of development over the past few years has been significant. New development with a Thorpe Willoughby address should be within the Parish.
The
The bypass and railway line now clearly separate Thorpe Willoughby from Hambleton so it makes complete sense to separate the parishes along that boundary
Remove the parish council layer of local government. The cost is far too high, the benefit is next to non existent. There would be little to no difference if the parish council was removed. However the tax bill would be less for all residents.
This is a good time to undertake the review, since the bypass forms a natural boundary and has been in place now for several years.
No. I came to this review because I thought it might relate to the objections being raised by Hambleton parish council regarding new houses, and wanted to state that I do not object to more houses being built.
It has my full support and well done Thorpe Willoughby parish for trying to get this changed.
This should have been undertaken many years ago - it's a complete travesty that Hambleton Parish Council have been able to block this proposal because it's in their own financial interest.
This appears to be a logical re-alignment of parish boundaries which should benefit the majority of the local population.
Only that this absurd situation has gone on long enough whereby postal addresses of dwellings in Thorpe Willoughy do not go to Thorpe Willoughby Parish owing to outdated boundary lines.
Nothing further to add to my previous comments.
I support this proposal
No

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

I LIVE ON THE NEW ESTATE AT THORPE MEADOWS AND WASN'T AWARE WE WERE NOT TECHNICALLY IN THE PARISH OF THORPE WILLOUGHBY. SEEMS SILLY BEING PART OF A VILLAGE THAT IS NO WHERE NEAR US. IT WOULD MAKE ME FEEL MORE PART OF THE VILLAGE IF THE BOUNDARY WAS CHANGED.
The present boundary's were drawn up in the 19 Century when Thorpe Willoughby was a small hamlet and since the 1950's the built up area goes right up to the boundary's since then the main North East Railway line and Selby By-Pass has separated the Parishes of Gateforth and Hambleton from Thorpe Willoughby and the time has come to review the boundary's. To the North of Thorpe Willoughby just over the Dam is Thorpe Hall and Thorpe wood this area should be in the Parish of Thorpe Willoughby. at present these areas are within the boundary of North Selby
These changes are long overdue and need implementing asap
Thorpe Willoughby parish council will receive precept payments from residents of Thorpe Willoughby to support the upkeep of the village, the area A and W will use Thorpe Willoughby's infrastructure, as such Thorpe Willoughby parish council should receive those precept payments .
Don't allow any more houses to be built without more infrastructure.
Common sense should prevail in this application as the areas are in Thorpe Willoughby village & therefore the parish boundaries should reflect this & I feel the proposed changes would achieve this.
I am interested to know about things in our local area and the TW News is a good way to find out
Money for these properties in areas A & B should go to pay towards village facilities
I think it's long over due and would be only positive for Thorpe Willoughby. Any additional funds received would hugely benefit this 'village'.
I would be willing to support this if some communication was provided to the properties that it impacts. It appears this has been applied for without consulting any of the residents. For example when they tried to make a change a number of years ago, we as residents were communicated with and we choose not to support the boundary move due to various reasons. I'm curious to understand further what has changed in that I may support this. Poor practice from the Parish Council.
Common sense has to prevail here. How can all these homes and houses being built in Thorpe Willoughby, where new owners only enter and exit the roads of Thorpe Willoughby, fall under another parish and them them benefit from these homes. People living in area A and B all access the village and can't exit it any other route. If you ask any home owner in these houses they will tell you they live in "Thorpe Willoughby" they never enter Hambleton or gateforth. Common sense is that Thorpe Willoughby boundaries are within the boundaries that run Ali goddess the bypass.
It's not reasonable for Hambleton and Gateforth to receive money for buildings that lie physically in Thorpe Willoughby - the infrastructure for which needs all the help it can get.
Good luck
No.
The village is rapidly expanding and the increasing demands upon village amemities need to be matched by the proposed increase in precept allowance for resident's benefit.
Consideration could be given to lands between Thorpe Willoughby and the East Coast Mainline railway. Future expansion here would become part of Thorpe Willoughby and not Hambleton
This amendment is long overdue and should have been done when the bypass was built!
A lot of historic decisions were made based on what existed at that time, many of those decisions are probably still sensible, but these parish boundaries make no sense at all with the by pass having been built.
I think it is a very reasonable and sensibly thought out suggestion that would reflect the modern way we live in our village and these areas are in reality part of 'us' now that we live within the boundary of the by pass
Love it.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

I absolutely reject the building of more houses in and around Thorpe Willoughby unless theirs is significant investment in existing facilities which are not fit for the current residents of the village. Schools are undersized, no health amenities, one single pub and very limited local shops. I welcome change and growth, but this needs to be proportionate with consideration for the needs and lifestyle of the existing homeowners.
If we are to have the houses built in our area they should be classed as been in Thorpe Willoughby which is what they are and any council funds should be in our Parish council and not either Gateforth or Hambleton .
Thanks for asking
Permission to build on these areas of land should also include the provision to update the local infrastructure and local amenities.
This exercise seems to be something that is unnecessary. Moving any income from one to the other without good reason and without agreement from both parties seems is very divisive. Why do Thorpe Willoughby feel they need to do this, what is the purpose, why do they wish to reduce Hambleton's income ? This will only create bad feelings between villages and this is not what the residents of either village want There are far far more important issues to focus on! The many planning applications from house builders who see the current political climate as a means to increase profits destroying our villages .The proposed solar farm that will destroy our countryside. I am very disappointed as a new resident in Hambleton to see such a review that will only damage the communities and cause unnecessary disruption and possible resentment. This is not what matters most to the communities concerned , the excessive house building and solar farms are what the communities are most concerned about. I would suggest the out of control North Yorkshire planning dept is more relevant as a concern to most people in the villages
These areas are Thorpe and needed to be treated as such, we struggle as a community to support the extra people and the increased village size they should therefore be recognised as being part of Thorpe W
The irregularities of the Thorpe / Hambleton boundary have been raised a number of times but have been resisted by Hambleton PC who have benefited from the precept without providing any resources or contributing to the improvement that Thorpe PC have made. It is time this was corrected.
Don't believe its necessary. Better things to spend money on. A parish shouldn't be able to simply request to move a boundary and gain land/money from another. If this goes through, lots of costs for NYC and PCs as other parishes could start to do this and cause all kinds of issues. Money the PCs would rather spend on events/facilities in their parish. Seems unfair that one can just request this change. Who has instigated this? Do the residents in this affected area lose out currently and thus gain services by being in TW? Don't think so, seems they will lose out. Shold someone else's request for this change be allowed to affect other families if they are not affected themselves?
This review should not be taking place. It is a blatant attempt by Thorpe Willoughby to take over land belonging to Hambleton Parish to obtain the precept income from any future housing development.
Hambleton precept is lower now and it would then get less with fewer properties.
The Precept should be used to support the work of the Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council.
No
This is an unnecessary review and will be costly to NYC and Hambleton PC to no gain to either residents. Approving this will open the doors to other PCs who just wish to land grab - what is to stop TW wanting to request further land from their neighbours?
There is no logical reason to change the current boundary. Thorpe Willoughby Parish just want to benefit from an increased precept income. Pure greed.
It would appear that Thorpe Willoughby is trying once again to grab more land and properties, as they will gain more funding and council tax benefits. This proposal has been declined before.
No

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

This organisation does NOT support a boundary change. A new road (Selby by-pass) should not dictate a parish boundary; the road was not something HPC had control over nor did Hambleton village benefit from it, and TWPC claiming the land up to the by-pass would mean Hambleton loses out again. The reasons for requesting the change seem primarily financial, and this organisation questions why TWPC should be more entitled to any CIL/S106 than HPC. North Yorkshire Council would be providing the shared services (highways/doctors/schools) for future residents, not TWPC, and facilities such as parks and woodland will continue to be provided by both PCs and shared by villagers from both villages. HPC has additional responsibilities in that it manages the burial ground in Hambleton and also maintains its own recreation fields. This boundary change would see HPC lose out on existing precept income because the number of homes in the parish would be reduced. Concurrently, those residents who were redesignated as TW parish would see significant unfavourable changes, with approximately 50% rise in precept and compliance with Smoke Control Area regulations. Leaving the boundary as it is however, means nothing changes for Hambleton residents, no requirements to make expensive changes to their heating systems, no increased rates; and at the same time, nothing changes for the Thorpe Willoughby residents either, there is no negative effect by leaving the boundary as it is and as it has been.
I do not support this change in any way and only benefits one parish council
Hambleton residents pay lower precept rates and are eligible to be buried in the Hambleton Cemetery - if the boundary changes, those affected will lose those benefits of being a Hambleton resident Affected properties would be in a Smoke Control Area and a number of residents heat their properties with woodburning/multifuel burners It is felt that the only reason a change was requested is so the potential precept income from housing developments in the 2 areas would go to Thorpe Willoughby instead of Hambleton or Gateforth Hambleton would lose precept income because the number of households in the parish would be reduced A new road should not dictate a parish boundary. The by-pass proposed as the new boundary line, which has been in place for over 20 years, was not something that Hambleton had control over or benefitted from; Hambleton would lose out again
Thorpe Willoughby Parish Council are unanimous in supporting the proposed change to the boundary (A & B). We welcome the change and feel that it can't come fast enough in light of all of the new houses that have been approved to be built.
See attached letter
Councillors involved should have no conflict of interest - if they have they should be excluded from the decision making process.
There has been a review once which concluded that the boundaries should remain. All this new review will cost money.
I understand this "change of boundary" has been attempted in previous years and been rejected. I cannot see any reason why it should be moved at this time.

Appendix 11 – Draft Recommendations for Welburn Parish Council

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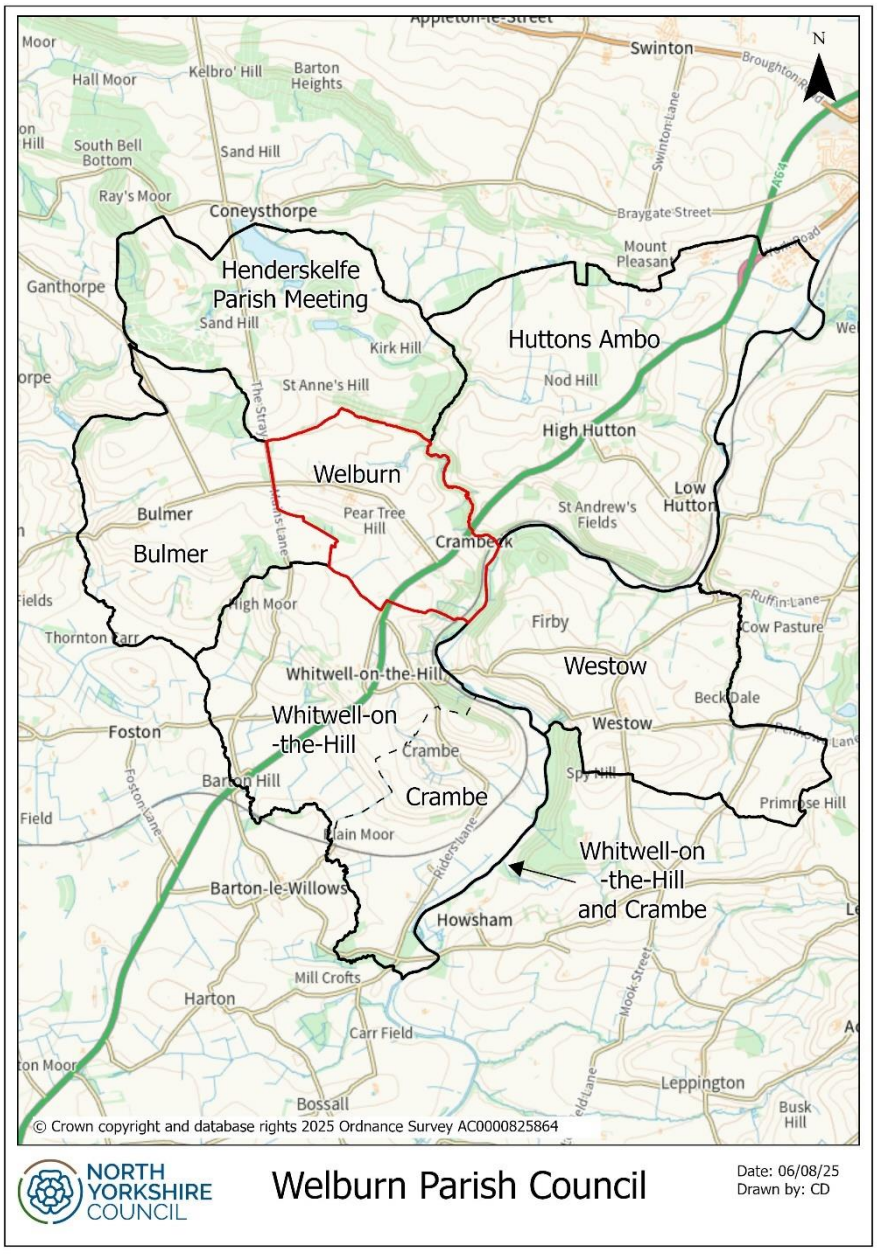
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Welburn Parish Council is situated within the Sheriff Hutton and Derwent division and is part of the Thirsk and Malton parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the villages of Welburn and Crambeck.

1.2 Welburn parish currently has 412 electors and 245 properties.

1.3 Welburn Parish Council has 5 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Bulmer Parish Council, Henderskelfe Parish Meeting, Huttons Ambo Parish Council, Westow Parish Council and Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe grouped Parish Council.



1.4 Welburn Parish Council is comprised of 6 elected parish councillors. In order to meet and take decisions at least 3 councillors must be present. Parish Councils must hold an annual meeting and at least 3 other meetings each year.

1.5 Parish councils can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Welburn Parish Council raised a precept of £4,000 for the 2025/26 financial year.

History of the area

1.6 In January 2024, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) was notified that Welburn Parish Council had become inquorate due to several resignations since March 2023, leaving only one remaining parish councillor. The usual vacancy procedures were followed but there was no subsequent interest in the vacancies and the remaining councillor later resigned. The Parish Council, which did not have a Clerk at this time, therefore became inactive.

1.7 Section 91(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 provides that the principal authority (NYC) can make an order to appoint to a parish council until such time as the vacancies on it have been filled by either election or co-option.

1.8 On 26 June 2024, NYC Division Member, Councillor Caroline Goodrick was temporarily appointed to Welburn Parish Council and on 17 July 2024 NYC Division Members Councillors Nigel Knapton and Janet Sanderson were also temporarily appointed to maintain quoracy and allow the parish council to conduct business and co-opt additional members.

1.9 Despite the temporary appointments of 3 Division Members, there was no subsequent interest in the parish to fill the vacant seats via co-option.

1.10 In June 2025, Democratic Services contacted the Division Member for Sheriff Hutton and Derwent, Councillor Caroline Goodrick who agreed that the best solution would be to combine Welburn parish with one of the neighbouring parish councils. Councillor Goodrick advised that Welburn was a relatively large village, and residents would benefit from a parish council voice although raised concerns about whether neighbouring parish councils would be willing to take on the Welburn parish area.

1.11 In July 2025, the Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Clerk was contacted about the possibility of combining both parish councils. In response, the Clerk advised that the matter would be brought forward to the councillors at the next parish council meeting in September.

1.12 Henderskelfe Parish Meeting and Huttons Ambo Parish Council also neighbour Welburn but following the publication of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's final recommendations for NYC divisions, these parishes will sit in the new Howardian division after the 2027 elections and it is not recommended that parish councils cross division boundaries.

1.13 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Welburn Parish Council. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the

2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included Welburn Parish Council on 16 July 2025.

1.14 As Welburn Parish Council has remained inactive for two years, it is not within the interest of the public to keep the current governance arrangements as local electors are not currently represented by an active parish council. Combining Welburn Parish Council with a neighbour, such as Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council would ensure that electors are represented by a parish council. Since the discussions with the Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Clerk, this parish council has also become inquorate following the resignation of a councillor, and the remaining councillors being disqualified due to a parish council meeting not being held in over 6 months.

1.15 The NYC Division Member for Sheriff Hutton and Derwent, Councillor Caroline Goodrick, was informed of the CGR and initially agreed that Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council was the most suitable option for being combined with Welburn Parish Council.

1.16 By November 2025, mid-way through the 12-week stage 1 CGR consultation, it was apparent that none of Welburn's neighbouring parish councils were willing to take on the parish.

Five year electorate forecast

1.17 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Welburn parish is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Welburn	412	429	17

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Welburn Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	768
Consultation responses received	46
Response rate	6.0%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Bulmer parish, Henderskelfe parish, Huttons Ambo parish, Westow parish and both Whitwell-on-the-Hill parish and Crambe parish as following the suggestion of a CGR to combine Welburn Parish Council with a neighbour, these were the areas under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 11A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 11B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses for Welburn Parish Council was 46.

2.6 Of the 46 respondents, 25 reported that they lived in Welburn, with one of these respondents also advising that they were a member of a community organisation in Welburn. 19 respondents were residents of a neighbouring parish. 6 of these respondents were from Bulmer, 4 were from Westow, one respondent was from Huttons Ambo and one was from Whitwell-on-the-Hill. Another respondent was from Barton-le-Willows parish, which is not a direct neighbour of Welburn parish. A further 6 respondents did not indicate which neighbouring parish they lived in.

2.7 A further respondent used the ‘other’ category to advise that they lived in Crambeck, which is part of Welburn parish, and another respondent used the ‘other’ category to advise that they were a resident from a neighbouring village but did not indicate the relevant parish.

2.8 67% (31) of respondents indicated that they were aware that Welburn Parish Council had experienced difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors.

2.9 48% (22) of respondents were in favour of combining Welburn Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils, either by forming a single parish council which could be warded, or by forming a grouped parish council. Of these options, 11 respondents chose a single parish council which could be warded and 11 respondents chose a grouped parish council arrangement.

2.10 30% (14) of respondents chose to provide another option, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Combine Welburn Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Welburn Parish Council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded	11	24%
Combine Welburn Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Welburn Parish Council and form a grouped parish council	11	24%
I am unsure	10	22%
Other suggestion, please describe below	14	30%
Total	46	100%

2.11 Annex 11B summarises at page 2 the suggestions individuals gave for the option "other suggestion, please describe below". Of the 14 respondents, 9 indicated that they wanted Welburn Parish Council to remain intact. Some respondents suggested a more coordinated appeal to attract new parish councillors ought to be pursued. Respondents referenced the fact that Welburn is a thriving village with various village groups involved in its upkeep, such as the Church Council, Horticultural Society and Village Hall Committee, and that representatives could be taken from each of these village groups to sit on Welburn Parish Council. Other respondents felt that combining Welburn parish with a neighbouring parish council will only spread the issues further.

2.12 Of the 14 respondents, 4 suggested that Welburn Parish Council should be dissolved, and a parish meeting be established in its place. Some of these respondents acknowledged that volunteers would still be required to fulfil the role of Clerk and Chair. A further respondent suggested that the parish should be abolished completely.

2.13 Of the 22 respondents who wanted to combine Welburn with a neighbour, 15 were in favour of Welburn being combined with Bulmer Parish Council and 3 were in favour of Welburn being combined with Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council. None of the respondents suggested Westow Parish Council. 4 respondents did not indicate which parish council they would prefer Welburn to be combined with.

2.14 Annex 11B summarises at page 3 the reasons people gave for their preferred option. The most popular reason for the choice to combine Welburn Parish Council with Bulmer Parish Council was the geographical proximity which was referenced by 8 respondents. Respondents noted the easy access to Bulmer from Welburn by road, with both parishes being situated on the same side of the A64. Respondents also commented that as Bulmer was the closest village to Welburn, both parishes may have similar issues to deal with. The second most popular reason for combining Welburn with Bulmer Parish Council was that residents in each parish share the same amenities, societies and events. One respondent commented that many residents know each other through shared clubs and societies, making Bulmer *"a natural fit".*

2.15 3 respondents chose to combine Welburn Parish Council with Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council. One of these respondents suggested that Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council was closer and had a similar demographic and setting to Welburn. Another respondent shared similar views that Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council better represented the makeup of the residential properties and residents of Welburn than Bulmer. One respondent, who lives in Bulmer advised that they did not want Bulmer Parish Council to be changed in any way, and therefore thought Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council was a better fit.

2.16 10 respondents advised that they were unsure of their preferred option. The reasons for this included respondents being unclear on how the options would make a difference to local decision making. Other respondents advised that combining Welburn with a neighbouring parish council would create a large parish council geographically. Others did not feel that a neighbouring parish council should have to take on Welburn issues. One respondent commented on the inconsistency of Welburn parish councillors resigning in recent years and questioned the reasons for the vacancies. One respondent who lived in Westow explained that they were unaware of the situation at Welburn Parish Council, which is situated on the other side of the A64 and therefore remote to Westow Parish Council.

2.17 Of the 14 respondents that chose an alternative option, 9 indicated that they wanted Welburn Parish Council to remain intact. The reasons for this suggestion included that Welburn is a large community and ought to be represented by an active parish council to voice the opinions of the village. One respondent who lives in Welburn advised *"I was unaware that it was being dissolved and would be willing to be involved in keeping it going".* Another respondent suggested that Welburn residents ought to be consulted through canvassing and that there had been little previous communication from Welburn Parish Council to encourage new members. Other respondents felt that combining Welburn with a neighbouring parish council would not resolve the difficulties that Welburn has.

2.18 Bulmer Parish Council submitted a consultation response via email advising that they did not support combining Welburn Parish Council with Bulmer Parish Council. Before it became inquorate, Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe Parish Council also advised that they did not wish to be combined with Welburn Parish Council.

2.19 The Division Member for Sheriff Hutton and Derwent, Councillor Caroline Goodrick has advised that if the neighbouring parish councils of Bulmer, Westow and Whitwell-on-the-Hill with Crambe do not wish to combine with Welburn, Welburn Parish Council could be dissolved and a parish meeting formed. Given the number of respondents that would prefer Welburn Parish Council to be retained in its

current form, dissolving the parish council at this stage is not perceived to be the most suitable option.

2.20 Additional comments about the CGR included residents showing willingness to attend Welburn Parish Council meetings in the future, with one respondent suggesting that a public meeting should be held in Welburn village hall to encourage new parish councillors so that the parish council can operate once again. One respondent commented *"please could a more rigorous search for volunteers be undertaken before relinquishing our Welburn voice?".*

2.21 Other respondents commented that action needed to be taken to ensure local views are represented by the parish council in relation to housing development. Another respondent suggested contacting Henderskelfe Parish Meeting who may have an interest in the governance of Welburn parish. In response to this, Henderskelfe Parish Meeting (which will be in a different division to Welburn parish from 2027) was contacted about the CGR although no response was received. One respondent commented on increasing council tax payments, and another on speed limits in Welburn. Both matters are out of scope of this governance review.

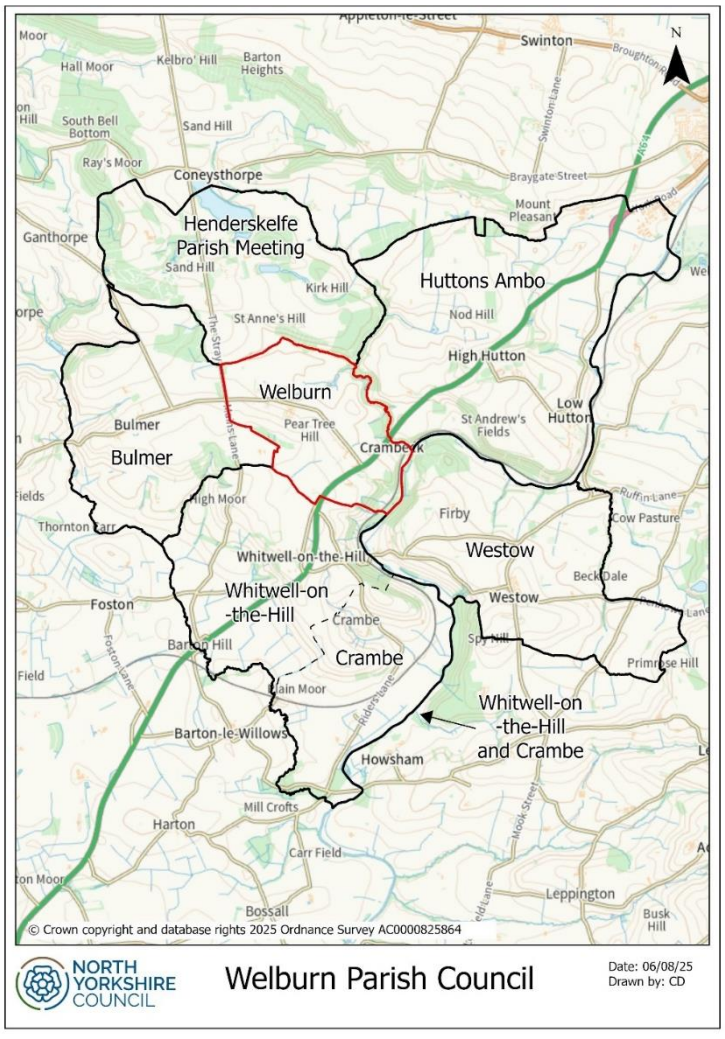
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 Whilst 48% of responses indicated support for combining Welburn Parish Council with a neighbouring parish council, either by forming a single parish council which could be warded, or by forming a grouped parish council, none of Welburn's neighbouring parish councils have shown willingness to take on the area. 30% of responses were in favour of an alternative option, many of which indicated that they would prefer that Welburn Parish Council remains intact. Several respondents showed an interest in attending future council meetings and suggested that further attempts ought to be made to encourage new councillors.

3.2 It is not recommended that Welburn Parish Council be dissolved as paragraph 120 of the Government Guidance on Community Governance Reviews states that support for abolition needs to have been demonstrated over at least a period equivalent to two terms of office of the parish councillors (i.e. 8 years). Given that Welburn Parish Council has not been functioning for only 2 years, and that several residents have indicated their support that the parish council remains, there does not appear to be clear evidence and sustained local support for abolition.

3.3 It is therefore proposed that no changes are made to the governance of Welburn Parish Council.

3.4 A map of the continuing parish is shown below identified by a red boundary.



3.5 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – that Welburn Parish Council is not dissolved and the parish of Welburn is not amalgamated with a neighbouring parish to form a new parish council

3.6 As no changes are recommended, a Stage 2 consultation will not be required.

Annex 11A – Consultation survey
Annex 11B – Summary of consultation responses

Community Governance Review for Welburn parish

We are consulting residents of Welburn Parish Council.

Due to a lack of residents willing to become parish councillors, North Yorkshire Council is undertaking a community governance review to ensure that parish level governance arrangements are operating as effectively as possible.

Welburn Parish Council has not been functioning since March 2024. This means that there are no councillors to attend parish meetings. Three North Yorkshire Council Division Members are currently temporarily appointed to the parish council to enable it to stay quorate.

In order to maintain parish level governance in the area, Welburn could merge with a neighbouring parish council. Whitwell-on-the-Hill and Crambe Parish Council, Bulmer Parish Council and Westow Parish Council are neighbouring parish councils that could be considered for a merger.

Henderskelfe Parish Meeting and Huttons Ambo Parish Council also neighbour Welburn, but currently the Local Government Boundary Commission for England are consulting on North Yorkshire Council division boundaries and these parishes are proposed to sit in a different division and it is not recommended that parish councils cross division boundaries.

There are several options as indicated below:

1. Dissolve the parish council and add the parish to a neighbouring parish council to form a grouped parish council. At least one parish councillor would represent the parish on the parish council.

2. Dissolve the parish council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded.

3. Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting. A parish meeting would consist of all the registered electors living in the parish and a meeting must take place at least two times per year. Volunteers would be required to fulfil the role of clerk and chair of the parish meeting.

4. No changes to current arrangements and retain the parish council in its current form.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- [ ] I live in Welburn
- [ ] I work in Welburn
- [ ] I own a business in Welburn
- [ ] I am a representative of a community organisation in Welburn
- [ ] I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- [ ] Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Are you aware that Welburn Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors?

- ○ Yes, I am aware
- ○ No, I am not aware
- ○ I am unsure

Which of the following would be your preferred option?

- ○ Combine Welburn Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Welburn Parish Council and form a grouped parish council
- ○ Combine Welburn Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils and dissolve Welburn Parish Council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded
- ○ Not sure
- ○ Other suggestion, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Welburn combined with?

- ◯ Whitwell-on-the-Hill and Crambe Parish Council
- ◯ Bulmer Parish Council
- ◯ Westow Parish Council

Please tell us why you chose this option?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

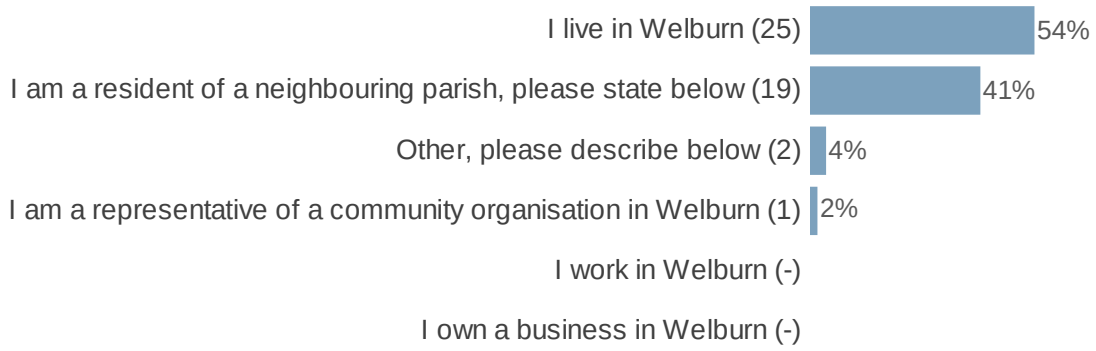
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2025-26 CGR - Welburn

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 46 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 46 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:



Westow	I live in Crambeck
Westow parish	Barton le Willows
Westow	Bulmer
Bulmer	resident of Bulmer
Bulmer	Bulmer
Westow	Resident from neighbouring village
Whitwell	Bulmer
Huttons ambo parish	

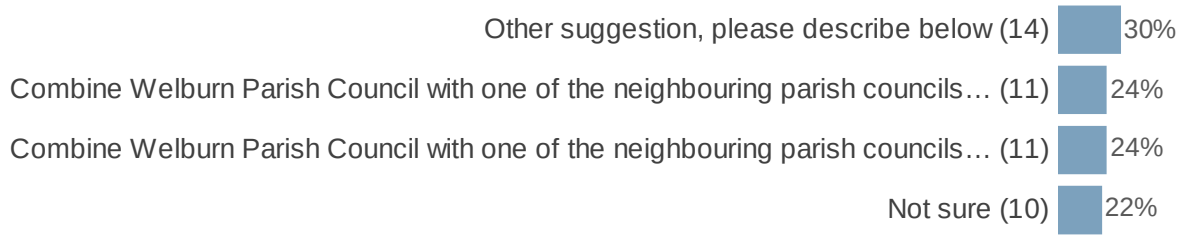
Please state the first part of your postcode: **(for example YO21)**

YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60
YO60	Yo60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	Yo60	YO60
YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	YO60	Yo60	YO60	Yo60	YO60	YO60	
Yo60	Yo60	YO60	YO60	YO60	Yo60	Yo60	YO60	Yo60	YO60	YO60	

Are you aware that Welburn Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors?

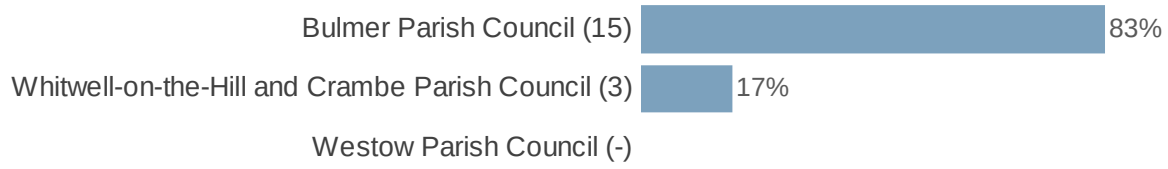


Which of the following would be your preferred option?



Keep it as it is an ask residents if they wish to be involved
Have a more co-ordinated appeal for new parish councillors
Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting. A parish meeting would consist of all the registered electors living in the parish and a meeting must take place at least two times per year. Volunteers would be required to fulfil the role of clerk and chair of the parish meeting.
Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting. A parish meeting would consist of all the registered electors living in the parish and a meeting must take place at least two times per year. Volunteers would be required to fulfil the role of clerk and chair of the parish meeting.
Leave Welburn Parish Council as it is
Each village should have it's own parish council. People need to step up and take responsibility.
HOLD REGULAR PARISH MEETINGS, OR MUCH BETTER REINSTATE THE COUNCIL. THE VILLAGE HALL IS THRIVING WITH SPLENDID MANAGEMENT, AND THERE IS A VERY ENTHUSIASTIC CHURCH COUNCIL. COULD NOT A REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH OF THE VILLAGE GROUPS COMBINE TO LEAD THE WAY? HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, BOOK GROUP, HISTORY GROUP, ART GROUP, CHURCH COUNCIL, BOWLS CLUB, WINE CLUB, VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE , AND THERE ARE PROBABLY MORE. IT IS EXTREMELY SAD THAT WE HAVE NO PARISH COUNCIL IN SUCH A THRIVING VILLAGE.
Appoint local volunteers (possibly from neighbouring parishes) to form Welburn PC, possibly under the chairmanship of a NYC Cllr, until Welburn residents feel able to represent themselves. Combining with another parish would only spread the problem.
If people in Welburn do not want to support a Parish Council then scrap it and do not look at adding it to another
Welburn residents should be reminded that the problems they have in the village can only be resolved by compromise within the village and will not go away by simply changing the parish boundaries.
Change to annual chaired meeting
No changes to current arrangements and retain the parish council in its current form.
Dissolve the Parish Council and make it a Parish Meeting
I would prefer North Yorkshire County Council to send a persuasive leaflet to all residents of Welburn, explaining the importance of having a Parish Council, explaining what's involved and asking people to consider being Counsellors.

Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Welburn combined with?



Please tell us why you chose this option?

It is closer and a similar demographic and setting as Welburn.
I was unaware that it was being dissolved and would be willing to be involved in keeping it going
Welburn is the largest community in the district and needs to be represented
everyone can be involved in decision making
I would happily attend a parish meeting and believe the best for the village is to let the local residents dictate changes.
I don't fully understand the how the 2 options would make a difference to local decision-making.
I am not sure that it is necessary for westow parish to be one of the options,when there are quiet a few others on that side of theA64,also it makes it a large area to be covered by one parish council.
Perhaps someone from the Welburn Parish will volunteer for the open roles
Grouping ensures that the identity of the area is not lost. The area has strong connections with Bulmer sharing many local societies and groups and residents attend each others local events (eg village hall).
Each village should have it's own parish council. People need to step up and take responsibility.
Geographically nearer to Bulmer with easy access by road. Not split by river Derwent or A64. Both are small communities and might benefit each other by being combined.
In my opinion Whitwell and Crambe better representative the makeup of the residential properties and residents of Welburn than Bulmer which has a number of far more expensive properties than Welburn and is generally considered to be a far wealthier community. Westow is relatively distant and not a much visited neighbour owing to the A64 trunk road Membership of this expanded council would ensure that Welburn had a voice even if there was difficulty finding candidates
Bulmer would seem to be a natural fit. A similar village, the closest village and many residents know each other through shared clubs and societies.
BECAUSE IT IS RIDICULOUS THAT SUCH A THRIVING COMMUNITY SHOULD NOT HAVE A PARISH COUNCIL [redacted] A COUNCIL COULD BE PUT TOGETHER [redacted] THERE ARE MANY NEW RESIDENTS WHO WOULD DO A VERY GOOD JOB.
As the other councils are so close in proximity, those councillors would understand the issues relating to welburn
I understand other Parish Councils struggle to attract new members so why add the burden of Welburn to them?
As a resident and parish councillor in Westow, I am unaware of the situation in Welburn and its other neighbouring parishes across the other side of the A64. The existence of the dual carriageway A64 which is itself not even near the boundary of the Westow Parish Council makes Welburn remote to us. Westow represent hamlets on the edge of the Yorkshire Wolds. If Welburn is to amalgamate with another Parish Council, Westow is the worst possible option. We have no link with Welburn.
Mainly because it does not require crossing the A64.
Similar interests of both parishes
No idea what the difference between the options is
Nearest village and Bulmer residents use a lot of the facilities in Welburn
Don't know.
Im not sure if I would want Welburn PC to be dissolved & need to understand more of how things would work. Perhaps a meeting with villagers to explain might be a good thing.
Because I think it is best represented by someone living and knowing the village well. Unfortunately there has been no recent consistency with councillors resigning so soon, why?. The village was far better served between 5 to 10 years ago when we moved here.

Please tell us why you chose this option?

It would seem a more natural combination to join with Whitwell and Crambe because: Westow is geographically quite a distance from Welburn and Bulmer has always been a close neighbourly community working on its own for the people it represents and should remain so.
Merging Parish Councils will not solve the difficulties that Welburn has, and Bulmer has no interest in taking on what are basically man-made problems.
If the residents do not currently want a regular sitting pc then an annual meeting would provide opportunity for status review along with other local issue discussion/actions.
Closest and already share many activities together
Communication to local residents who may wish to participate on the Council has not been thorough or effective. Good 'old-fashioned' door canvasing and face-to-face communication would help. There are a number of new residents, and many other suitable candidates in the village. It is important to maintain the village voice, and I would certainly be able to play a part. would be prepared to canvas.
The Parish Council [redacted] will struggle to function
It seems to me that the A64 is a physical boundary which would exclude Westow Parish Council. Whitwell-on-the-Hill and Crambe is split by the A64 but largely the population in that parish area is also east of the A64. That leaves Bulmer, which is adjacent to Welburn and on the same side of the A64 making it the best match.
Seems geographically sensible
Bulmer is the closest village to Welburn and thus may have similar issues with which to deal.
Not fully understanding the options
It is important for Welburn to be run by a local Parish Council, but I do not believe it should fall to a neighboring Parish Council to take on their issues
I think it is important we have a voice that represents the village. This is especially important with the insane levels of proposed development in the area. Although I would prefer a merger over having no PC at all, I think a merger could be problematic, since each village is likely to take a NIMBY view of the proposed development, which could be detrimental for Welburn.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Maybe a public meeting in the village hall at Welburn might have encouraged some to stand for the Parish Council to get it reinstated
I would like to know how to find out when meetings are so I can attend
Merging with Westow Parish Council is a less practical option that merging with one of the Parishes on the same side of the A64.
Westow parish already covers 5 villages ,I'm not sure adding to its responsibilities will encourage people to stay councilors,wouldn't it be better to encourage the residents of welburn to become councilors for their own village.
Could you also look at the increase in the Parish Council cost to Council Tax Payers it was a significant increase compared to the inflation rate. Could the Parish Council also support the retention of phone boxes as the mobile phone signal is not great.
Action needs to be taken fairly swiftly to ensure local views on forthcoming housing proposals are represented as the Local Plan develops.
no
I have heard it said many times that NYC seem totally disinterested in any recommendations put forward by the local Council and so no one is prepared to stand just to go through a load of formal procedures which are ignored anyway.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

The duties of a Parish councillor are very arduous. I believe the county council has a statuary duty to provide some replacement for us until volunteers can be found. This has not happened and councillors have not responded to any enquiries from residents.
HAS NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL RECENTLY CLOSELY REVIEWED THE CURRENT SITUATION IN WELBURN? SPOKEN TO RESIDENTS ETC? IT IS SUCH A BUSY VILLAGE ESPECIALLY IN THE CENTRE WITH SCHOOL, PUB AND CAFE, AND MANY WALKERS AND OTHER VISITORS, IT REALLY COULD DO WITH A WORKING PARISH COUNCIL AND NOT BE TACKED ON TO ANOTHER PARISH.
No
I'll contact my Cllr about this!
I would respectfully suggest contacting the Castle Howard estate (Henderskelfe PC?), which does border Welburn. The estate will own land within the Welburn curtilege and would I'm sure have an interest in the local governance of the parish. They may even be able to help with volunteering parish councillors…
No thank you.
I'd like to see more effort to reform the Welburn Parish council. There are many people who are very passionate about it. I would do it but I'm working full time and simply don't have the time to put into this.
No
Just need more understanding of how things will work. At the moment the village is in a bit of a mess with too many people falling out with each other instead of pulling together & also people taking on roles from which they then resign from! The village is not as it was & it's a shame.
No just keep me updated please.
I strongly think that Bulmer should not be combined with Welburn as the parish council works harmoniously so should not be changed in any way.
Bulmer and Welburn join in a number of community events, but the suggestion that Bulmer can help to resolve Welburn's petty disputes is ridiculous.
Local clerk would need to be made available to the parish. Such clerks need to be trained and approved by council and paid for using parish budget.
Please could a more rigorous search for volunteers be undertaken before relinquishing our Welburn voice?
It is not clear to me what the difference is between merging and grouping the Parish Councils. Some additional information around this would have been useful. Many thanks.
No
Any neighbouring Council that would enforce the speed limit through Welburn and have the 30 signs more prominently displayed and a 10 past Welburn school. At present its a mini M1.

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Appendix 12 – Draft Recommendations for Potto Parish Council

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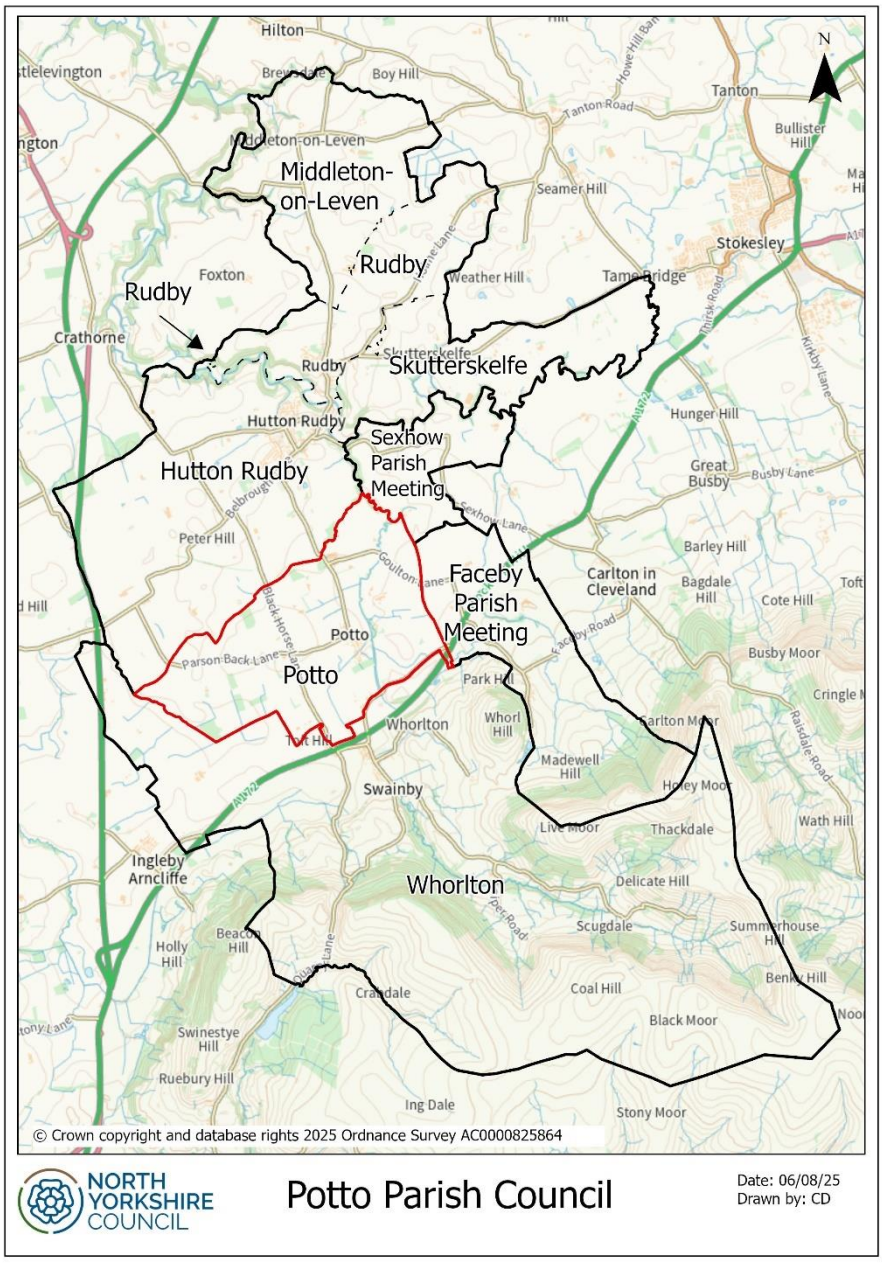
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Potto Parish Council is situated within the Hutton Rudby and Osmotherley division and is part of the Richmond and Northallerton parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the village of Potto.

1.2 Potto parish currently has 250 electors and 125 properties.

1.3 Potto Parish Council has 4 neighbouring parish areas as shown in the map below including Faceby Parish Meeting, Rudby grouped Parish Council, Sexhow Parish Meeting and Whorlton Parish Council.



1.4 Potto Parish Council is comprised of 5 elected parish councillors. In order to meet and take decisions at least 3 councillors must be present. Parish Councils must hold an annual meeting and at least 3 other meetings each year. There are currently no vacant seats on Potto Parish Council.

1.5 Parish councils can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Potto Parish Council raised a precept of £9,000 for the 2025/26 financial year.

History of the area

1.6 In November 2024, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) was contacted by the Potto Parish Council Chair, who requested that Potto Parish Council be dissolved and a Parish Meeting be created in its place. Potto Parish Council was advised that a Community Governance Review (CGR) would be required to dissolve the parish council and create a parish meeting.

1.7 A parish meeting does not elect councillors or hold parish council meetings. Parish meetings must assemble annually between 1 March and 1 June and on at least one other occasion during the year. These meetings are open to the public but only registered electors of the parish can speak and vote.

1.8 In June 2025, Democratic Services contacted Potto Parish Council to confirm that the request for a CGR still stood, which it did.

1.9 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Potto Parish Council. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included Potto Parish Council on 16 July 2025.

1.10 Given that the request to dissolve Potto Parish Council was submitted by the parish council itself, and that dissolution can only be effected through a CGR, it has been agreed that a CGR will be undertaken.

Five year electorate forecast

1.11 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Potto parish is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Potto	250	256	6

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Potto Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	125
Consultation responses received	55
Response rate	4.4%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in Potto parish as following the CGR request made by Potto Parish Council to dissolve the parish council and create a parish meeting, Potto was the area under review.

2.3 As the CGR also included the option to combine Potto Parish Council with a neighbour, Faceby Parish Meeting, Rudby grouped Parish Council, Sexhow Parish Meeting and Whorlton Parish Council were also invited to respond to the consultation.

2.4 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 12A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 12B.

2.5 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.6 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the area under review. The total number of responses for Potto Parish Council was 55.

2.7 Of the 55 respondents, 40 reported that they lived in Potto. 3 respondents were residents of a neighbouring parish; one was from Hutton Rudby and the other two did not specify which neighbouring parish they lived in. 7 respondents used the "other" category to indicate further details about themselves. 5 respondents did not supply any details to describe themselves.

2.8 37% (19) of respondents were in favour of dissolving Potto Parish Council and changing to a parish meeting, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting	19	37%
Combine Potto Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish	21	40%

council and forming a grouped parish council		
Combine Potto Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and merging with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded	1	2%
Retain the parish council in its current form	6	12%
Other suggestion, please describe below	5	10%
I am unsure	0	0%
Total	52*	100%

** 3 respondents out of the 55 did not answer this question*

2.9 Annex 12A summarises at page 2 the suggestions individuals gave for the option "other suggestion, please describe below". All of the 5 respondents suggested retaining the parish council in its current form. One of these respondents commented that whilst wishing to retain the parish council, they were not against changing to a parish meeting as Potto is a small parish council and the demands on its members have increased in recent years.

2.10 Of the 22 respondents who wanted to combine Potto with a neighbour, to create either a single parish council which could be warded or a grouped parish council, 20 were in favour of Potto being combined with Rudby Parish Council and two were in favour of Potto being combined with Whorlton Parish Council.

2.11 Annex 12B summarises at page 2 the reasons people gave for their preferred option. The most popular reason for the choice to dissolve Potto Parish Council and create a parish meeting was cost savings, which was referenced by 11 respondents with some respondents specifically referencing high annual governance and audit fees. Another popular reason to dissolve Potto Parish Council and create a parish meeting was that less administration and resource would be required, compared to a parish council. Some respondents mentioned that the parish council had received numerous complaints over recent years, which took up a lot of resource. 4 respondents felt that Potto parish was too small to have a parish council, suggesting that a parish meeting would better serve the community.

2.12 The most popular reason for the choice to combine Potto Parish Council with Rudby Parish Council to form a grouped parish council was that a grouped arrangement would enable the Potto parish name to be retained with councillor representation. Other respondents highlighted that grouping with Rudby Parish Council would create a larger parish council, which Potto would benefit from and would also be *"the best value for money"* option. Another respondent felt that Potto parish was too big to create a parish meeting.

2.13 Of the two respondents that preferred combining Potto Parish Council with Whorlton Parish Council, one respondent who lived in Potto felt that Potto was more in line with Whorlton. The other respondent did not specify a reason for their choice.

2.14 Of the 6 respondents who chose to retain Potto Parish Council in its current form, all commented that the parish council was well run and ought to stay as it is. One respondent commented *"The parish council works very well for Potto, all members are approachable and I feel they work for the best outcome for the village. The village is well informed about the affairs being dealt with. I most certainty would like Potto Parish Council to stay as it is".*

2.15 Of the 5 respondents that chose an alternative option, which included retaining the parish council as it was, some respondents expressed the view that the existing parish councillors should be replaced with new members, rather than the parish council itself being dissolved. Such concerns relate to the membership of the parish council and should be addressed through the parish council election process.

2.16 Potto Parish Council submitted a consultation response in support of dissolving the parish council and creating a parish meeting. The reasons for this response were that Potto is a small parish council, and considering that other neighbouring parishes have parish meetings, it was felt that a parish meeting would be better suited to meet the needs of the community.

2.17 Rudby grouped Parish Council submitted a consultation response via email advising that they did not support combining Potto Parish Council with Rudby Parish Council. The reasons for this response included the potential costs and disruption involved in taking on Potto Parish Council, with no benefit to the residents of Rudby Parish Council. Rudby Parish Council also requested that they be removed from the scope of the CGR at the end of the Stage 1 consultation.

2.18 Additional comments about the CGR included some residents being unaware of the proposed changes to the governance of Potto Parish Council prior to the letter they received, with one respondent requesting an open forum to discuss the details of the CGR. Another respondent raised concerns about the cost implications of the review. Some comments included concerns in relation to the current appointed members of the parish council, although as stated previously any matters of this nature should be addressed through the parish council election process.

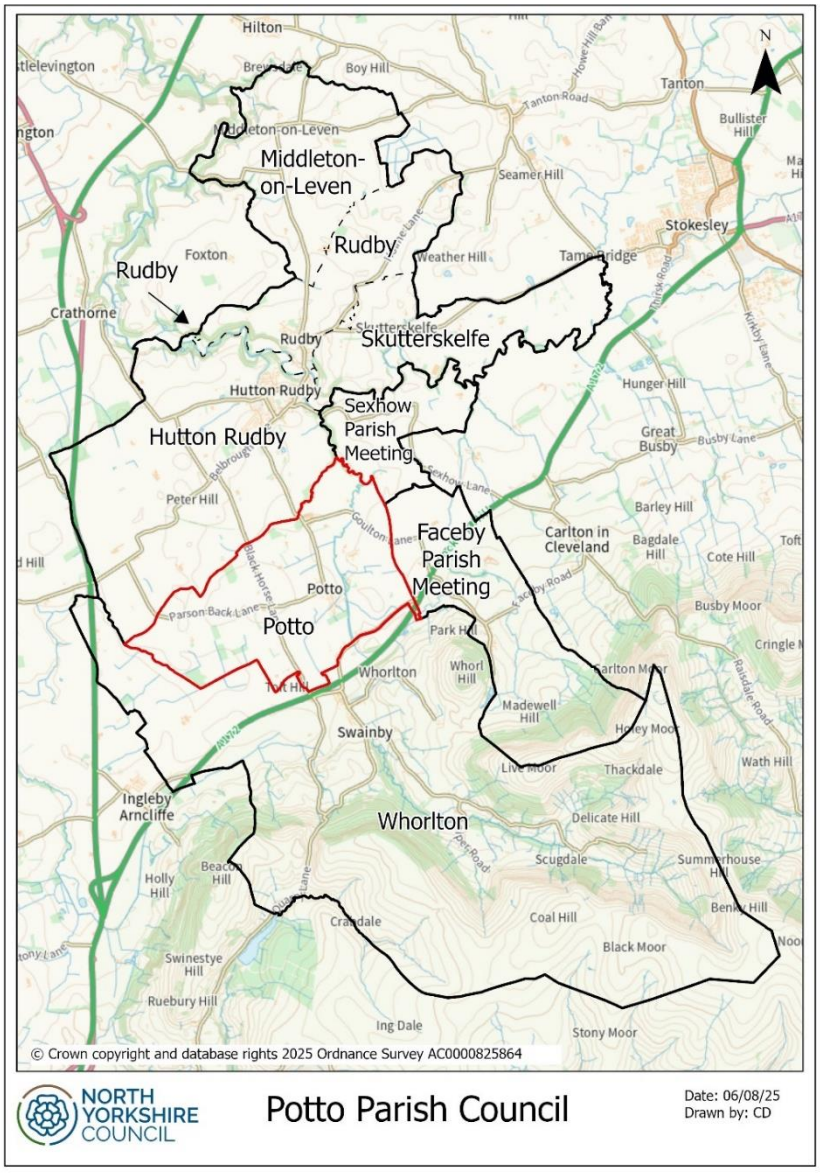
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 Only 37% of responses indicated support for dissolving Potto Parish Council and creating a parish meeting. Whilst 40% of responses were in favour of combining Potto Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and forming a grouped parish council, neither Rudby Parish Council or Whorlton Parish Council have shown a willingness to take on Potto parish.

3.2 It is not recommended that Potto Parish Council be dissolved as paragraph 120 of the Government Guidance on Community Governance Reviews states that support for abolition needs to have been demonstrated over at least a period equivalent to two terms of office of the parish councillors (i.e. 8 years). Given that only 37% of responses indicated support for a change to a parish meeting, there does not appear to be sustained local support for the parish council to be dissolved.

3.3 It is therefore proposed that no changes are made to the governance of Potto Parish Council.

3.4 A map of the continuing parish is shown below identified by a red boundary.



3.5 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – that Potto Parish Council is not dissolved and changed to a parish meeting and that the area should not be altered

3.6 As no changes are recommended, a Stage 2 consultation will not be required.

Annex 12A – Consultation survey
Annex 12B – Summary of consultation responses

Community Governance Review for Potto Parish Council

We are consulting residents about the future governance of Potto Parish Council.

Following a request to dissolve the parish council and create a parish meeting, North Yorkshire Council is undertaking a community governance review to ensure that parish level governance arrangements are operating as effectively as possible.

Rudby Parish Council and Whorlton Parish Council are neighbouring parish councils. Faceby Parish Meeting and Sexhow Parish Meeting also neighbour the parish.

There are several options as indicated below:

1. Dissolve the parish council and add the parish to a neighbouring parish council to form a grouped parish council. At least one parish councillor would represent the parish on the parish council.

2. Dissolve the parish council and merge with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded.

3. Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting. A parish meeting would consist of all the registered electors living in the parish and a meeting must take place at least two times per year. Volunteers would be required to fulfil the role of clerk and chair of the parish meeting.

4. No changes to current arrangements and retain the parish council in its current form.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- [ ] I live in Potto
- [ ] I work in Potto
- [ ] I own a business in Potto
- [ ] I am a representative of a community organisation in Potto
- [ ] I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- [ ] Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Which of the following would be your preferred option?

- ◯ Dissolve the parish council and change to a parish meeting
- ◯ Combine Potto Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and forming a grouped parish council
- ◯ Combine Potto Parish Council with one of the neighbouring parish councils by dissolving the parish council and merging with a neighbouring parish council to form a single parish council, which could be warded
- ◯ Retain the parish council in its current form
- ◯ Other suggestion, please describe below
- ◯ I am unsure

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Potto combined with?

- ◯ Rudby parish council
- ◯ Whorlton parish council

Please tell us why you chose this option?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

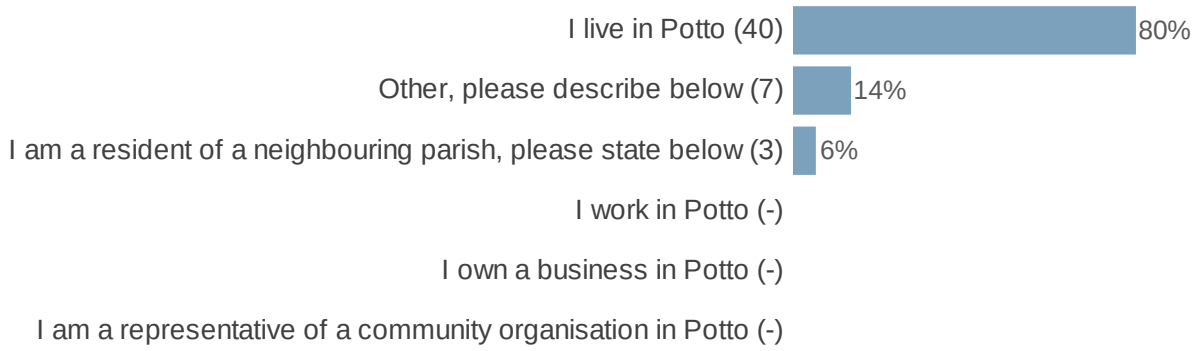
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2025-26 CGR - Potto

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 55 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 55 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

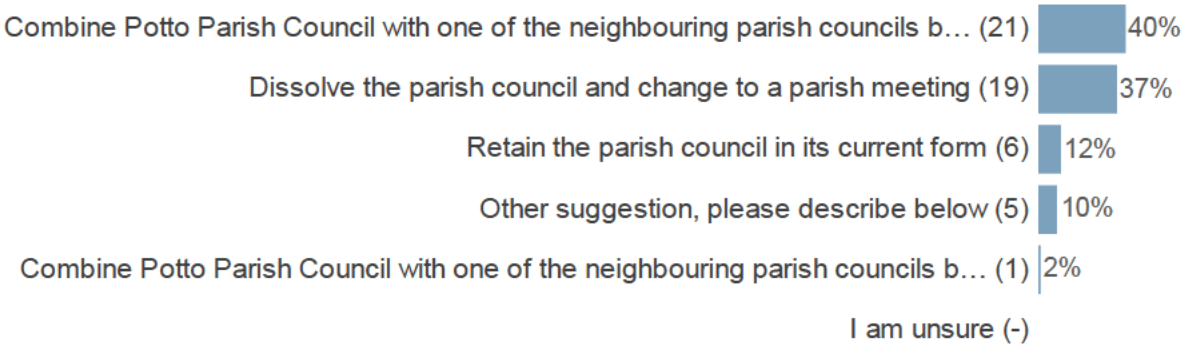


I have made some FOI requests to Potto PC with very poor results.
Interest party
Potto Parish Council
Journalist
hutton rudby
journalist

Please state the first part of your postcode: **(for example YO21)**

dl63	DL6	DL63	Dl6	DL63	dl6	dl63	DL6	DL63	DL63	DL6	DL6
DL6	DL6	DL63	DL6	dl6	TS15	DL63	DL6	dl6	DL63	ts15	ts15
DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6	DL63	DL6	Dl6	DL6	SY13	dl63	DL6	dl6
DL6	DL6	Dl6	DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6

Which of the following would be your preferred option?



Form a new Parish Council with all new members baring all the existing councilors from standing again
Ideally we retain in current form but moving to a Parish Meeting I am not against as we are a small Parish and the demands on volunteers have become excessive especially over the last couple of years due to unwarranted and unfounded challenges on people on the. Council who are doing their absolute best for the Parish. I do wonder if that had not occurred would this proposal have even been put forward ?
Mandate a two year maximum term for Parish Council Chairperson & for Parish Clerk compulsory training. Villagers should be balloted anonymously to vote for councillors when re-election is proposed or when a new councillor is proposed.
retain parish council with new clerk and chairman and run parish council properly.
retain parish council but run effectively. remove current chair, counsellors and clerk. adhere to audit recommendations and provide transparency of decision making.

Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Potto combined with?



Please tell us why you chose this option?

I think this is the right way to proceed. Potto Parish Council has worked adequately well for a long time and changing the present situation would be of no benefit to the members of the Potto parish whatsoever.
We fought hard to obtain our own Parish council and it is a disgrace the existing parish councilors have made of running it being dubbed THE WORST PARISH COUNCIL IN ENGLAND. I would like to form a new council with elected members baring all existing councilors. [redacted] years ago [redacted] there were never any problems and everybody seemed very happy with the way it was run. It can be a good council again given the chance.
This hamlet is more in line with Whorlton. We would only want this option however if Potto had representation.
As noted above
Reduced cost and administration
Reduce costs and administration
Cost saving
Cost saving

Please tell us why you chose this option?

Local Parish Chairpersons in position over many years inherently risk demonstrating a resistance to being challenged & can create a lack of accountability, [redacted]. This is particularly well documented in several investigative press articles about Potto Parish Council by an independent journalist. https://nyenquirer.uk/potto-bailiff-fodder I find it remarkable that NYC has not taken remedial action given this protracted situation.
Parish Council is doing a good job with footpaths, keeping village near and tidy.
Happy with the way parish council is run. Open and honest in dealings with the community
I consider Potto is too small a community to require a Parish Council. Changing to a Parish Meeting will be more efficient and cost effective for our Village needs. It will still give all residents an opportunity to voice their opinions or concerns regarding Village matters. The Parish Meeting will also concentrate on Potto only. Potto does not need to amalgamate with other neighbouring Villages, which could deflect attention from issues that only affect Potto Residents.
I have no onjection to our present Parish Council, which has been run effectively for many years and whose members should be congratulated for carrying on under such difficult circumstances, [redacted] Because of this the PC has been forced to incur massive audit fees many more times greater than the annual parish precept. This is wrong and unjust. However, if by changing from a Parish Council to a Parish Meeting we can be relieved of this burden then I am in favour of doing so
I chose this grouped option because it willl get rid of the awful Potto Parish Council, keep the Parish name, and keep a Parish council presence in Potto parish. To group with Hutton Rudby Council seems best, Swainby Council is too small. Potto is far too big for a Parish Meeting. This is the very worst option, as it would let the same [redacted] rule the roost but with less accountability.
I am very happy with the professionalism and dedication of the current council.
We have lived in Potto for over 20 years and have been active in supporting the work of the parish council. We are very appreciative of the work that the council have done but feel that we are a small parish and does not warrant the full level of bureaucracy in particular the time and expense spent on formalities such as the annual governance and audit reviews. We would however like to know how the parish meeting would be constituted and whether the annual precept would be affected and how expenditure would be administered .
I consider I understand why the PCC have made this application. That is to relatively reduce the formality of the governance environment of a parish council and to reduce the opportunities for largely irrelevant objections from members of the public as to how matters are dealt with in the Parish Council and indeed personal sniping at those involved in the activities of the Council. I do not consider that the transfer of the council to a meeting will reduce these adverse interactions between objectors and those charged with the governance of the parish. It is possible that because of the reduction in formality that the abuse of the publics right to question and object and also the ability of those involved in governance to reply to those objections will in fact get worse. The transfer to an adjacent Parish Council with the retention of say two councillors with representation for Potto will dilute the scope for the up to present continued largely irrelevant objections and personal sniping will be significantly reduced, [redacted] It would be important that representation of Potto comes from its "senior" parish councillors in the early years which would give Potto a proper voice in the new enlarged Parish, recognising that this may still provide the objector with some traction but which should soon be reduced to negligible influence by the demonstration of independent oversight by the greater parish organisation. Less objections [redacted] will benefit the members of Potto Parish by a reduction in external audit fees and any such fees arising in the early years will be spread over a larger parish.

Please tell us why you chose this option?

There has never been a Potto Parish Council election since I moved into the village 23yrs ago. Allegedly there has never been enough members of the electorate coming forward to trigger an election. The Council survives by mysteriously finding someone to co-opt This is perfectly legal within the existing rules. but over a long period of time muddies the transparancy and democracy.All the councillors are unelected or not re elected by the electorate What the above does is to indicate the lack of appetite for a parish council and is a good reason for the dissolving of said council and having a change of governance [redacted] All complaints have to be investigated often by professional outside sources costing the residents of Potto THOUSANDS of pounds via the council tax. The only to stop this for good is to dissolve the parish council and move to parish meeting means of governance. I believe said arrangement cold easily deal with any day to day business in this small parish and would be more cost efficient and transparent thus allowing all of the electorate equal say and not be represented by unelected persons. In one final point I would like to say that I believe the County Council has a moral duty to reduce costs [redacted]
Potto is a very small community and I don't believe it needs the time and resources allocated to a Parish Council. I do not believe it is necessary to amalgamate with other Parish Councils. The current Parish Council have always worked hard for the community and have suffered completely unwarranted and unfair criticism which costs everyone a lot of time and money.
I want to keep the parish of Potto.
Grouping will retain the Potto Parish name. A Parish meeting would be a disaster.
Potto Parish Council is a small parish council and others surrounding us are monitored by Parish Meetings, Seamer, Whorlton & Crathorne. We feel that a Parish Meeting would be better suited to meet the needs of our community..
If I understand it properly a group council keeps the name of Potto parish, gets rid of the terrible people on Potto council and if we group with Hutton Rudby we get the benefits of a much bigger council. Win Win Win
Lets keep Potto CP
My experience shows a grouped council can work well.
There is a baseline cost and workload of running any small council properly and this makes tiny councils unviable. Grouping with a bigger and better council next door is the best value for money option which will also regain the democratic process.
The council does an excellent job for Potto [redacted] Expecially good work on rights of way, entertainment and the parish hall.
The parish council works very well for Potto, all members are approachable and i feel they work for the best outcome for the village. The village is well informed about the affairs being dealt with. I most certainty would like Potto parish council to stay as it is.
[redacted] A grouped council means the Potto council records will be still be needed and must be kept safe.
I have read into this and think that group council with Hutton Rudby is best. We get a decent and bigger council without the [redacted] on Potto council.
Hutton Rudby Council has some neighbouringParish Councils in its group. Potto should join them.
I am no expert, but having read the guidance on your website, a grouped council seems easily the best choice
I am concerned there is bias within the Parish Council resulting in the Parish Council not truly representing the views of local residents.
I cannot understand why a Parish meeting is even on the option list. It's ridiculous.

Please tell us why you chose this option?

It's the option recommended by those currently elected and most familiar with the challenges of the council. It should reduce overall costs and administration. Hopefully it will end the continual personal bickering and addition audit costs [redacted]
To create a simpler arrangement but retain the involvement of local interested residents.
Too much time spent dealing with complaints and not dealing with community issues
to retain the parish of Potto
The audit fees are very high because Porto council is so badly run. I read a news article where is said POTTO was the worst litttle council in England. Shocking !
Simpler management of matters that effect residents
We need to get rid of the [redacted] people in Potto council and group with Hutton parish council. Whorlton council has infighting so would not be a good option.
It is important that Potto can have an effective method to discuss and action parish affairs, without the additional beurocracy requirements of a parish council.
Hopefully changes enough for ongoing disputes to stop Do not think merging is a good thing
In support of our current Council
parish council has been run ineffectively for years with a 'old boys' network. If ran to proper guidelines, as like swainby or hutton rudby, it could be effective.
in my experience this is the best option
To let the villagers have more of a say and to save some money

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

No. [redacted]
As previously stated, I personally want to keep a Parish council in Potto.
Your letter was the first time we heard of the proposed changes and didn't know there was an issue.
Only that those on the Parish Council do a fantastic job for the Parish and residents of Potto and I hope they continue to do so whatever the outcome
There does seem to be a lot of money and time being wasted in the various reviews of our parish council
We are very grateful to the present Parish Council for their service to date. They have always served the Residents well and I especially praise their perseverance in coping with particular incessant and, I believe, totally unwarranted complaints which resulted in excessive Auditors fees. The formation of a Parish Meeting forum will prevent such costs being sustained in the future by the Residents of Potto.
[redacted]
I think if there had been fair elections in Potto, the ruling gang would have been banished and the Parish Council could have been run properly [redacted]. This CGR could have been avoided then.
Would there be an open forum to discuss the community governance review.
I consider that the most appropriate parish with which to merge is Hutton Rudby. I have followed this PC over a number of years and they seem most capable and organised as compared with Whorlton PC.
We must get rid of the current chair and clerk at all costs The council is not being run correctly at the expense of the parishioners.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

As a retired [redacted] it is clear to me that Potto Council has failed as a result of the abysmal way it has been managed and led,
I don't care what else you do, but get rid of these councillors. There hasn't been an election ballot for parish councillors for decades. This can't be right. This CGR is the nearest option we have to get rid of the [redacted] on Potto council.
They spent £67.89 on Christmas Cards last year [redacted]
[redacted]
According to the latest accounts, they had income of £8,500 and only spent £17 on some salt scoops for the parish – the rest was wasted on overheads. OBSCENE
No good reason to change the current system
I am grateful to North Yorks Council for identifying the huge problems we have experienced in Potto under such a dysfunctional parish council. We look forward to this review being implemented.
Things must change here
Why did it take them a decade to put the white flag up?
No
Anything but a parish meeting
No
no
No
N/a

Appendix 13 – Draft Recommendations for Constable Burton and Finghall

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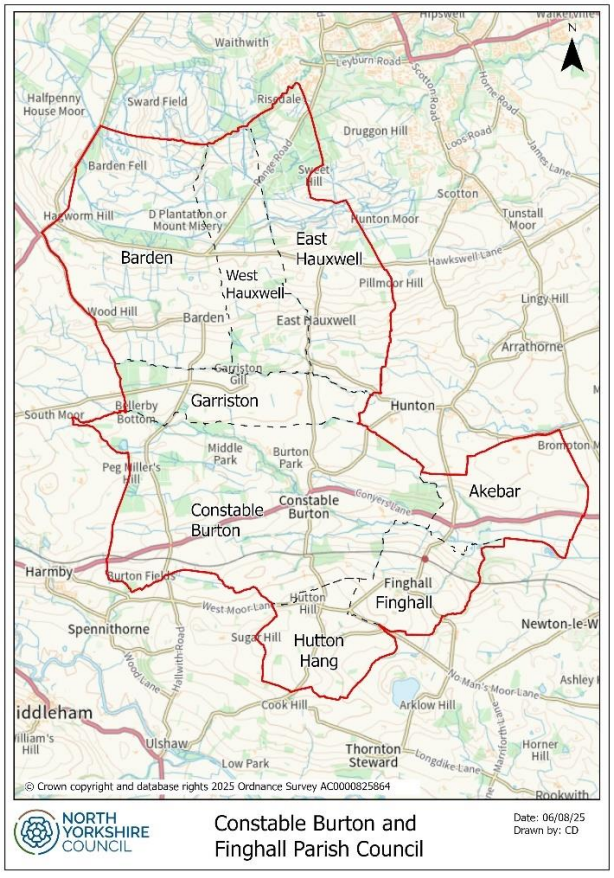
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council is situated within the Scotton & Lower Wensleydale division and is part of the Richmond and Northallerton parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council is formed by a group of civil parishes as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Constable Burton civil parish	139	2
East Hauxwell civil parish	35	1
West Hauxwell civil parish	7	
Hutton Hang civil parish	18	2
Finghall civil parish	149	
Akebar civil parish	15	
Garriston civil parish	27	1
Barden civil parish	29	
TOTALS	**419**	**6**



History of the area

1.3 Under the Local Government Act, each parish within a group of parishes forming a parish council must return at least one councillor, and the same person cannot be elected to more than one seat in a parish council.

1.4 It has been identified that Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council does not currently meet the above requirements as:

- East Hauxwell and West Hauxwell collectively return a single councillor,
- Hutton Hang, Finghall, and Akebar collectively return 2 councillors
- Garriston and Barden collectively return a single councillor

1.5 The legal order putting in place the current arrangements for the parish council is decades old and has not been located and therefore it was agreed that a review of the governance arrangements was needed to ensure the governance arrangements were fit for purpose and compliant in future.

1.6 Prior to the review commencing, contact was made with the parish council and the relevant division member. The identified issue and potential solutions were explored. The parish council provided a preferred solution, which formed the basis of the first stage of consultation for this review.

1.7 The preferred potential solution involved merging some of the existing parishes within the group, to form new parish areas deemed appropriate for the area, with adjustments to the councillor numbers, as follows:

Proposed Civil Parishes within Parish Council	**Electorate**	**Councillors**
Constable Burton civil parish	139	2
New civil parish area (taking in East Hauxwell civil parish, West Hauxwell civil parish, Barden civil parish, and Garriston civil parish)	98	2
New civil parish area (taking in Finghall civil parish, Akebar civil parish and Hutton Hang civil parish)	182	2
TOTALS	**419**	**6**

1.8 The proposal takes existing civil parishes and their locality into consideration, maintains a level of community identity within the group, and maintains the existing council size of 6 though adjusts the councillor representation across the council and satisfies the requirement that each parish within a group of parishes forming council is represented by at least one councillor:

- Constable Burton civil parish remains unchanged, to retain 2 councillors.
- 4 civil parishes would merge (East Hauxwell, West Hauxwell, Barden, and Garriston) to form a new single civil parish, represented by 2 councillors
- 3 civil parishes would merge (Finghall, Akebar, and Hutton Hang) to form a new single civil parish, represented by 2 councillors
- the total council size would remain at 6

Five year electorate forecast

1.9 The 2030 electorate forecast for all parishes in the group is expected to be 442 (calculated using 2024 electorate) from 419, which is not a large increase, as the area is very rural.

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Constable Burton and Finghall

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	248
Consultation responses received	12
Response rate	4.8 %

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to all households within the Constable Burton and Finghall parish council area, being those directly affected by this review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 13A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 13B.

2.4 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review.

2.5 Of the 12 respondents, 11 (91.7%) reported that they are residents of the parish council area, and one was a response from the Parish Council.

2.6 Most respondents were in favour of the proposed solution:

Option	Number	Percentage
I support the potential solution	10	83.3 %
I do not support the potential solution	2	16.7 %
Total	12	100 %

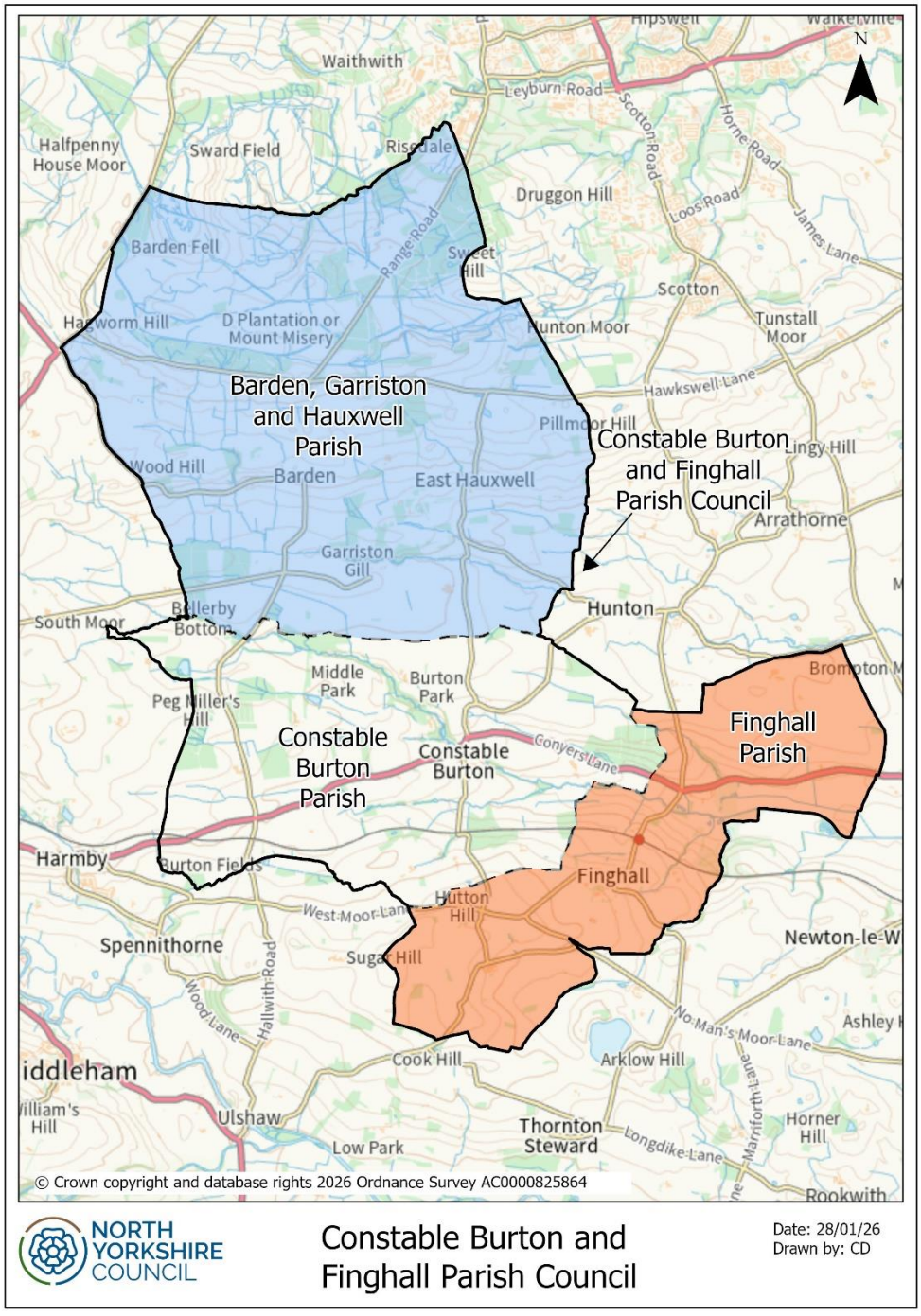
2.7 Reasons given in support all include reference to the proposal being a ‘sensible’ solution to the identified problem in respect of the current arrangements.

2.8 Reasons given against the proposal were relating to not wanting any changes to the parish or council arrangements, appearing not to recognise the legal requirement that a single councillor cannot represent more than 1 parish area. This is not a viable option. Alternative potential arrangements were not provided.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (83.3 %) indicated support for the proposal, it is therefore proposed to proceed with that proposal, merging some civil parishes within the existing group to rectify the governance issues identified.

3.2 A map of the proposals is shown below:



3.3 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – maintain Constable Burton civil parish as it is now

Recommendation 2 – amalgamate the 4 current civil parishes of East Hauxwell, West Hauxwell, Barden, and Garriston, to form a new civil parish called Barden, Garriston and Hauxwell (indicated in blue on the map above)

Recommendation 3 – merge the 3 civil parishes of Finghall, Akebar, and Hutton Hang to form a new civil parish called Finghall (indicated in orange on the map above)

Recommendation 4 – group those 3 civil parishes (of Constable Burton, the proposed Barden, Garriston and Hauxwell and proposed Finghall) to form a group called Constable Burton and Finghall

Recommendation 5 – that group have a council, to be called Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council (as per the current name)

Recommendation 6 – that council to have a total council size of 6 (as current) with representation as follows:

Proposed Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electorate	Councillors
Constable Burton civil parish	139	2
Barden, Garriston and Hauxwell civil parish (taking in East Hauxwell civil parish, West Hauxwell civil parish, Barden civil parish, and Garriston civil parish)	98	2
Finghall civil parish (taking in Finghall civil parish, Akebar civil parish and Hutton Hang civil parish)	182	2
TOTALS	**419**	**6**

Recommendation 7 – Changes to take affect administratively on 01 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements be at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.4 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 13A – Consultation survey
Annex 13B – Summary of consultation responses

Community Governance Review for Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council

Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council does not currently meet the requirements of parish governance arrangements as required under the Local Government Act. Each parish within a group forming a council must return at least one councillor and they cannot represent more than one parish.

The current arrangements are as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Constable Burton civil parish	139	2
East Hauxwell civil parish	35	1
West Hauxwell civil parish	7	
Hutton Hang civil parish	18	2
Finghall civil parish	149	
Akebar civil parish	15	
Garriston civil parish	27	1
Barden civil parish	29	
TOTALS	**419**	**6**



This community governance review seeks to rectify the identified anomaly of having councillors representing multiple civil parishes within the group, and there are a range of options which could resolve this such as:

1. retaining each civil parish within the group and ensuring at least one councillor represents each, or

2. merging some or all civil parishes to create a different arrangement for councillor representation.

The parish council have suggested a potential solution, which will form the basis of this consultation, as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Constable Burton civil parish	139	2
New civil parish area (taking in East Hauxwell civil parish, West Hauxwell civil parish, Barden civil parish, and Garriston civil parish)	98	2
New civil parish area (taking in Finghall civil parish, Akebar civil parish and Hutton Hang civil parish)	182	2
TOTALS	**419**	**6**

The proposal takes existing civil parishes and their locality into consideration, maintaining a level of community identity with communities grouped within the existing parish council area. It evens out the councillor representation across the council area to what previously existed and satisfies the requirement that each parish within a group of parishes forming council is represented by at least one councillor.

1. Constable Burton civil parish remains unchanged, to retain two councillors

2. Four civil parishes would merge (East Hauxwell, West Hauxwell, Barden and Garriston) to form a new single civil parish, represented by two councillors

3. Three civil parishes would merge (Finghall, Akebar and Hutton Hang) to form a new single civil parish, represented by two councillors

4. The total council size remains as six.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council area
- ☐ I work in Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council area
- ☐ I own a business in Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council?
Retain the civil parish of Constable Burton with two councillors;
Merge the four civil parishes of East Hauxwell, West Hauxwell, Barden and Garriston to form a new single civil parish represented by two councillors;
Merge the three civil parishes of Finghall, Akebar and Hutton Hang to form a new single civil parish represented by two councillors, with all three civil parishes forming a grouped parish council retaining a council size of six councillors.

- ◯ I support the potential solution
- ◯ I do not support the potential solution
- ◯ I am unsure

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

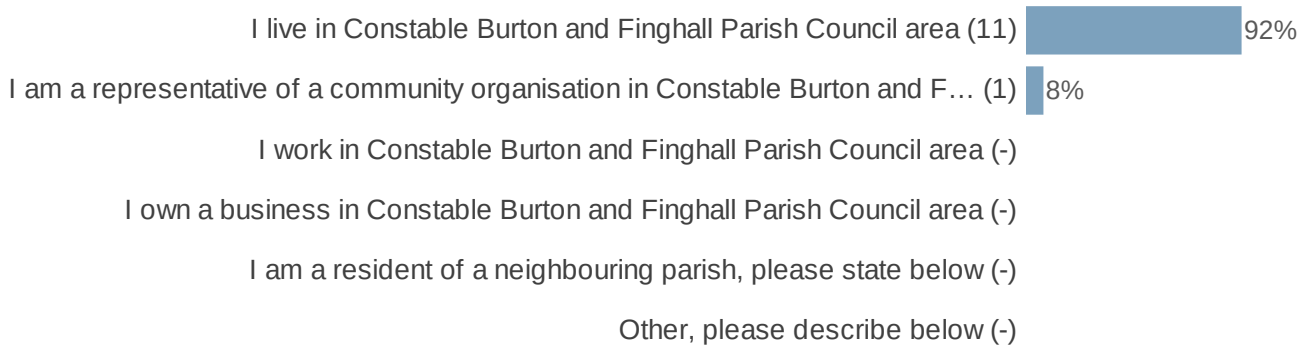
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Constable Burton and Finghall

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 12 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 12 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

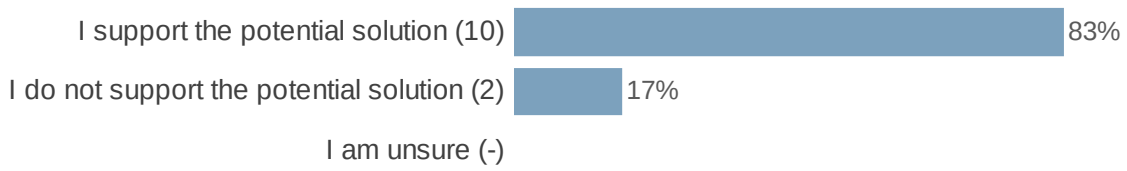
Please tick which best describes you:



Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

DL85	DL85	Dl8	DL8
DL8	DL8	DL8	DL8
DL8	DL8	Dl85	DL10

What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council?
Retain the civil parish of Constable Burton with two councillors;
Merge the four civil parishes of East Hauxwell, West Hauxwell, Barden and Garriston to form a new single civil parish represented by two councillors;
Merge the three civil parishes of Finghall, Akebar and Hutton Hang to form a new single civil parish represented by two councillors, with all three civil parishes forming a grouped parish council retaining a council size of six councillors.



Please give reasons for your response:

The soloution highlighted would appear to be the best in the circumstances to comply with the requirements.
This seems to provide fair representation for each of the villages within the civic parishes.
So what is changing it will still be the same? Its change for changing sake. There has always been 2 Councillors for Constable Burton two for Finghall l for Hauxwell l for Barden which totals six supporting this is supporting something that has been in situ forever and worked perfectly well. So what needs merging? It is not a solution is it? As Akebar has hardly any properties same for Hutton Hang is this a way of extending a civil parish.
TO allow the Parish Council to operate under the given regulations.
We do not see any reason to change existing arrangements in the parish which have worked well and we do not recognise sufficient case for change simply because the current crop of councillors haven't increased their number sufficiently.
The areas involved each have their own character and should be properly represented. The challenges faced in Garriston will be different to those in Finghall or Akebar. The number of councillors proposed should enhance meaningful communication in the areas grouped in the proposal.
Common sense, the parishes are so small they lack people who may be interested in representing their parish. By grouping them together this solve the problem.
The merger of the four civil parishes to form a new single civil parish seems sensible given the size of those parishes.
This seems a sensible solution and councillor feel it would work well. KInd regards, Clerk to Constable Burton & Finghall PC

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

No
There does not seem to be any viable reason to make these changes in this immediate area and cost the Council money in employing people to work on this project.
We were disappointed that the letter to residents didn't explain the situation and potential solution. Very clear to understand once on the website but councillors felt that many wouldn't have understood and so wouldn't have gone onto the website.

Appendix 14 – Draft Recommendations for Hudswell and District Parish Council

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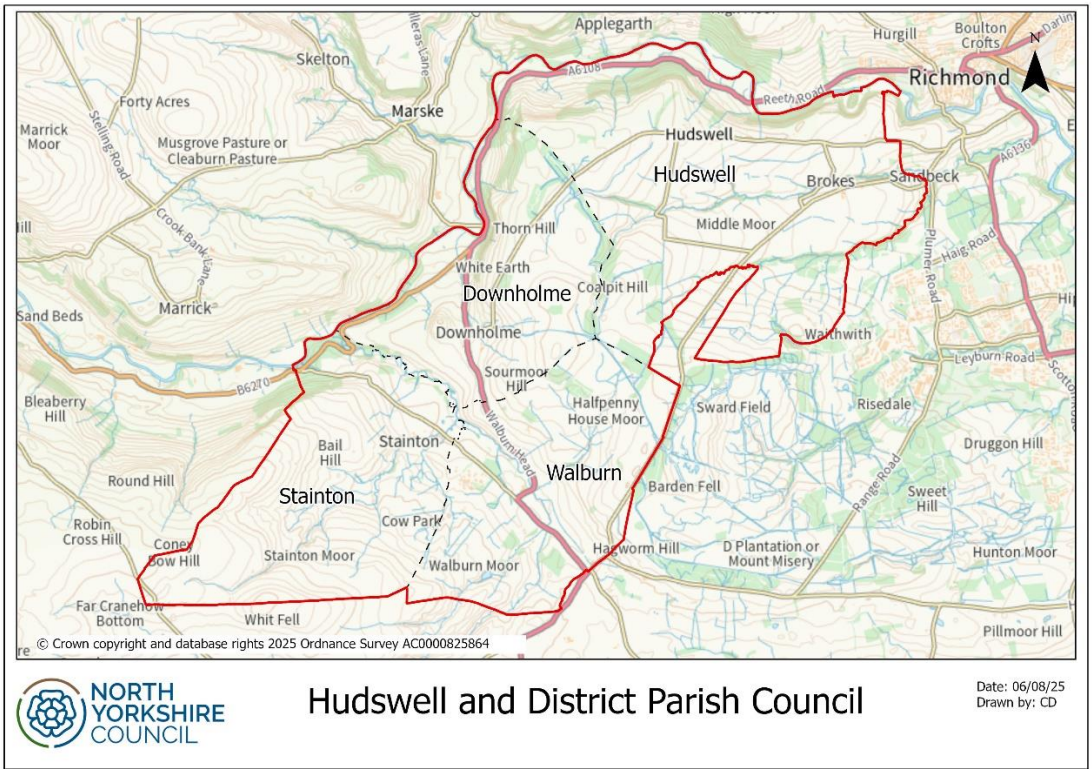
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Hudswell and District Parish Council is situated within the Upper Dales division and is part of the Richmond and Northallerton parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Hudswell and District Parish Council is formed by a group of civil parishes as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Hudswell civil parish	260	5
Stainton civil parish	12	1
Walburn civil parish	4	
Downholme civil parish	34	
TOTALS	**310**	**6**



History of the area

1.3 Under the Local Government Act, each parish within a group of parishes forming a parish council must return at least one councillor, and the same person cannot be elected to more than one seat in a parish council.

1.4 It has been identified that Hudswell and District Parish Council does not currently meet the above requirements as Stainton, Walburn, and Downholme civil parishes collectively return a single councillor.

1.5 The legal order cited as 'Hudswell and District Parish Council Order 2013' putting in place the current arrangements for the parish council is dated 2013 and was put in place by the former Richmondshire District Council. It has therefore been agreed that a review of the governance arrangements was needed to ensure the governance arrangements were fit for purpose and compliant in future.

1.6 Prior to the review commencing, contact was made with the parish council and the relevant division member and the identified issue and potential solutions were explored. The parish council provided a preferred solution, which formed the basis of the first stage of consultation for this review.

1.7 The preferred potential solution involved merging all existing parishes within the group, to form a new single civil parish, with no need for a grouping arrangement, as follows:

Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Hudswell and District civil parish	310	6
TOTALS	**310**	**6**

1.8 The parish council felt that the whole parish council area would be better served by councillors representing the council area equally and maintains the council size of 6. The proposal recognises that there are low elector numbers in 3 of the existing civil parishes (Stainton, Walburn, and Downholme), collectively only with 50 electors.

Five year electorate forecast

1.9 The 2030 electorate forecast for all parishes in the group is expected to be 321 (calculated using 2024 electorate) from 310, which is not a large increase, as the area is very rural.

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Hudswell and District Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	201
Consultation responses received	5
Response rate	2.5 %

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to all households in the Hudswell and District Parish Council area, being those directly affected by this review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 14A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 14B.

2.4 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review.

2.5 Of the 5 respondents, 4 reported that they are residents of the parish council area, and one response was from the Parish Council.

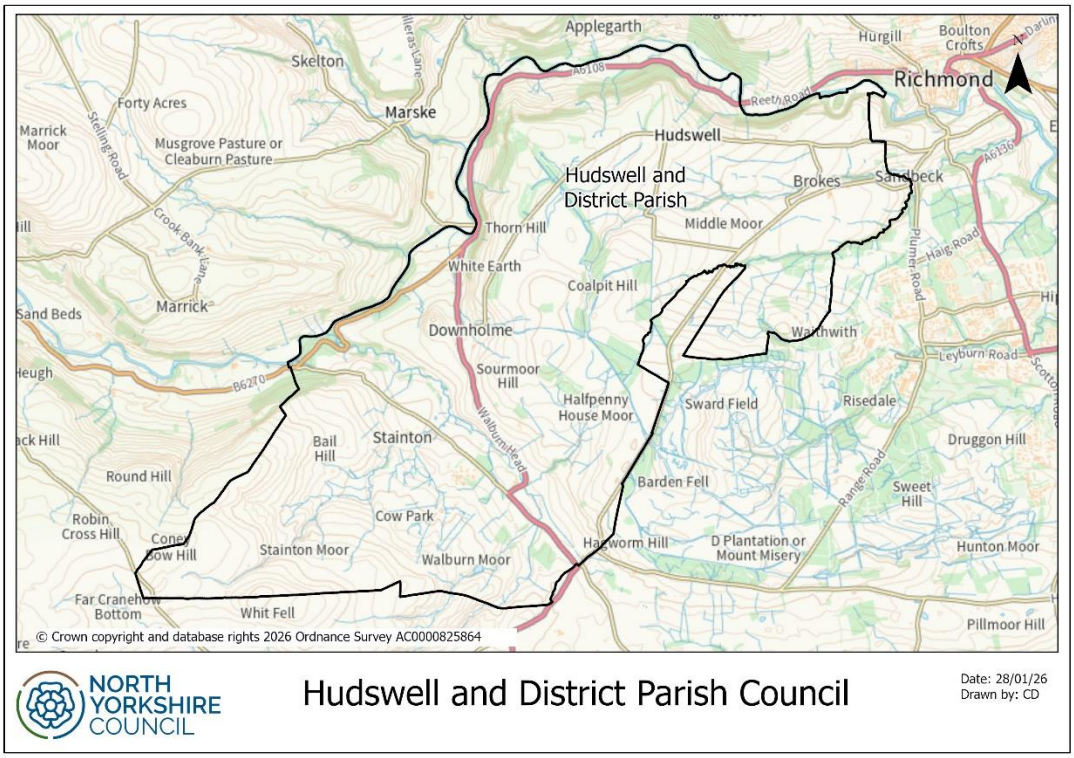
2.6 100% of respondents were in favour of the proposed solution.

2.7 Reasons given in support all include reference to the proposal being a ‘practical’ solution to the identified problem in respect of the current arrangements.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 As all responses indicated support for the proposal set out in stage 1 consultation, it is proposed to proceed with the option consulted on to merge all 4 civil parishes within the existing council area to form a single civil parish.

3.2 A map of the proposal is shown below:



3.3 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – to amalgamate the civil parishes of Hudswell, Stainton, Walburn and Downholme to create a single civil parish (as shown in the map above)

Recommendation 2 – that new single parish be called Hudswell and District

Recommendation 3 – that new single civil parish to have a council named Hudswell and District Parish Council (as current)

Recommendation 4 – that council to have a council size of 6 (as current)

Recommendation 5 – That the new arrangements take affect administratively on 01 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.4 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

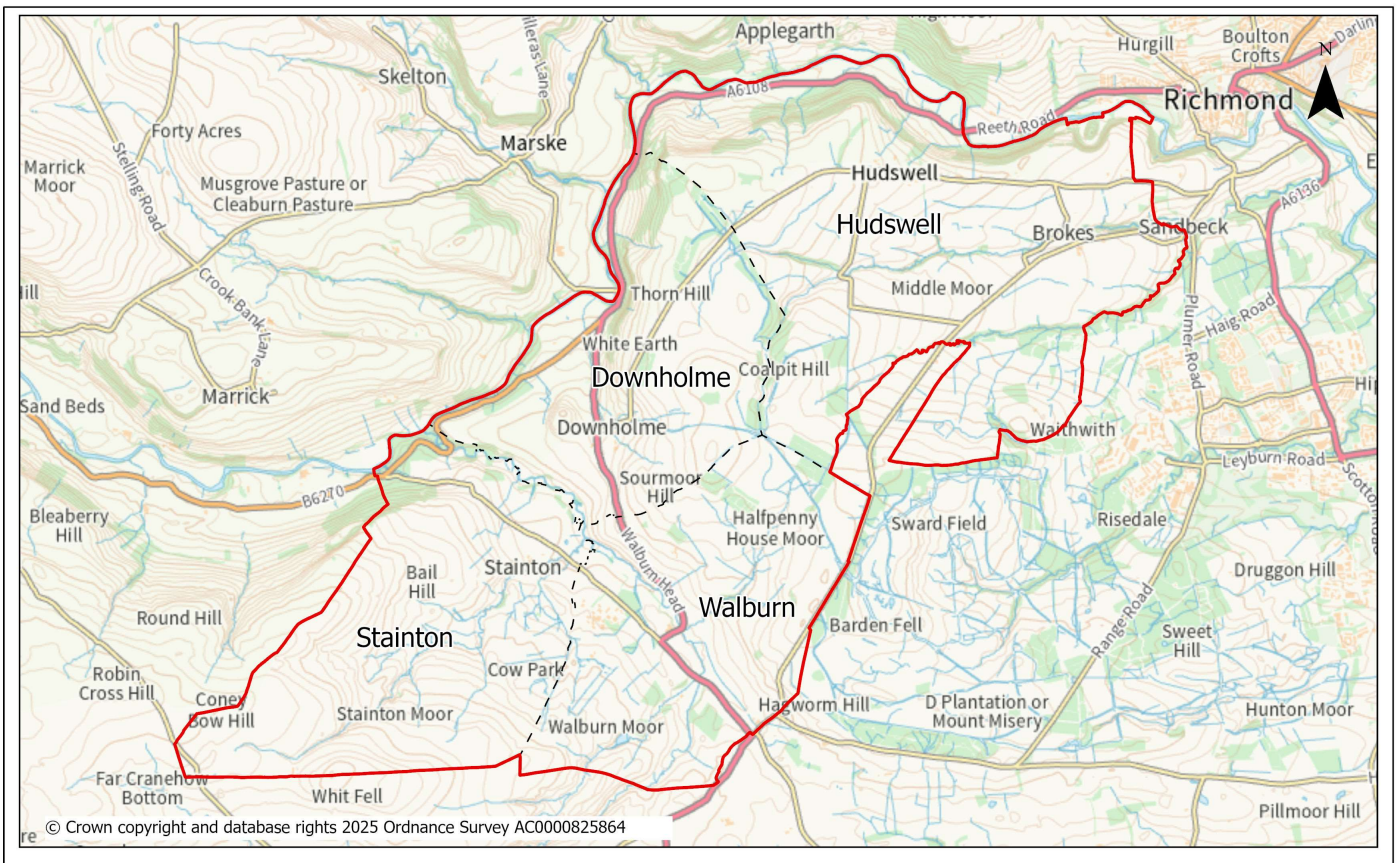
Annex 14A – Consultation survey
Annex 14B – Summary of consultation responses

Community Governance Review for Hudswell and District Parish Council

Hudswell and District Parish Council does not currently meet the requirements of parish governance arrangements as required under the Local Government Act. Each parish within a group forming a council must return at least one councillor and they cannot represent more than one parish.

The current arrangements are as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Hudswell civil parish	260	5
Stainton civil parish	12	1
Walburn civil parish	4	
Downholme civil parish	34	
Totals	310	6



This community governance review seeks to rectify the identified anomaly of having a single councillor representing multiple civil parishes within the group, and there are a range of options which could resolve this such as:

1. retaining each civil parish within the group and ensuring at least one councillor represents each, or
2. merging some or all civil parishes to create a different arrangement for councillor representation.

The parish council has suggested a potential solution, which will form the basis of this consultation, as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Hudswell and District civil parish	310	6
Totals	310	6

This proposal sees all four civil parishes within the grouped parish council arrangement merged to form a single civil parish, with no need for a grouping arrangement. It recognises that there are low elector numbers in three of the existing civil parishes (Stainton, Walburn and Downholme), collectively only with 50 electors.

It is felt that the whole parish council area would be better served by councillors representing the council area equally and maintains the council size of six.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

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All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Hudswell and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I work in Hudswell and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I own a business in Hudswell and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Hudswell and District Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Hudswell and District Parish Council?
Merge the four civil parishes of Hudswell, Stainton, Walburn and Downholme to create a single parish, which has a council represented by six councillors, maintaining the current council size.

- ◯ I support the potential solution
- ◯ I do not support the potential solution
- ◯ I am unsure

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

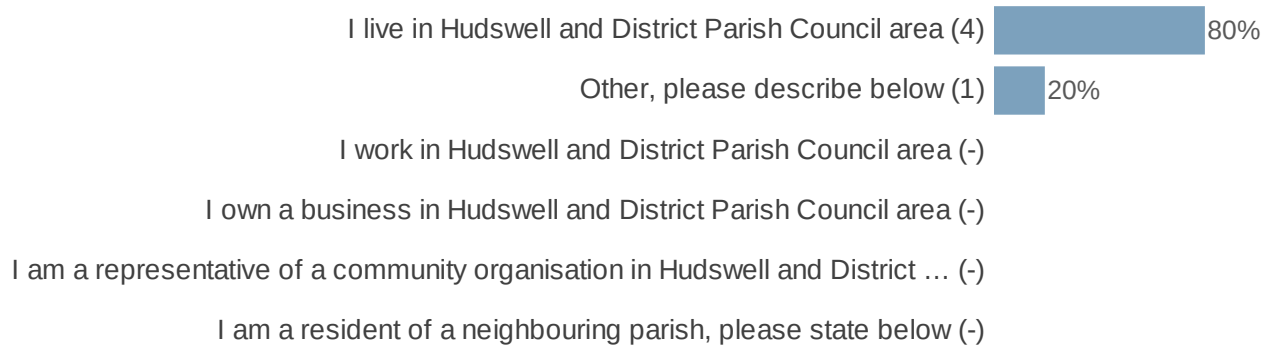
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Hudswell

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 5 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 5 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:



On behalf of Hudswell & District Parish Council

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

DL11
DL11
DL11
DL11
DL11

What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Hudswell and District Parish Council?
Merge the four civil parishes of Hudswell, Stainton, Walburn and Downholme to create a single parish, which has a council represented by six councillors, maintaining the current council size.



Please give reasons for your response:

It brings the Parish Council in line with regulations and allows it to continue it work.
One elected councillor from each representative parish outside of Hudswell does not seem a practical solution.
I am happy to agree with the parish council's recommendation.
The parish council are in support of this, it was their decision after all.
Given the size of Stainton, Walburn and Downholme collectively and individually, in terms of numbers of electors, and based on my experience of serving on a parish council, it is not easy to get a willing representative from such small community areas.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

No.

Appendix 15 – Draft Recommendations for Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council

Contents

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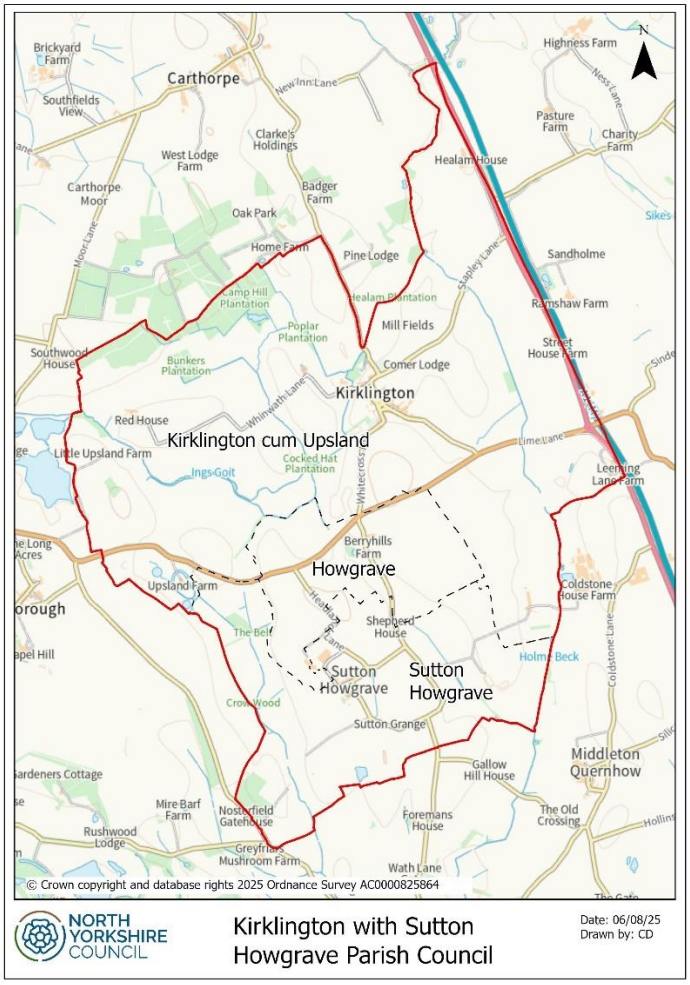
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council is situated within the Bedale division and is part of the Thirsk and Malton parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council is formed by a group of civil parishes as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Kirklington-cum-Upsland civil parish	182	3
Sutton with Howgrave civil parish	70	2
Howgrave civil parish	2	
TOTALS	**254**	**5**



History of the area

1.3 Under the Local Government Act, each parish within a group of parishes forming a parish council must return at least one councillor, and the same person cannot be elected to more than one seat in a parish council.

1.4 It has been identified that Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council does not currently meet the above requirements as Sutton with Howgrave and Howgrave civil parishes (being 2 separate civil parishes) collectively return two councillors representing both areas jointly. This would only be possible if Sutton with Howgrave and Howgrave civil parishes were joined as a single civil parish. It may be that people in the area believe this already to be the case, which they are not.

1.5 The legal order putting in place the current arrangements for the parish council is decades old and has not been located and therefore it was agreed that a review of the governance arrangements was needed to ensure the governance arrangements were fit for purpose and compliant in future.

1.6 Prior to the review commencing, contact was made with the parish council and the relevant division member and the identified issue and potential solutions were explored. The parish council provided a preferred solution, which formed the basis of the first stage of consultation for this review.

1.7 The preferred potential solution involved merging all existing parishes within the group, to form a new single civil parish, with no need for a grouping arrangement, as follows:

Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council	**Electors (2025)**	**Councillors**
Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave civil parish	254	5
TOTALS	**254**	**5**

1.8 The parish council felt that the whole parish council area would be better served by councillors representing the council area equally and maintains the council size of 5. The proposal recognises that there are only 2 electors in Howgrave parish and 70 in Sutton Howgrave.

Five year electorate forecast

1.9 The 2030 electorate forecast for all parishes in the group is expected to be 266 (calculated using 2024 electorate) from 254, which is not a large increase, as the area is very rural.

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	141
Consultation responses received	6
Response rate	4.3 %

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to all households in the Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council area, being those directly affected by this review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 15A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 15B.

2.4 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review.

2.5 Of the 6 respondents, 4 reported that they lived in the Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council area. One respondent was the Division Member for Bedale, and another response was on behalf of the Parish Council.

2.6 The majority of respondents supported the proposal as detailed in the table below:

Option	Number	Percentage
I support the potential solution	3	50 %
I do not support the potential solution	2	33.3 %
I am unsure	1	17.7 %
Total	6	100 %

2.7 Both the parish council and the division member support the proposal, along with 1 resident. 2 residents did not support and 1 who was unsure felt they didn't have sufficient information to make a decision.

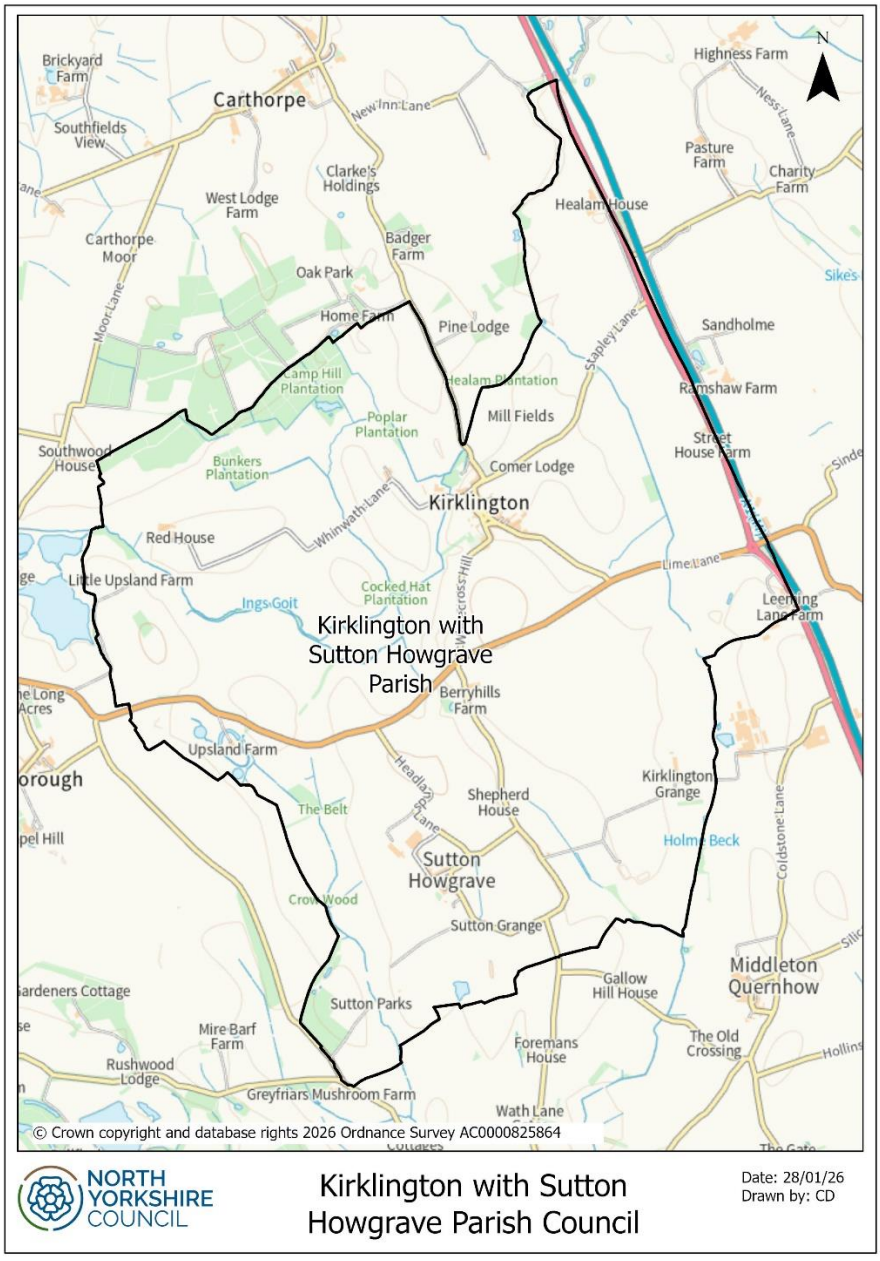
2.8 Reasons given in support of the proposal include reference to it 'simplifying' and 'rationalising' the current arrangements, and acknowledgement in the difficulties in finding willing individuals to stand in all areas. Cllr David Webster (Bedale division) supports the potential solution as it would "rationalise the electoral arrangements for the villages".

2.9 Reasons given against the proposal were in relation to wanting to retain separate representation for Sutton Howgrave and Kirklington as 2 individual villages which are 1 mile apart, but neither referred to a solution for the specific identified issue within Howgrave and Sutton Howgrave. which may have helped show support for an alternative arrangement.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (50%) indicated support for the proposal set out in consultation stage 1, and it is therefore proposed to proceed with the option consulted on and merge the 3 civil parishes within the existing council to form a single civil parish for the council area.

3.2 A map of the proposal is shown below:



3.3 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – amalgamation of the civil parishes of Kirklington-cum-Upsland, Sutton with Howgrave, and Howgrave to create a single civil parish

Recommendation 2 - that new single civil parish be called Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave (to match the name of the council which already covers that collective area)

Recommendation 3 - that new single civil parish to have a council named Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave parish council

Recommendation 4 - that council to have a council size of 5 (as current)

Recommendation 5 – The changes to take effect administratively on 01 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.4 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 15A – Consultation survey
Annex 15B – Summary of consultation responses

Community Governance Review for Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council

Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council does not currently meet the requirements of parish governance arrangements as required under the Local Government Act. Each parish within a group forming a council must return at least one councillor and they cannot represent more than one parish.

The current arrangements are as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Kirklington-cum-Upsland civil parish	182	3
Sutton with Howgrave civil parish	70	2
Howgrave civil parish	2	
TOTALS	**254**	**5**



This community governance review seeks to rectify the identified anomaly of having councillors representing multiple civil parishes within the group, and there are a range of options which could resolve this such as:

1. retaining each civil parish within the group and ensuring at least one councillor represents each, or
2. merging some or all civil parishes to create a different arrangement for councillor representation.

The parish council has suggested a potential solution, which will form the basis of this consultation, as follows:

Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave civil parish	254	5
TOTALS	**254**	**5**

A potential option to resolve this issue would be to merge all three civil parishes within the grouped parish council to create a single parish represented by five councillors, removing the grouped council arrangement, maintaining the current council size.

This proposal recognises that there are low elector numbers particularly in Howgrave civil parish. It is felt that the whole parish council area would be better served by councillors representing the council area equally.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

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Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council area
- ☐ I work in Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council area
- ☐ I own a business in Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council?
Merge the three civil parishes of Kirklington-cum-Upsland, Sutton with Howgrave and Howgrave to create a single civil parish, which has a council represented by five councillors, maintaining the current council size.

- I support the potential solution
- I do not support the potential solution
- I am unsure

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

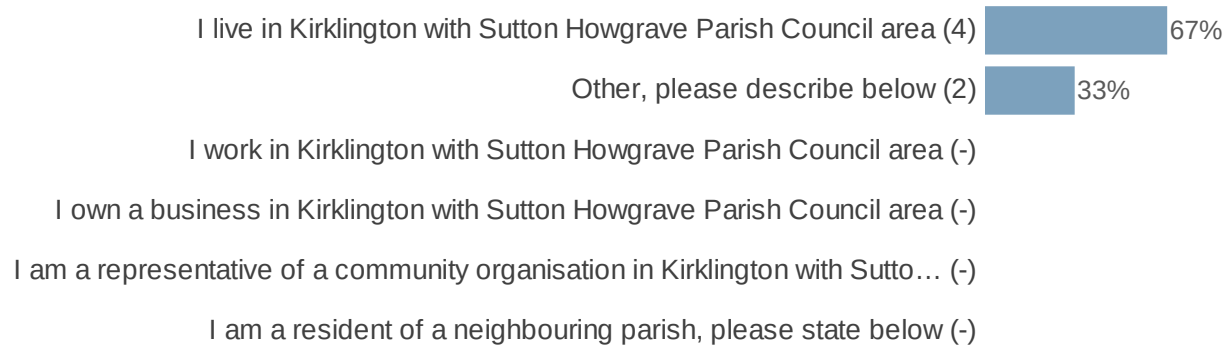
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2025-26 CGR - Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 6 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 6 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

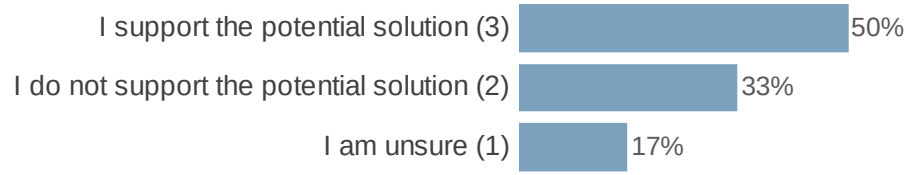


I am the Division member for Bedale Division of North Yorkshire Council
Clerk for this current parish council

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

DL8	DL8
DL*	DL8
Dl8	DL8

What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Kirklington with Sutton Howgrave Parish Council?
Merge the three civil parishes of Kirklington-cum-Upsland, Sutton with Howgrave and Howgrave to create a single civil parish, which has a council represented by five councillors, maintaining the current council size.



Please give reasons for your response:

Sutton Howgrave and Kirklington are two separate villages, almost a mile apart, and therefore should be represented in proportion to their populations.
Don't have enough information to reach a considered decision
This simplifies the current arrangement. There is no sense in a councillor to represent 2 electors.
Sutton Howgrave should be represented by its own Councillors
This would rationalise the electoral arrangements for the villages
It's fine as it is and difficult to get people to volunteer for these positions.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

It is a good proposal.
No

Appendix 16 – Draft Recommendations for Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council

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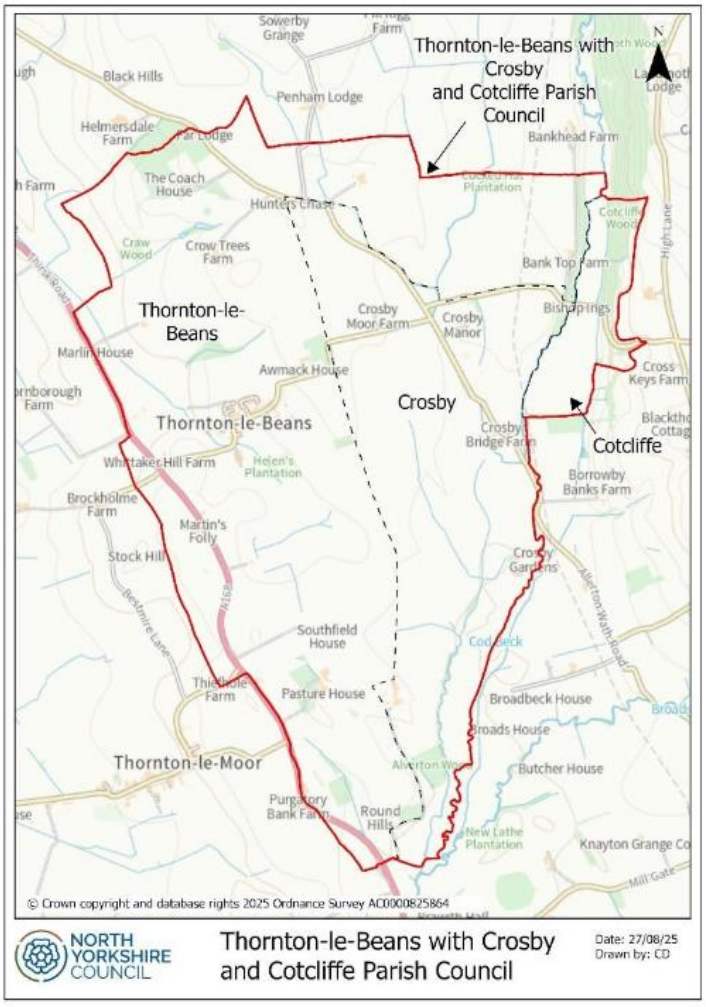
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Thornton-le-Beans parish council is situated within the Hillside & Raskelf division and is part of the Thirsk and Malton parliamentary constituency.

1.2 Thornton-le-Beans parish council if formed by a group of civil parishes as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Thornton-le-Beans civil parish	202	4
Crosby civil parish	9	1
Cotcliffe civil parish	21	
TOTALS	**232**	**5**



History of the area

1.3 Under the Local Government Act, each parish within a group of parishes forming a parish council must return at least one councillor, and the same person cannot be elected to more than one seat in a parish council.

1.4 The legal order dated 1973 (arranged by former North Riding of Yorkshire Council) putting the current arrangements in place states that the 3 parishes of Crosby, Cotcliffe and Thornton-le-Beans shall from a group of parishes with a council, that group to be called Thornton-le-Beans, with one councillor representing Crosby and Cotcliffe and 4 representing Thornton-le-Beans.

1.5 It has been identified that Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council does not currently meet the above requirements as Crosby civil parish and Cotcliffe civil parishes collectively return a single, even though they are 2 separate civil parishes. Therefore, it was agreed that a review of the governance arrangements was needed to ensure the governance arrangements were fit for purpose and compliant in future.

1.6 Prior to the review commencing, contact was made with the parish council and the relevant division member and the identified issue and potential solutions were explored. The parish council provided a preferred solution, which formed the basis of the first stage of consultation for this review.

1.7 The preferred potential solution involved merging Crosby civil parish with Cotcliffe civil parish to form a single parish, which is grouped with Thornton-le-Beans to create a council deemed appropriate for the area, with adjustments to the councillor numbers, as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Thornton-le-Beans civil parish	202	4
New civil parish area (taking in Crosby civil parish and Cotcliffe civil parish)	30	1
TOTALS	**232**	**5**

1.8 The proposal takes existing civil parishes and their locality into consideration, maintains a level of community identity within the group, and maintains the existing council size of 5.

1.9 There has also been some confusion around the name of the parish council, with

- North Yorkshire Council records indicating the name of the council to be Thornton-le-Beans with Crosby and Cotcliffe
- the legal order 1973 stating the name of the grouped council to be simply ‘Thornton-le-Beans’, and
- the legal order 1973 is cited as ‘Cotcliffe, Crosby and Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council’
- an external website found using ‘Crosby Parish Council’

and the name of the council was included within the consultation to resolve the conflict over the proper name.

Five year electorate forecast

1.10 The 2030 electorate forecast for all parishes in the group is expected to be 242 (calculated using 2024 electorate) from 232, which is not a large increase, as the area is very rural.

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Thornton-le-Beans

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	132
Consultation responses received	22
Response rate	16.6 %

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in all 3 parishes within the parish council area, them being directly affected by this review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 16A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 16B.

2.4 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review.

Governance Arrangements

2.5 Of the 22 respondents, 2 appear to be entries from someone who had difficulties completing it as entries have been left blank and are unusable in these findings. Discounting those 2 entries (20 survey responses to work with) – 18 reported that they lived in the parish council area, one within a neighbouring parish and one representing the parish council. Cllr Alyson Baker (Hillside and Raskelf division) separately advised that she supports the proposal and ‘the parishes of Cotcliffe and Crosby are very small and 1 councillor will be sufficient’.

2.6 100% of the respondents were in favour of the proposed solution regards the governance arrangements with reasons given in support all include reference to the proposal being ‘logical’ and most rational solution to the identified problem in respect of the current arrangements, whilst maintaining how those in the area recognise the communities to be arranged.

Name of the Council

2.7 In respect of the conflicting names of the parish council, the question posed in the survey was to select one of 3 options, and those were as follows:

Option to select for preferred name	Number	Percentage
Thornton-le-Beans with Crosby and Cotcliffe' (as it has become informally known)	12	60 %
'Thornton-le-Beans' (the correct name as per the Order dated 1973)	4	20 %
Some other name	4	20 %
Total	20	100 %

2.8 Of the 4 that provided an alternative name it was to state the commonly known name is in fact 'Thornton-le-Beans with Crosby and Cotcliffe' not Thornton-le-Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe. We accept this this could be a long-standing administrative error with the name of the parish council being unclear in many places. Adding these 4 responses with the 12 in favour of the commonly known name creates a total of 80% in favour of the commonly known name, rather than retaining the name as stated in the 1973 order as simply 'Thornton-le-Beans'.

2.9 Those in favour of retaining a the longer and more commonly used name gave reasons, in that it would retain what the council has been commonly known for over 50 years, and also has the support of the Parish Council:

This Council has been known as "Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Council" for many years. At a Regular Meeting on Monday 24th November, to which all Parish residents were eligible to attend, this subject was discussed and the unanimous decision was that the Council should be called "Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Council" and should be retained.

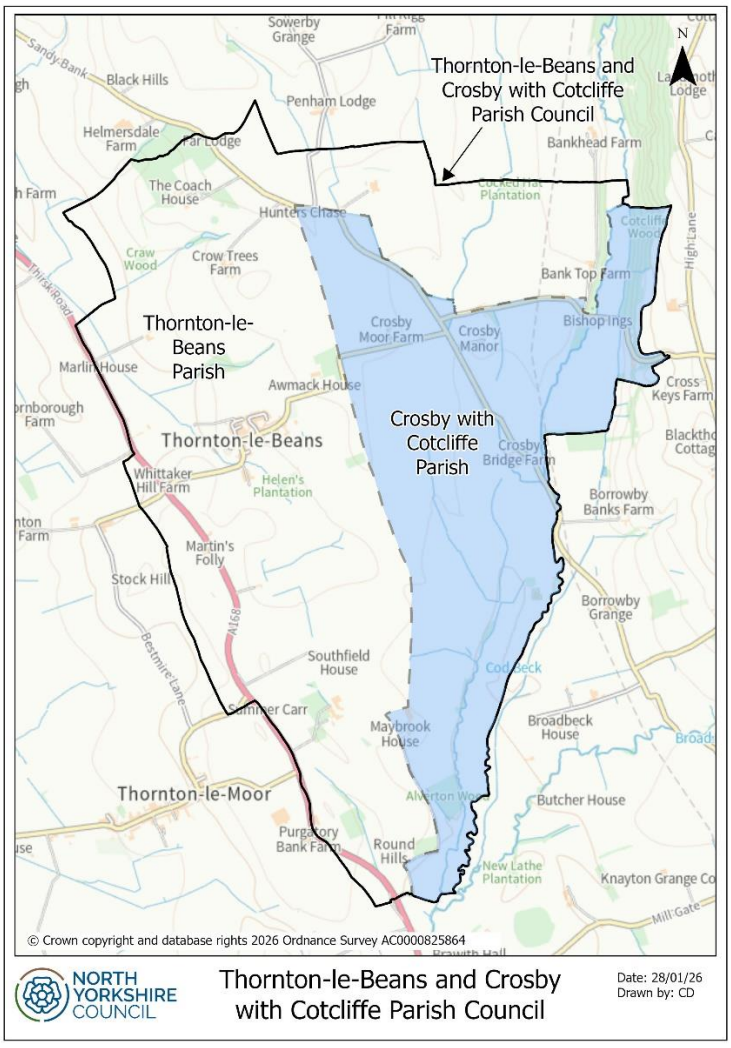
2.10 Of the 4 that preferred to retain the legal order name of 'Thornton-le-Beans' no reasons were given.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 As all responses indicated support for the proposal set out in stage 1 consultation, it is proposed to proceed with the option consulted on to merge Crosby civil parish and Cotcliffe civil parish to create a new single civil parish area, and group that with Thornton-le-Beans to from the parish council (as is currently), to rectify the issue identified in section 1 above.

3.2 Whilst there has been some confusion around the exact name of the parish council, there is overwhelming support for the longer commonly known name over the shorter name stated in the legal order, and therefore it is proposed to formally adopt the name of 'Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Parish Council'.

3.3 A map of the recommended parish council is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – to amalgamate the civil parishes of Crosby and Cotcliffe to create a single civil parish named Crosby with Cotcliffe (indicated shaded blue in the map above)

Recommendation 2 – group the new Crosby with Cotcliffe civil parish with Thornton-le-Beans civil parish, and that group be called 'Thornton-le-Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe'

Recommendation 3 – that group to have a council called Thornton-le-Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Parish Council.

Recommendation 4 – That council to have a size of 5 (as it does currently), with representation as follows:

Thornton-le-Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Parish Council	**Electors (2025)**	**Councillors**
Thornton-le-Beans civil parish	202	4
Crosby with Cotcliffe civil parish (taking in Crosby civil parish and Cotcliffe civil parish)	30	1
TOTALS	**232**	**5**

Recommendation 5 – Changes to take effect administratively on 01 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements be at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 16A – Consultation survey
Annex 16B – Summary of consultation responses

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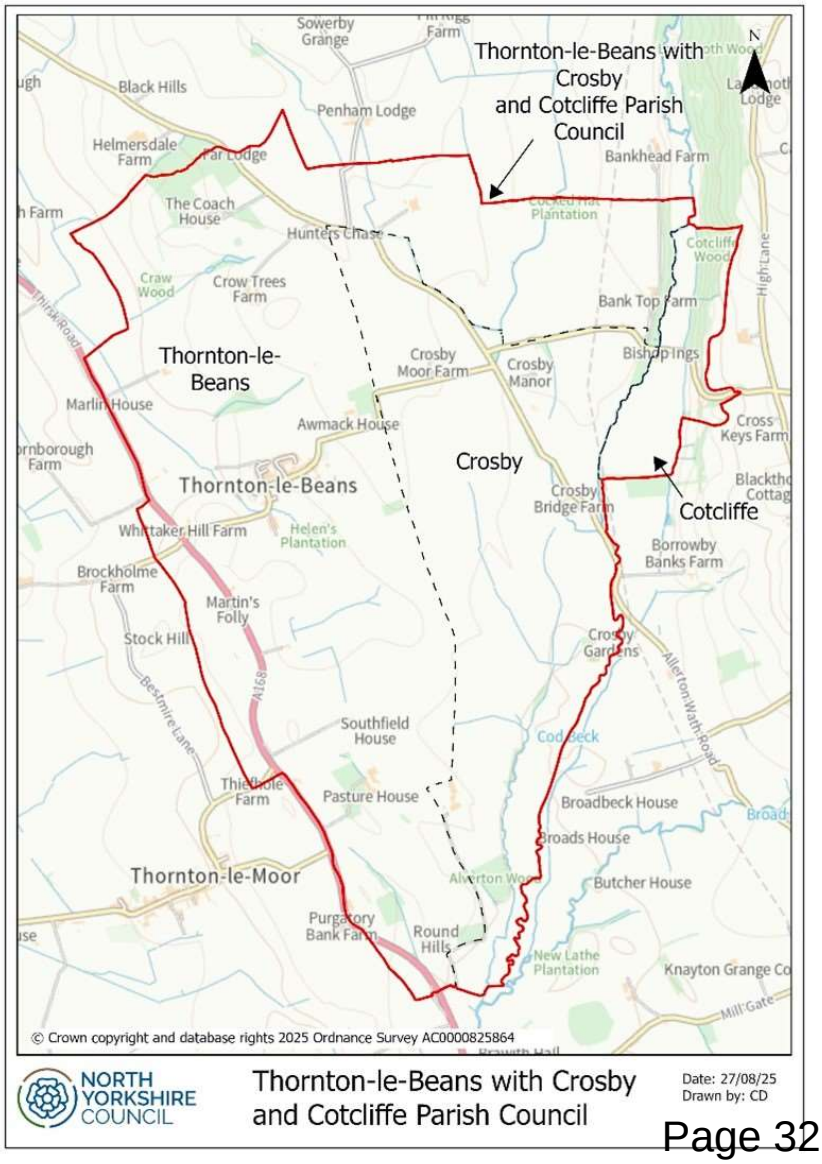
Community Governance Review for Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council

Thornton-le-Beans with Crosby and Cotcliffe Parish Council does not currently meet the requirements of parish governance arrangements as required under the Local Government Act. Each parish within a group forming a council must return at least one councillor and they cannot represent more than one parish.

Also, the parish council has become over time known as ‘Thornton-le-Beans with Crosby and Cotcliffe Parish Council’, and the 1973 Order which established the parish council states the name to be simply ‘Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council’.

The current arrangements are as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Thornton-le-Beans civil parish	202	4
Crosby civil parish	9	1
Cotcliffe civil parish	21	
TOTALS	**232**	**5**



This community governance review seeks to rectify the identified anomaly of having a single councillor representing multiple civil parishes within the group, and there are a range of options which could resolve this such as:

1. retaining each civil parish within the group and ensuring at least one councillor represents each, or
2. merging some or all civil parishes to create a different arrangement for councillor representation.

The parish council has suggested a potential solution, which will form the basis of this consultation, as follows:

Civil Parishes within Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Thornton-le-Beans civil parish	202	4
New civil parish area (taking in Crosby civil parish and Cotcliffe civil parish)	30	1
TOTALS	**232**	**5**

Thornton-le-Beans civil parish remains unchanged and retains four councillors. The two civil parishes of Crosby and Cotcliffe would merge to form a new single civil parish represented by one councillor, and the total council size remains as five.

The changes suggested, albeit very subtle, take existing parish council arrangements as they have been known for over 30 years and formalises them to match how the council operates. It recognises that there are low elector numbers in two of the parishes which do not require to be represented by separate councillors. It maintains community identity and satisfies the requirement that each parish within a group of parishes forming council is represented by at least one councillor.

The review also seeks to review the parish council name based on the difference between the legal name of ‘Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council’ and the now commonly known extended name of ‘Thornton-le-Beans with Crosby and Cotcliffe Parish Council’.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

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All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council area
- ☐ I work in Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council area
- ☐ I own a business in Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council?
Retain the civil parish of Thornton-le-Beans with four councillors, merge the civil parishes of Crosby and Cotcliffe to form a new single civil parish represented by one councillor, with both parishes forming a grouped parish council retaining a council size of five.

- ○ I support the potential solution
- ○ I do not support the potential solution
- ○ I am unsure

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Which name do you prefer for the group of parishes?

- ‘Thornton-le-Beans' (the correct name as per the Order dated 1973)
- ‘Thornton-le-Beans with Crosby and Cotcliffe’ (as it has become informally known)
- Another name - please state below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

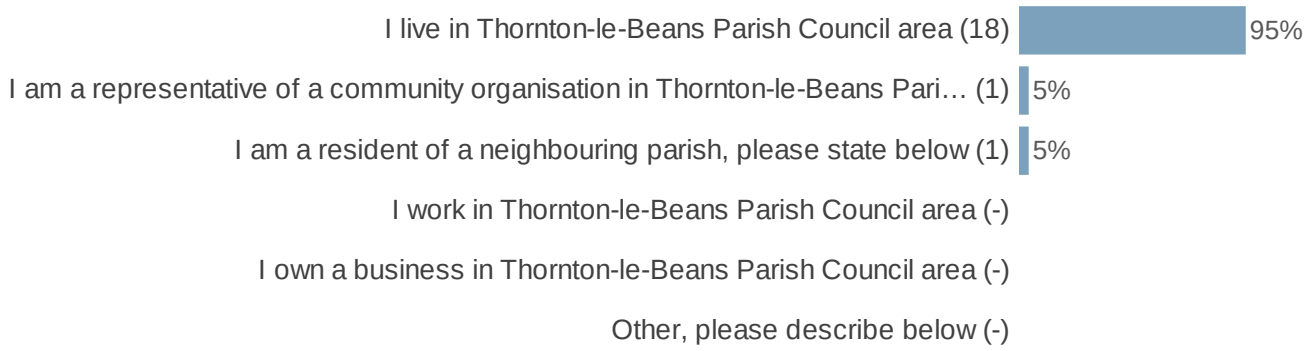
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Thornton le Beans

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 22 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 22 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:



Thornton le Street

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

DL6	dl6	DL63	YO7	DL6	Dl63
DL6	DL6	DL6	DL6	Dl63	DL63
DL6	Dl63	Dl63	Dl63	DL63	Dl6
DL63					

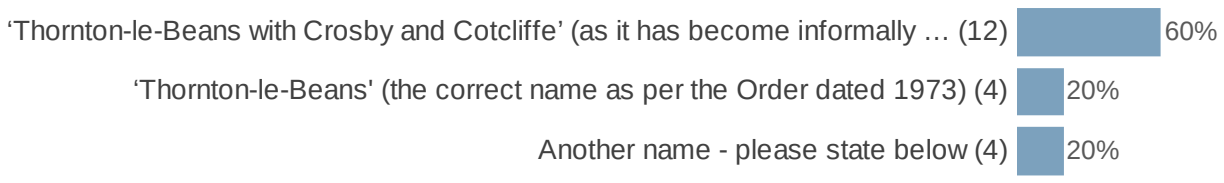
What is your opinion with the following potential solution to rectify the issue at Thornton-le-Beans Parish Council?
Retain the civil parish of Thornton-le-Beans with four councillors, merge the civil parishes of Crosby and Cotcliffe to form a new single civil parish represented by one councillor, with both parishes forming a grouped parish council retaining a council size of five.



Please give reasons for your response:

Common sense
The size of Crosby in terms of voters is negligible, so merging with Cotcliffe provides a more sizeable area represented by the single councillor.
A common sense and practical solution.
This is the format that has existed for more than fifty years and I see no valid reason why it should changed.
It has worked this way for 40 years no need to change it. Parish Councillors are very difficult yo recruit in very small parishes.
It seems the logical solution
It seems the most rational.
There are very few people resident in Crosby so merging them with Cotcliffe makes more sense and then they return one parish councillor.
It maintains the status quo and continues the title as it has been known for over 50 years
This Council has been known as "Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Council" for many years. At a Regular Meeting on Monday 24th November, to which all Parish residents were eligible to attend, this subject was discussed and the unanimous decision was that the Council should be called "Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Council" and should be retained.
The council has been know this way for over 40 years and I would like it to remain that way
The title you are using is incorrect it has always for the passed 50 years been:- Thornton le Beans AND Crosby WITH Cotcliffe Parish Council not as shown on your document please amend before it is set in stone! This is my 3rd response yet you are emailing our parish clerk claiming none have been received- where are they going? Perhaps an acknowledgment would help or would that be too much work!
The Council has been known as Thornton le Beans AND Crosby with Cotcliffe Parish Council for over 50 years. Not as shown on this survey please amend before it is set in stone.
This is how it had been operating for years anyway

Which name do you prefer for the group of parishes?



Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe
Thornton le Beans AND Crosby with Cotcliffe Parish Council. PLEASE TAKE NOTE AND AMEND
Thornton le Beans AND Crosby with Cotcliffe Parish Council PLEASE NOTE AND AMEND
Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe As per how it has always been known

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

No
Why are you wasting MY council tax with these ridiculous surveys?
The name should be Thornton le Beans and Crosby with Cotcliffe Parish Council Please note the change from your version
Please can the name remain as Thornton le Beans and Crosby and Cotcliffe, rather than ‘with’ , thankyou
This is the third response I have submitted but you are emailing our parish clerk stating you have had no replies why? Perhaps if you issued acknowledgments or would that be too much work!

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Appendix 17 – Draft Recommendations for Staintondale Parish Council

Contents

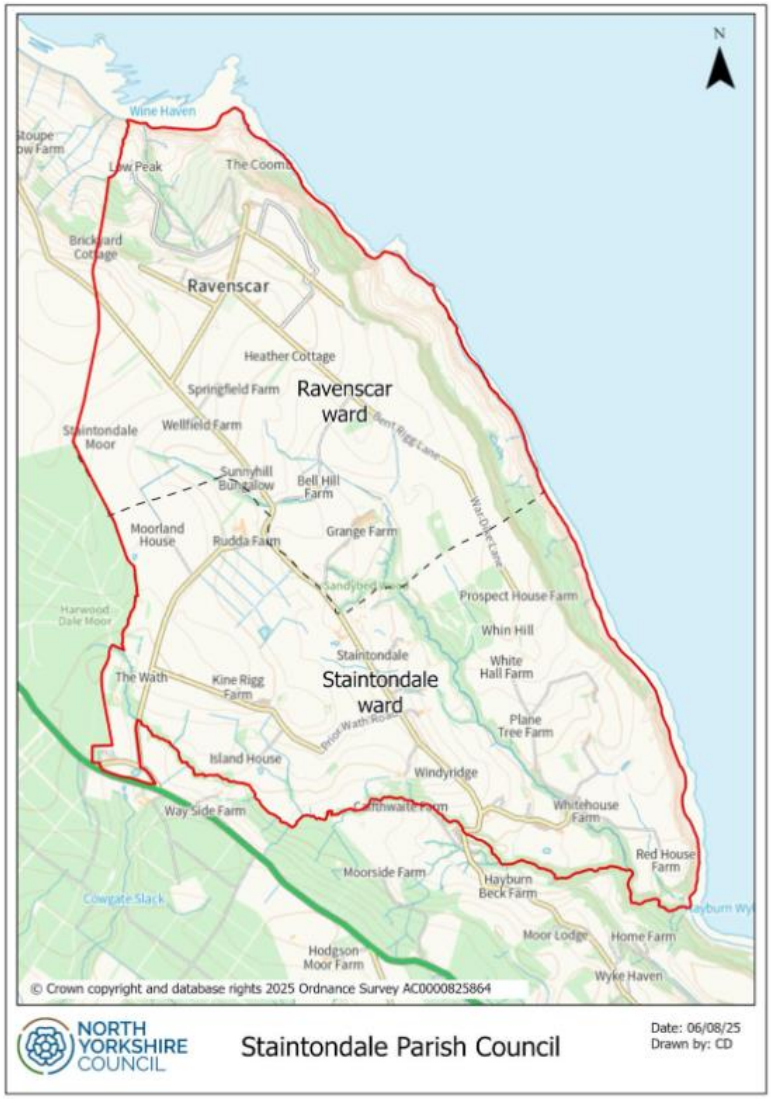
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1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Staintondale Parish is situated within the Esk Valley and Coast division and is part of the Scarborough and Whitby parliamentary constituency. The parish has a council with a warding arrangement as follows:

Staintondale Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Ravenscar Ward	139	4
Staintondale Ward	106	3
TOTALS	**245**	**7**



History of the area

1.2 Since 2019 some electors, with the support of the then Borough Ward councillor and the parish clerk, have disputed the location of the boundary line between Ravenscar Ward and Staintondale Ward of the council.

1.3 Polling district reviews dating back to 2007 position the boundary line as per the map above.

1.4 A legal order cited as 'The North Yorkshire (Staintondale Parish Council) Order, 1950' creating the Parish Council arrangements describes the position of the boundary line as follows:

The parish shall be divided into two wards, the portion to the north of a line commending at the western boundary of the Parish to the north of Moorland House and passing in an easterly direction to Bloody Beck, along the said Beck and passing to the south of Bell Hill Farm, from there in an easterly direction passing to the north of Grange Farm to the War Dike, then following the line of the said Dike, passing the south of Ashyard Farm, to the sea, to be known as the Ravenscar Ward and the portion to the south of such line to be known as the Staintondale ward'.

This differs from the position of the current line, and would be as follows on a map:



1.5 Those electors disputing the boundary line would like to see it reverted back to that as stated in the 1950 order, and there is no evidence explaining how or why that change occurred between 1950 and 2007.

1.6 If the 1950 boundary line were to be reinstated the impact of the change is low affecting only 4 properties and now 11 electors who are currently in Ravenscar ward, becoming part of the Staintondale ward.

1.7 It was agreed that a review of this boundary line was needed to resolve the ongoing dispute and both boundaries were presented in the first stage of consultation.

Five year electorate forecast

1.8 The 2030 electorate forecast for all parishes in the group is expected to be 256 (calculated using 2024 electorate) from 245, which is not a large increase, as the area is very rural.

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and a response rate:

Households sent CGR consultation letter	139
Consultation responses received	37
Response rate	26.6 %

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to all households in Staintondale parish, though the consultation survey was open for anyone to respond.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 17A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 17B.

2.4 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses was 37, demonstrating a relatively high level of interest in the position of the boundary line.

2.5 Of the 37 respondents, 27 (75%) reported that they live in Staintondale Parish, 6 (16.7 %) live in a neighbouring parish area (though 2 of those stated they live in Ravenscar – which is a ward of Staintondale parish), 6 (16.7 %) work within or own a business within Staintondale.

2.6 The majority of respondents chose to return the boundary line to the position as described in the 1950 legal order, as detailed in the table below:

Option	Number	Percentage
Return the boundary line to that described in the 1950 legal order	31	86.1 %
Leave the boundary line in the current position	4	11.1 %
I don't know	1	2.8 %
Total	37	100%

2.7 Reasons given in support or returning the boundary line to the 1950's position include maintaining historical and clearly identifiable lines which follow geographical features. Many referred to the potential inadvertent change which has no evidence or reason for that change.

2.8 Those in favour of retaining the line where it is now (11.1 %) gave no explanation or justification as to why.

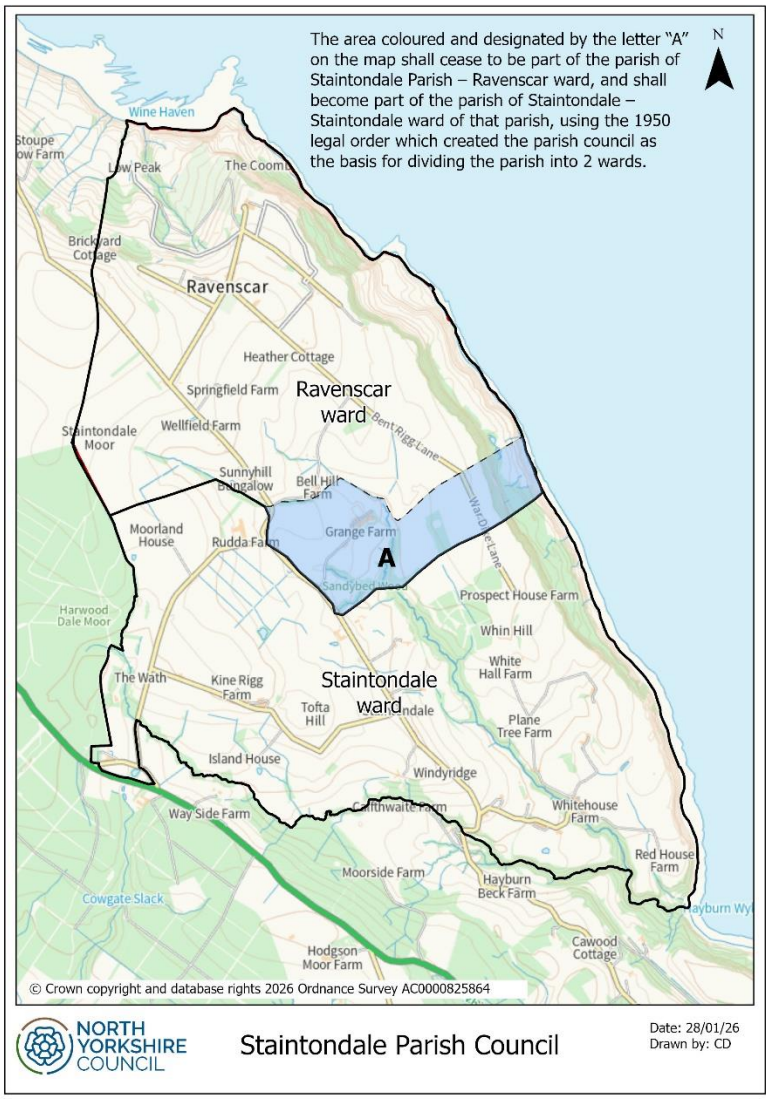
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (86.1 %) indicated support for returning the boundary line to that as described in the 1950 legal order, with reasons. It is therefore proposed to reinstate the previous boundary line.

3.2 The parish council name and names of wards are to remain unchanged, other than the exact location of the ward line affecting only 11 electors, and the arrangements for the parish council would be as follows (albeit very minor changes to the current):

Staintondale Parish Council	Electors (2025)	Councillors
Ravenscar Ward	130	4
Staintondale Ward	115	3
TOTALS	**245**	**7**

3.3 A map of the recommendation is shown below:



3.4 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – The area coloured and designated by the letter "A" and shaded in blue on the map shall cease to be part of the parish of Staintondale Parish – Ravenscar ward, and shall become part of the parish of Staintondale – Staintondale ward of that parish, using the 1950 legal which created the parish council as the basis for dividing the parish into 2 wards described as:

'That Staintondale Parish be divided into 2 wards (as is currently), Ravenscar ward and Staintondale Ward. The portion to the north of a line commending at the western boundary of the Parish to the north of Moorland House and passing in an easterly direction to Bloody Beck, along the said Beck and passing to the south of Bell Hill Farm, from there in an easterly direction passing to the north of Grange Farm to the War Dike, then following the line of the said Dike, passing the south of Ashyard Farm, to the sea, to be known as the Ravenscar Ward and the portion to the south of such line to be known as the Staintondale ward'.

Recommendation 3 – That the parish council size remains as 7 (as is currently)

Recommendation 4 – and the representation for Ravenscar Ward will be 4, and the representation for Staintondale Ward will be 3 (as is currently)

Recommendation 5 –Changes take effect administratively on 01 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.5 It is concluded, that with 2 options being consulted on, and with good support for the above recommendations, this being a minor adjustment to a ward boundary line, with no changes to names or council size, that there is no requirement for a second stage of consultation.

Annex 17A – Consultation survey
Annex 17B – Summary of consultation responses

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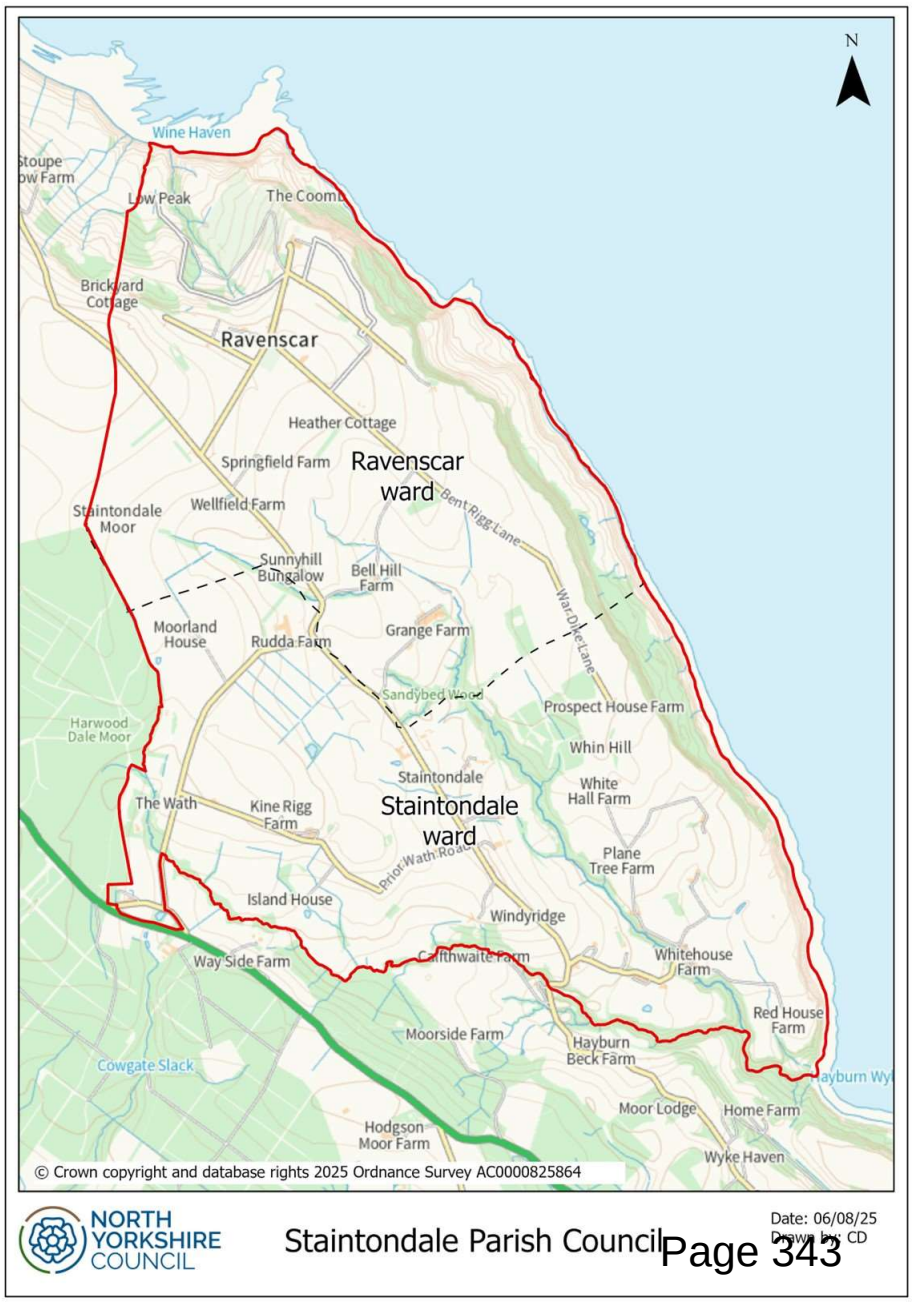
Community Governance Review for Staintondale Parish Council

Staintondale Parish Council is divided into two wards; Staintondale ward and Ravenscar Ward. The location of the boundary line separating those two wards is under review. An order dated 1950 describes the boundary line between the two wards to be in a slightly different position to where it lies now.

The boundary line change has occurred between 1950 and 2007. How, why or when a change may have occurred between those dates has not been identified. Some electors within the parish would like the boundary line returning to the location evidenced in the 1950 order.

The current arrangements and location of the boundary line are as follows:

Staintondale Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Ravenscar Ward	139	4
Staintondale Ward	106	3
TOTALS	**245**	**7**

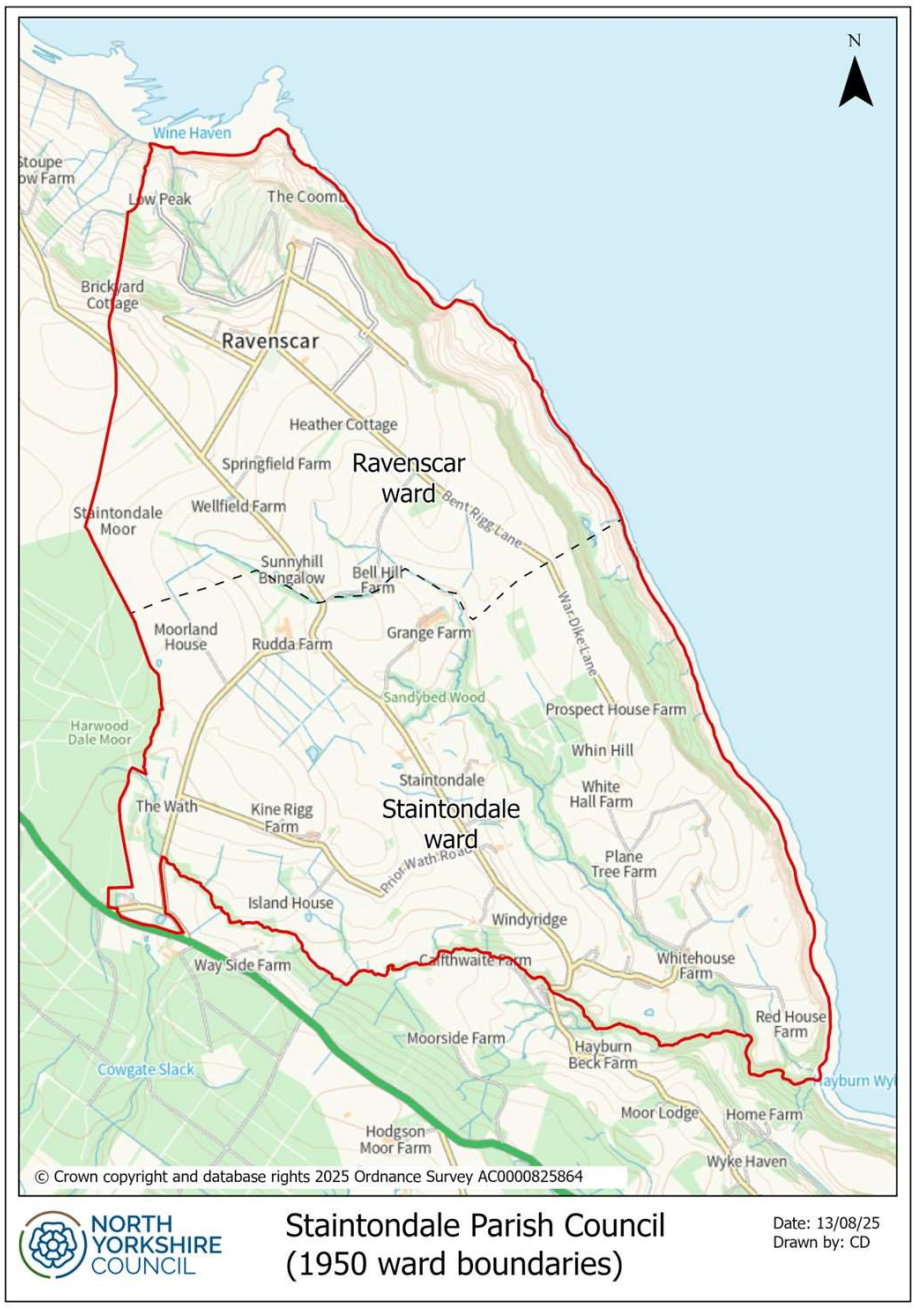


The order dated 1950 describes the wards and the position of the boundary line as follows:

'The parish shall be divided into two wards, the portion to the north of a line commending at the western boundary of the parish to the north of Moorland House and passing in an easterly direction to Bloody Beck, along the said Beck and passing to the south of Bell Hill Farm, from there in an easterly direction passing to the north of Grange Farm to the War Dike, then following the line of the said Dike, passing the south of Ashyard Farm, to the sea, to be known as the Ravenscar Ward and the portion to the south of such line to be known as the Staintondale ward'.

Under the 1950 order the parish council arrangements would be as follows:

Staintondale Parish Council	Electors (June 2025)	Councillors
Ravenscar Ward	130	4
Staintondale Ward	115	3
TOTALS	**245**	**7**



If the previous boundary line were to be reinstated, the impact of the change is low affecting only four properties and nine electors who are currently in Ravenscar ward becoming part of the Staintondale ward.

This review seeks to review the position of the boundary line between Staintondale ward and Ravenscar ward by obtaining views and preferences of existing electors and other interested stakeholders in the area.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

By reading our online Privacy Notice at www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacynotice it will help you understand how and why we process your personal data.

All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Staintondale Parish Council area
- ☐ I work in Staintondale Parish Council area
- ☐ I own a business in Staintondale Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Staintondale Parish Council area
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Do you think the boundary line should remain at the current position, or as described in the 1950 parish council order?

- ○ Current position
- ○ Position as described in the 1950 order
- ○ I do not know

Please give reasons for your response:

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

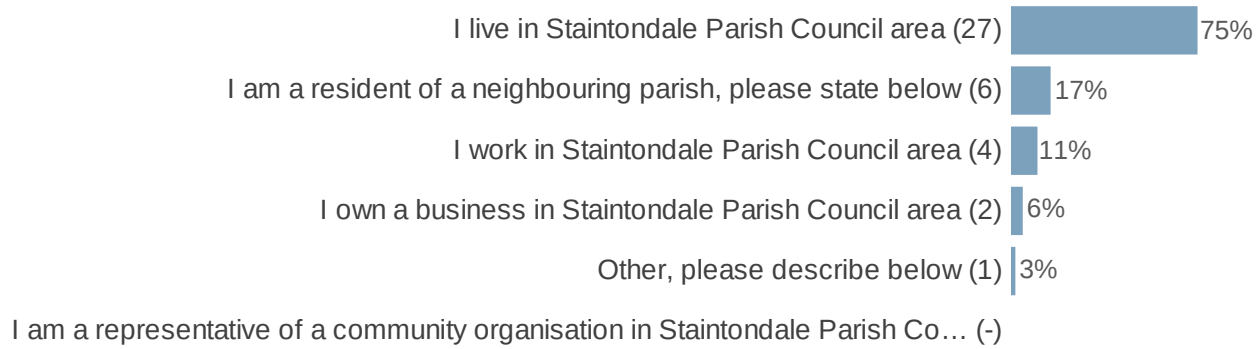
Please return this completed form in the freepost envelope provided.

2025-26 CGR - Staintondale

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 37 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 37 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

Please tick which best describes you:

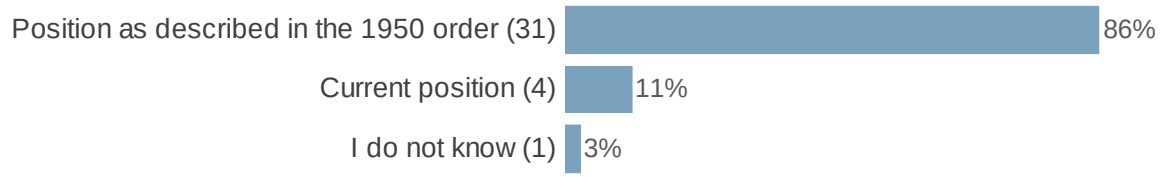


Cloughton
Ravenscar. It seems that the original boundary of Bloody Beck as it passes Bell Hill Farm is a simply defined and logical boundary. Change is totally unnecessary and contrived.
Cloughton - but property crosses border with Staintondale
Ravenscar

Please state the first part of your postcode: **(for example YO21)**

YO13	YO13	Yo13	Yo13	YO13	YO13	YO13	YO13	YO13	YO13	YO13	yo13
YO13	YO13	Yo13	YO13	YO13	YO13	YO13	YO13	YO13	Yo13	YO13	Yo13
YO13	Yo13	YO13	YO13	Yo13	Yo13	YO13	YO13	YO13	Yo13	YO13	YO13
YO13											

Do you think the boundary line should remain at the current position, or as described in the 1950 parish council order?



Please give reasons for your response:

I am at a loss to understand why the County Council is devoting any resources to this question, it is a complete waste of time and money. As there are only 9 electors affected, and they live in only four properties, would it not be more cost effective just to send one letter to each property and ask the electors which ward they would prefer to be in? In your letter you state that you are only carrying out reviews where you believe there is a strong reason to do so. I don't believe, in this case, that such a reason exists and I suggest that it is highly unlikely that the nine people potentially affected care one way or another.
Seems to make little difference
It works well.
1950 order was agreed and implemented. The current arrangement has had no discussion or agreed implementation and appears to have been inadvertent.
Boundary line
This should not have been changed
Reinstate original boundary that shouldn't ever have been moved in the first place and for no logical reason
Please reinstate the original boundary.
Reinstate original boundary
[redacted] We have many friends in the parish and those affected were shocked and upset to discover that their boundary had changed without their knowledge. They would like it changed back to how it was when they bought their properties and we fully understand and support their request.
Bloody Beck is a simply defined and easy recognisable boundary rather than lines drawn on a map. Why change it? Seems pointless in view of the small number of properties and residents actually affected. Keep Bloody Beck as the boundary!
There is no good reason for the change. As the review points out the motive for the change cannot be identified. Residents affected by the change object to it. We wish to support their position and their request to revert to the 1950 position.
No reason to have been changed
The old boundary line mainly follows geographical features.
Reasons for change have not been identified.
Original Boundary
Because the boundary was changed without consultation. I understand that the Parish Council were not informed of the change. Also The Beck is the natural boundary.
Reverting back to how it should be and gives a more equal population balance
Gives a more equal population
Please can it be reinstated as no one was informed of the change
There was no consultation with regard to moving , therefore it should be where it was in the 1950 parish council order.
Lack of consultation and transparency in the decision making.
There has been no consultation as to why the decision to move the boundary has been moved. There is a lack of transparency for local residents in this decision.
The 1950 position makes far more sense, and would be more convenient for people living near Staintondale.
Right place for it
I wouldn't want to be put into the Ravenscar Parish. Both Parishes have their own merrits but are quite different in character.
The boundary shouldn't have been changed.

Please give reasons for your response:

Can't see any reason for changing!
Reinstate boundary
To keep both villages together
Ravenscar boundary has always been at bleedy beck. It makes sense to keep the boundary as 1950 as new boundary only affects a few houses but lots of land which may be attached to houses in Staintondale boundary. Also why change something if its not broken and works ok with the boundary at 1950

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

In the case of Staintondale, is a complete waste of resources
No
How much money does this review cost? I would have thought tax payers money could be better spent helping the homeless, supplying more buses, etc
Over complicated process to access a simple form with 3 simple questions at the end.
This Community Governance review has not been widely communicated within the community. The simple questionnaire is hard to access. Over complicated process to get point across.
This form is not easy accessible
Although the number of properties affected may be small this doesn't alter the impact of such a change to those residents affected.
Seems totally pointless.
The review has not been well communicated. It has been extremely difficult to find a way to join the consultation and the website does not make this easy. If there is good reason for the changed position of the border (from the 1950 position) than that should be clearly communicated.
This was difficult to find on your website
Residents should be given the opportunity to see an agenda for parish council meeting before it takes place.
As a resident of this parish, I feel that all residents should be given a copy of parish council agendas so that we can be informed of decisions.
Reinstate correct boundary

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Appendix 18 – Draft Recommendations for Escrick Parish Council

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Annex 18B – Summary of consultation responses 7

1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Escrick Parish Council is situated within the Cawood and Escrick division and is part of the Selby parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the village of Escrick.

1.2 Escrick parish currently has 764 electors and 407 properties.

1.3 Escrick Parish Council can be seen in the map below.



1.4 Escrick Parish Council is comprised of 11 elected parish councillors. In order to meet and take decisions and be quorate, at least 4 councillors must be present. Parish Councils must hold an annual meeting and at least 3 other meetings each year.

1.5 Parish councils can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Escrick Parish Council raised a precept of £22,560.93 for the 2025/26 financial year.

History of the area

1.6 In June 2025, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) was notified of a Community Governance Review (CGR) request from Escrick Parish Council to reduce their councillor numbers from 11 to 9, in order to reduce the quorum from 4 to 3 councillors. Due to a lack of residents willing to become parish councillors, Escrick

Parish Council had been holding several vacant seats for some time. NYC was notified that parish council meetings were often cancelled due to not enough parish councillors being present.

1.7 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Escrick Parish Council. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included a defined list of parishes that would be reviewed on 16 July 2025.

1.8 As the request for a CGR of Escrick Parish Council was made after the Standards and Governance Committee report was finalised in June, Escrick Parish Council was not included in the terms of reference approved at Full Council. As one of the recommendations agreed was that authority be delegated to the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services to consider any further requests for a CGR and the terms of reference amended accordingly, the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services approved the addition on 6 August 2025.

1.9 As Escrick Parish Council has held vacant seats for some time, is not within the interest of the public to keep the current governance arrangements as meetings are often inquorate and therefore cannot take place. Reducing the councillor numbers from 11 to 9 will reduce the meeting quorum from 4 councillors to 3 councillors and will ensure that meetings are less likely to be cancelled.

1.10 The NYC Division Member for Cawood and Escrick, Councillor John Cattanach, was informed of the CGR request and has confirmed his support for a reduction in councillors.

Five year electorate forecast

1.11 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Escrick Parish Council is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Escrick	764	771	7

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Escrick Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	407
Consultation responses received	31
Response rate	7.6%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in the parish of Escrick as following the CGR request made by Escrick Parish Council to reduce their councillor numbers, this was the area under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 18A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex18B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the area under review. The total number of responses for Escrick Parish Council was 31.

2.6 Of the 31 respondents, 30 reported that they lived in Escrick, with 3 of these respondents also indicating that they were a representative of a community organisation in Escrick. An additional respondent advised that they were a representative of a community organisation in Escrick.

2.7 94% (29) of respondents indicated that they were aware that Escrick Parish Council had experienced difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and was holding several vacant seats.

2.8 58% (18) of respondents were of the opinion that the current number of parish councillors, 11, was too many. 36% (11) of respondents thought that 11 councillors was about right and 7% (2) of respondents were unsure.

2.9 The majority of respondents chose to reduce the number of councillors from 11 to 9, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
11 councillors	4	13%
10 councillors	2	7%

9 councillors	18	58%
8 councillors	1	3%
7 councillors	3	10%
Another option - please describe below	2	7%
I do not know	1	3%
Total	31	100%

2.10 Of the two respondents who choose “another option”, one suggest 12 councillors and the other made a comment about the lack of interest in previous Escrick Parish Council meetings.

2.11 Annex 18B summarises at page 2 the reasons people gave for supporting a reduction in the number of councillors. The most popular reason referenced was that it is difficult to fill vacant seats, which was supported by 21 respondents. 12 respondents gave the reason that the parish council is small and does not need as many councillors and 11 respondents supported the reason that meetings are often cancelled due to insufficient councillor numbers. 4 respondents provided another option which included the view that a reduction in the number of councillors will assist in the running of the parish council and meeting expenditure limitations. Two of these respondents made comments about the existing parish councillors. Such concerns relate to the membership of the parish council and should be addressed through the parish council election process.

2.12 Additional comments about the CGR review included further reasons in support of a reduction in the number of councillors such as enabling more meetings to be quorate and therefore ensuring effective decision making. Several respondents referenced difficulties in parish level community engagement as well as the fact that Escrick is a relatively small parish that attracts people with school aged children that may be unable to devote time to being a parish council member.

2.13 One respondent commented that they were unable to navigate to the online survey which was provided as a QR code in the letters sent to all Escrick households. This comment has been noted and will be taken on board ahead of the Stage 2 consultation. Individuals were invited to request a paper copy of the survey via email or telephone if required as explained in the letter.

2.14 One respondent who did not support a reduction in the number of councillors felt that reducing the quorum to 3 councillors was very low and undemocratic. In response to this concern, the majority of parish councils across North Yorkshire have 5 councillor seats and a quorum of 3, rather than a larger councillor body and therefore a quorum of more than 3 councillors.

2.15 Escrick Parish Council provided a consultation response advising that they support a reduction to 9 councillors as it is difficult to fill the vacant seats. The Escrick Parish Chair wrote *“At the last election we only had 5 people stand to be councillors which meant we lost our General Powers of Competence, meaning we have had limited powers of expenditure. We have tried many things to improve the councillor*

numbers since the last election, we are up to 8 councillors after one person joined last month, but after the 2027 election we want to be a in a position where we can spend significant money on problem areas that were identified in surveys carried out for our NDP process, plus resident requests received since."

2.16 The Division Member for Cawood and Escrick, Councillor John Cattanach is fully in support of reducing the number of councillors on Escrick Parish Council from 11, which is larger than other parish councils in the Cawood and Escrick division. Councillor Cattanach agreed that the number of councillors ought to be reduced to 9, although advised that he would also support a reduction to 8 councillors.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (58%) indicated support for reducing the number of Escrick parish councillors from 11 to 9 which will reduce the quorum from 4 to 3 councillors. It is therefore proposed that the number of councillors on Escrick Parish Council is reduced from 11 to 9.

3.2 A map of Escrick Parish Council is shown below:



3.3 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the number of councillors elected to Escrick parish council shall be reduced from 11 councillors to 9 councillors

Recommendation 2 – implementation is recommended to take affect administratively on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.4 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 18A – Consultation survey
Annex 18B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Escrick Parish Council

We are consulting residents about the future governance of Escrick Parish Council. Due to a lack of residents willing to become parish councillors, the parish is currently holding several vacant seats. North Yorkshire Council is undertaking a community governance review to ensure that parish level governance arrangements are operating as effectively as possible.

A request has been received from Escrick Parish Council to reduce the number of councillor seats from 11 to nine as the parish is currently holding four vacancies. As of June 2025, 11 councillor seats represent 764 electors.

Escrick Parish Council meetings are often cancelled due to not enough parish councillors being present. A parish council is considered quorate when at least one-third of the total number of councillors are present with a minimum of three councillors. Reducing the council size will reduce the quorum from four to three councillors.

The options are as follows:

1. Reduce the number of councillors
2. No changes to the current arrangements and retain the parish council in its current form.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

Privacy Notice

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All questions are optional. Please skip any that you do not want to answer. Your responses to this survey are completely anonymous. We do not collect any identifying information unless you choose to provide it.

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your responses.

Closing date for all responses: Monday 22 December 2025

Please tick which best describes you:

- ☐ I live in Escrick
- ☐ I work in Escrick
- ☐ I own a business in Escrick
- ☐ I am a representative of a community organisation in Escrick
- ☐ I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- ☐ Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Are you aware that Escrick Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and is currently holding several vacant seats?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ I am unsure

What is your opinion of the current number of parish councillors (11)?

- ○ Too many
- ○ About right
- ○ Too few
- ○ I do not know

Which of the following would be your preferred option?

- ◯ 11 councillors
- ◯ 10 councillors
- ◯ Nine councillors
- ◯ Eight councillors
- ◯ Seven councillors
- ◯ Another option - please describe below
- ◯ I do not know

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

If relevant, what are your reasons for supporting a reduction in the number of councillors?

- ☐ The parish is small and does not need as many councillors
- ☐ It is difficult to fill the vacant seats
- ☐ Meetings are often cancelled due to insufficient councillor numbers
- ☐ Another option - please describe below
- ☐ I do not know

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

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Thank you for sharing your views.

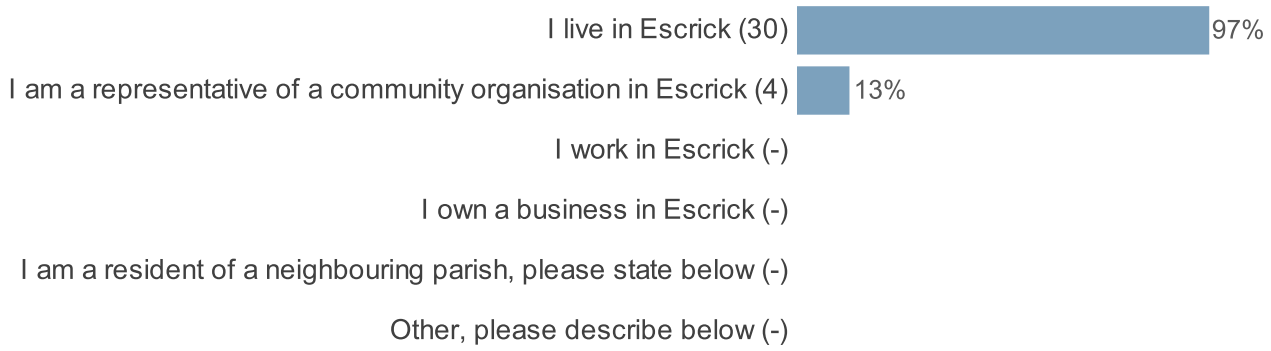
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2025-26 CGR - Escrick

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 31 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 31 cases fall into this category.

The following charts are restricted to the top 12 codes. Lists are restricted to the most recent 100 rows.

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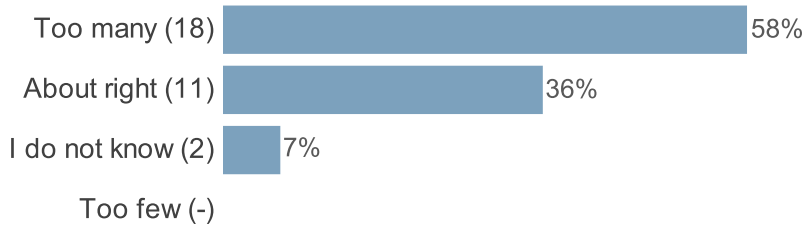
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Yo19	YO19	YO19	YO19	YO19	YO19	YO19	YO19	YO19	YO19
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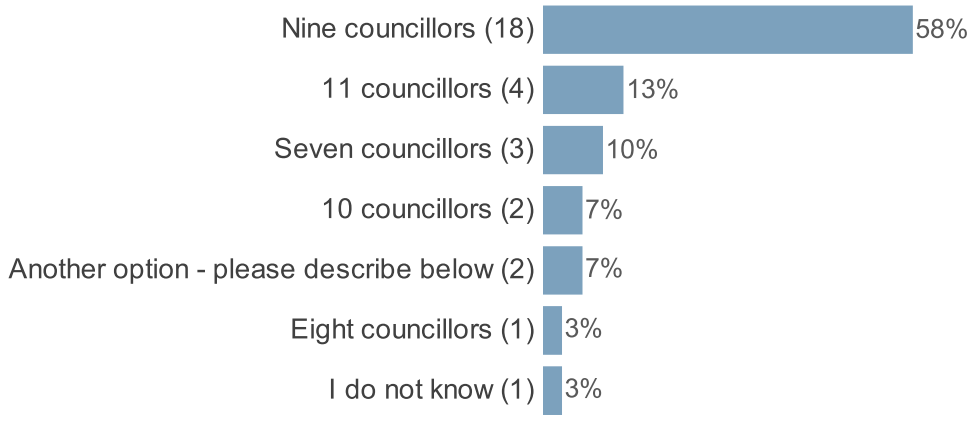
Are you aware that Escrick Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and is currently holding several vacant seats?



What is your opinion of the current number of parish councillors (11)?

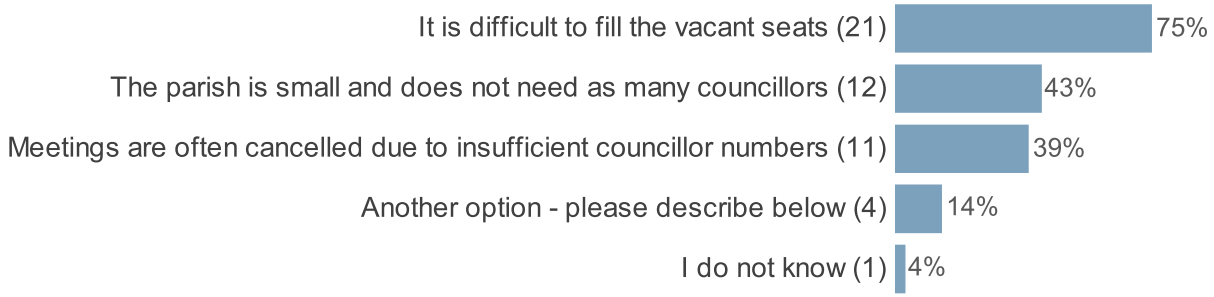


Which of the following would be your preferred option?



The Parish Council meetings are really boring. I have considered joining but there is little democracy and the general public views seem to rarely be of interest to the Parish Councillors.
12

If relevant, what are your reasons for supporting a reduction in the number of councillors?



[redacted]

Parish Councillors seem to rely upon their own opinions. I feel they do not consult the villagers. I understand they work hard but it is within a very narrow remit and are rarely democratic. I have attended some meetings but frankly am disappointed despite admiring and liking the actual Parish Councillors who do seem dedicated to the village, just not the opinions of villagers. This does happen in villages and the experienced PCs become 'gatekeepers' although they do not recognise this and continue to work in their own way. They do not even meet in the Village Hall or local Club. We should all try to support local voluntary run venues. I wonder if the Parish Council is really necessary? What would happen if we did not have a Parish Council? Although Escrick needs volunteers and people contributing to democratic social capital. Perhaps we need some good Community Development from the NYCC?

I'm Chairman of Escrick Parish Council. At the last election we only had 5 people stand to be Councillors which meant we lost our General Powers of Competence, meaning we have had limited powers of expenditure. We have tried many things to improve the Councillor numbers since the last election, we are up to 8 Councillors after one person joined last month, but after the 2027 election we want to be a in a position where we can spend significant money on problem areas that were identified in surveys carried out for our NDP process, plus resident requests received since. Areas like illuminating the north bound bus shelter, difficult and expensive due to the power supply being the other side of the A19 & with tree coverage a solar powered light would not work. The location is actually in Deighton PC area. Hence the only power of expenditure we can use is S137 which is limited to £8480.40 pa at the moment - based on the current rate of £11.10 per number of electors, which stands at 764.

I am aware that Escrick Parish Council is struggling to secure volunteers and by reducing the councillors from 11 to 9 will help with all aspects of running the pc and meeting expenditure limitations.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

The parish council needs more support / training. They're pretty out of touch with the village, and don't represent the villagers' concerns beyond their own narrow interests. Hence the low number of people locally who don't want to get involved. And, more widely, Escrick parish is becoming a dormitory village, where people aspire to live because of schools catchment - villagers who really havent time for village life and village affairs.

The PC members and clerk do a splendid job but the appointment and retention of new members has been a problem for some years.

The revised quorum of 3 councillors is insufficient to make valid decisions. It would be controlled by too small a minority. The Parish Council need to make their work and councillors more attractive for people to contribute to and join. It needs a real mix of people and ages and interests to make fair and valid decisions for the majority and to be truly inclusive.

There is little 'community' to govern. Communication about village issues is through the Parish Magazine. Any group activity is accessed by 'joining' an organisation. There is no 'centre' to the village other than the church, accessed by crossing the dangerous A19. There is not even a Post Office as a hub. I have considered becoming a parish councillor but wonder what puts other people off.

Community engagement is getting more and more difficult to obtain in many areas of the community. If reducing the number of councillors enables the Parish Council to be quorate and make the necessary decisions easier, than that is obvious answer. In the future, maybe merging with another parish (e.g. Deighton (YCC) or Stillingfleet) would be an even better solution.

No thanks

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

A smaller number of councillors at a meeting are more effective in decision making. Escrick is tiny and the budget is around £20 000p/a. I have wanted to be of service as a councillor but work away from the parish for months at a time. I have been a councillor of a town with nearly M1 inhabitants and there were only nine councillors. Must be very frustrating for the existing parish council to try conduct business with no quorum. I advocate seven (7) councillors.
The Parish Council has no longer got General Power of Competence and has a limited number of powers to make financial decisions due to not having the required number of councillors at the last election. The criteria being that at the precise moment that the council resolves that it meets the criteria, the number of councillors elected at the last ordinary election, or at a subsequent by-election, must equal or exceed two thirds of its total number of councillors. As only 5 councillors were elected at the last election they no longer meet the criteria. New councillors have been co-opted since but this have never exceeded 8 at any one time. At most meetings apologies are received from at least 1-2 councillors at present due to work commitments.
I would like to be clear that I admire all the Parish Councillors and indeed all who get involved in community organisations. This is a very hard and sometimes unrewarding way to spend time. However, they do not seem to welcome the views of the community. No one is going to come forward to be a Parish Councillor until the process of encouraging and welcoming new people. It takes a lot of time and hard work to encourage people. It is easier to just make decisions, however the best way to lead to better democracy and decision making is by involvement. I think parishes like Escrick should consider what would happen if there was no parish council? Would it save the precept? If new councillors cannot be found it proves that democracy isn't working and we really need to question whether reducing the number to make it quorate would make things better or just easier? How about a youth council? I am sorry about my views which sound very negative because I really believe that participation in the governing of the Parish is vital to our wellbeing.
It seems that attendance of the current councillors needs to be addressed first. If there are seven councillors in position and not even four can turn up to meetings then that seems a problem. I think reducing the number to nine and allowing three to be the required number for a meeting may allow key decisions to be passed without due consideration from the whole parish council
Escrick parish council currently very effective and communicates on matters of interest to the village very well Problem with numbers is not new and for a number of years despite the councils efforts people are reluctant to get involved. This could be due to age profile of residents
The letter we received was unclear as to what was proposed. Also, we were unable to find the survey online.
In the past there used to be sufficient Parish Councillors; indeed I can even recall an election having to take place, so the issues around recruitment potentially seem to relate to [redacted] Having a quorum of just three councillors feels very low and undemocratic.
No. I am supporting the reduction of seats.
This is not about limiting involvement or concentrating power into a smaller group, it is about having the flexibility to not chase up people to be at meetings or we will have to cancel them & to be able to spend the money we have accrued for the good of the community on key issues that they have identified /complained about by residents.
The parish council should be encouraged to support local issues and not have their decisions considered to be academic by higher government.
Our Parish Council is excellent and works really hard. Neither of us are in a position to stand for election, but we recognise the ongoing difficulties of finding people willing to take on the these duties. This is a relatively small parish and the business of Parish Council work should not be hampered by continuing problems of seeking new individuals for election.
I would repeat he above response - I am aware that Escrick Parish Council is struggling to secure volunteers and by reducing the councillors from 11 to 9 will help with all aspects of running the pc and meeting expenditure limitations.

Appendix 19 – Draft Recommendations for Sherburn Parish Council

Contents

1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area 2
Current governance arrangements 2
History of the area 3
Five year electorate forecast 3
2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Sherburn Parish Council .. 4
3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations 6
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Annex 19B – Summary of consultation responses 7

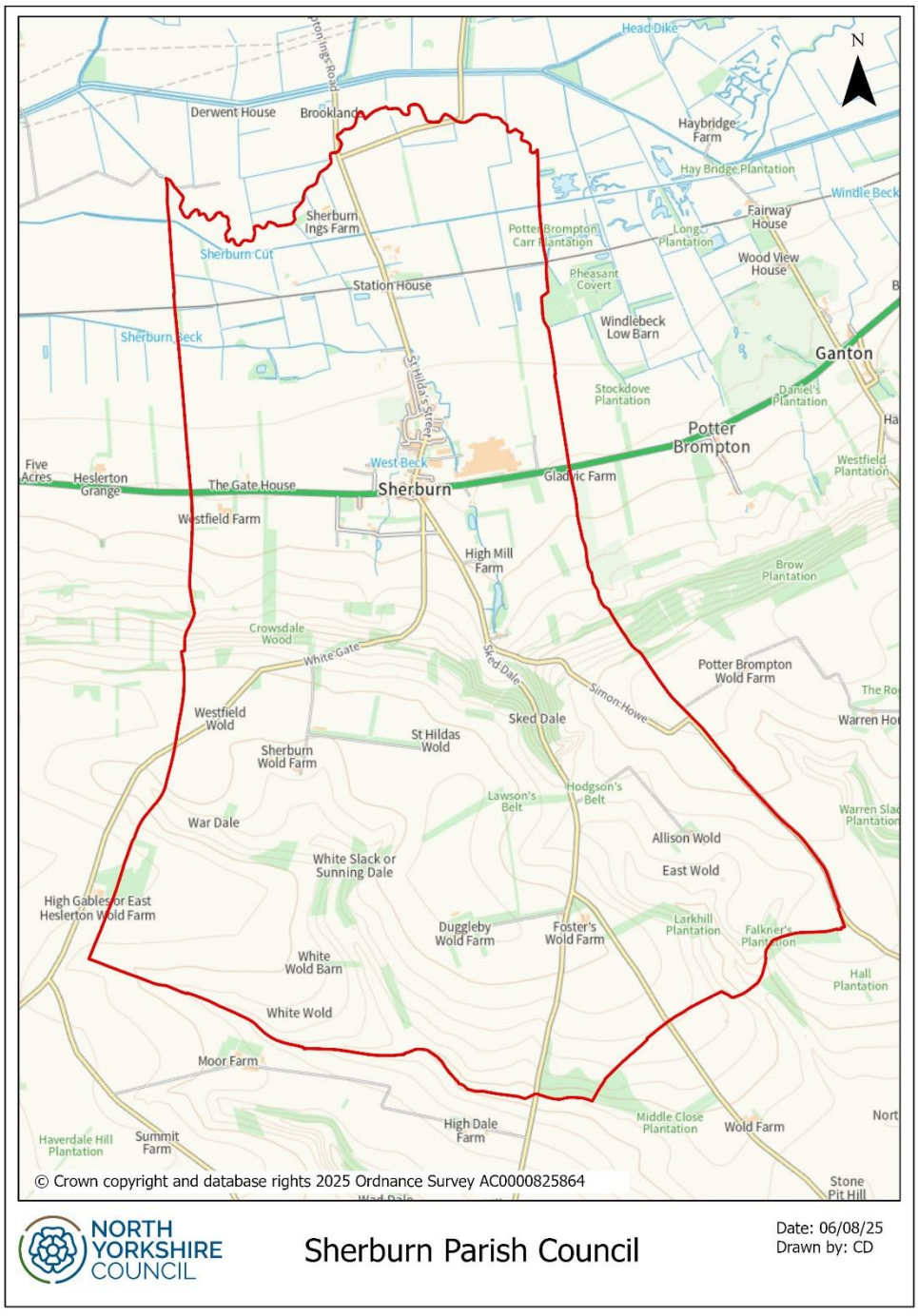
1.0 Current governance arrangements and history of the area

Current governance arrangements

1.1 Sherburn Parish Council is situated within the Hunmanby and Sherburn division and is part of the Thirsk and Malton parliamentary constituency. The parish is comprised of the village of Sherburn.

1.2 Sherburn parish currently has 680 electors and 402 properties.

1.3 Sherburn Parish Council can be seen in the map below.



1.4 Sherburn Parish Council is comprised of 11 elected parish councillors. In order to meet and take decisions and be quorate, at least 4 councillors must be present. Parish Councils must hold an annual meeting and at least 3 other meetings each year.

1.5 Parish councils can raise a precept to raise monies for spending for the benefit of the parish. Sherburn Parish Council raised a precept of £34,000 for the 2025/26 financial year.

History of the area

1.6 In 2016, Ryedale District Council (the responsible authority at the time) was notified of a Community Governance Review (CGR) request from Sherburn Parish Council to reduce their councillor numbers from 11 to at least 9, in order to reduce the quorum from 4 to 3 councillors. At the time, the request was not considered urgent as the parish council was still functioning and holding meetings.

1.7 In June 2025, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) contacted the Sherburn Parish Council Clerk to confirm whether the CGR request still stood to reduce the council size, which it did. NYC was notified that due to a lack of residents willing to become parish councillors, Sherburn Parish Council had been holding several vacant seats for some time and would shortly be down to 4 councillors out of 11. As a result, parish council meetings were often cancelled due to not enough parish councillors being present.

1.8 After consultation with Democratic Services, it was suggested that a CGR be carried out for Sherburn Parish Council. Following the Standards and Governance Committee on 20 June 2025, Full Council approved the terms of reference of the 2025/26 Community Governance Review, which included Sherburn Parish Council on 16 July 2025.

1.9 As Sherburn Parish Council has held vacant seats for a period of ten years, it is not within the interest of the public to keep the current governance arrangements as meetings are often inquorate and therefore cannot take place. Reducing the councillor numbers from 11 to at least 9 will reduce the meeting quorum from 4 councillors to 3 councillors and will ensure that meetings are less likely to be cancelled.

Five year electorate forecast

1.10 The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast for Sherburn Parish Council is as follows:

Parish	Electorate (2025)	Electorate prediction (2030)*	Predicted electorate increase
Sherburn	680	727	47

2.0 Assessment of consultation responses for Sherburn Parish Council

2.1 The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of consultation responses received, and response rate.

Households sent CGR consultation letter	402
Consultation responses received	48
Response rate	11.9%

2.2 Consultation letters were sent to households in the parish of Sherburn as following the CGR request made by Sherburn Parish Council to reduce their councillor numbers, this was the area under review.

2.3 A copy of the consultation survey can be found at Annex 19A. A summary of consultation responses received can be found at Annex 19B.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the free text comments received through the consultation process reflect the views of the individual respondents alone. These comments do not represent the views of North Yorkshire Council and should not be construed as being endorsed by the Council.

2.5 The response rate in the table above was calculated by comparing the number of consultation responses with the number of households directly consulted by means of a letter sent to all properties in the area under review. The total number of responses for Sherburn Parish Council was 48.

2.6 Of the 48 respondents, 47 reported that they lived in Sherburn, with one of these respondents also indicating that they were a representative of a community organisation in Sherburn. One respondent advised that they worked in Sherburn.

2.7 52% (25) of respondents indicated that they were aware that Sherburn Parish Council had experienced difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and was holding several vacant seats.

2.8 49% (23) of respondents were of the opinion that the current number of parish councillors, 11, was too many. 34% (11) of respondents thought that 11 councillors was about right, 9% of (4) respondents thought that 11 councillors was too few and 9% (4) respondents were unsure.

2.9 The majority of respondents chose to reduce the number of councillors from 11 to 9, as detailed in the table below.

Option	Number	Percentage
11 councillors	11	23%
10 councillors	2	4%

9 councillors	22	46%
8 councillors	3	6%
7 councillors	5	10%
Another option - please describe below	2	4%
I do not know	3	6%
Total	48	100%

2.10 Of the two respondents who choose “another option”, one suggested as few councillors as possible (which would be 5) and the other felt that as Sherburn is continually growing, 11 councillors was not enough.

2.11 Annex 19B summarises at page 2 the reasons people gave for supporting a reduction in the number of councillors. The most popular reason referenced was that it is difficult to fill vacant seats, which was supported by 17 respondents. 14 respondents gave the reason that the parish council is small and does not need as many councillors and 13 respondents supported the reason that meetings are often cancelled due to insufficient councillor numbers. 5 respondents provided another option which included the view that the parish councillor vacancies should be better promoted. 4 respondents advised that they were unsure.

2.12 Additional comments about the CGR review included further support for a reduction in the number of councillors. One respondent commented *“I would like to offer my support to the Sherburn Parish Council request to reduce the number of councillors to 9. Sherburn is a small village and it seems that a fixed number of 11 is too many to ensure regular quorate meetings to make effective progress in their important and valued work”.*

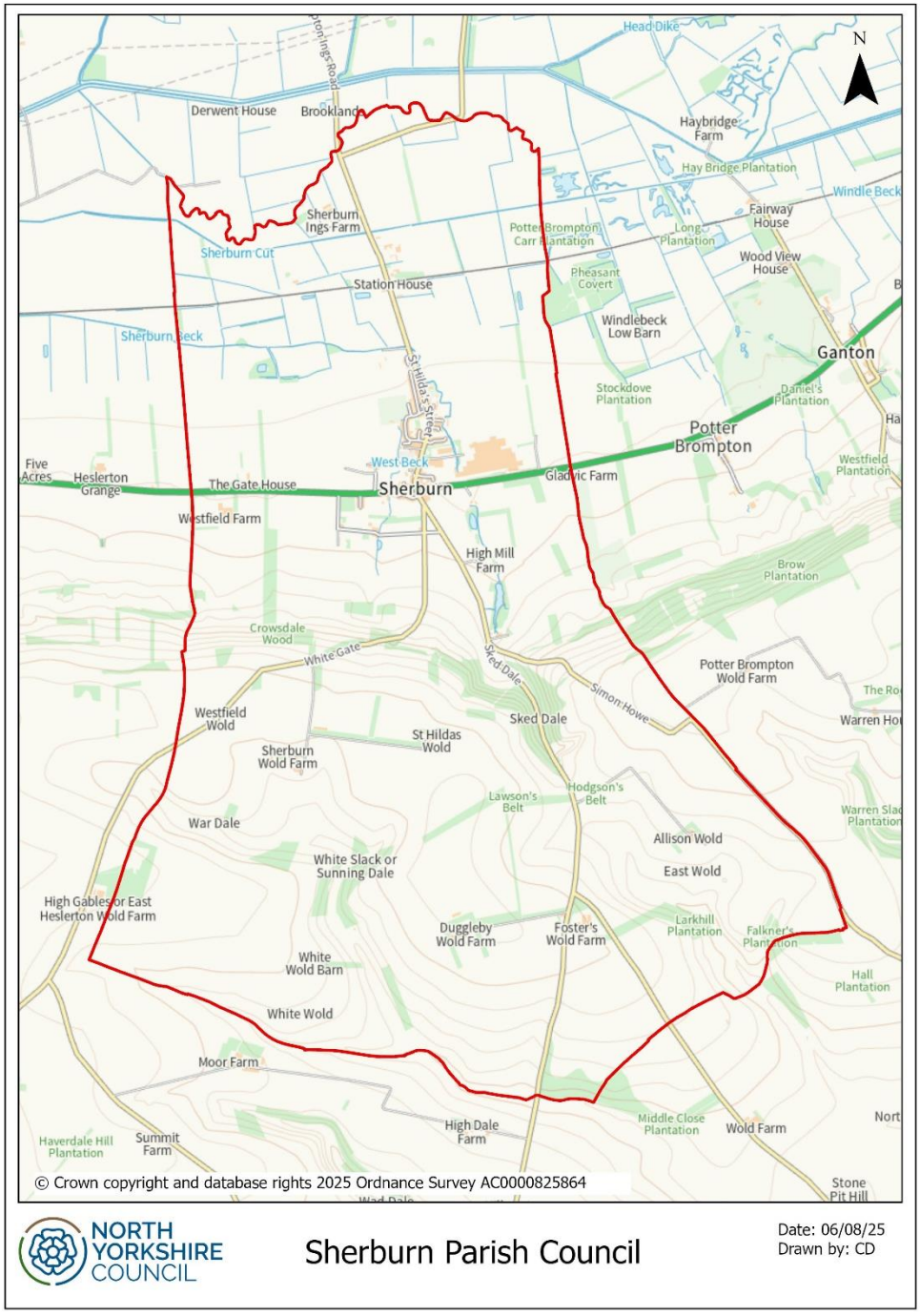
2.13 Some comments included that Sherburn residents were unaware of the lack of parish councillors as well as suggestions that the vacancies should be more widely promoted. One respondent advised that they would consider applying to be a parish councillor if they had known about the vacancies. Other comments concerned matters that were outside the scope of the CGR.

2.14 Sherburn Parish Council has advised that they support a reduction to 9 councillors as it is difficult to fill the vacant seats and meetings are often cancelled due to not being quorate.

3.0 Final assessment and draft recommendations

3.1 The majority of responses (46%) indicated support for reducing the number of Sherburn parish councillors from 11 to 9 which will reduce the quorum from 4 to 3 councillors. It is therefore proposed that the number of councillors on Sherburn Parish Council is reduced from 11 to 9.

3.2 A map of Sherburn Parish Council can be viewed below:



3.3 A list of recommendations can be viewed below:

Recommendation 1 – the number of councillors elected to Sherburn Parish Council shall be reduced from 11 councillors to 9 councillors

Recommendation 2 – implementation is recommended to take affect administratively on 1 April 2027 with elections to the new arrangements at the next scheduled elections in May 2027, and that changes to the electoral register required for the above take effect on the revised publication ahead of that election (planned for December 2026).

3.4 The recommendations detailed above will form the basis of the Stage 2 consultation which will commence on 19 March 2026.

Annex 19A – Consultation survey
Annex 19B – Summary of consultation responses

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Community Governance Review for Sherburn Parish Council

We are consulting residents about the future governance of Sherburn Parish Council. Due to a lack of residents willing to become parish councillors, the parish is currently holding several vacant seats. North Yorkshire Council is undertaking a community governance review to ensure that parish level governance arrangements are operating as effectively as possible.

A request has been received from Sherburn Parish Council to reduce the number of councillor seats from 11 to nine as the parish is currently holding five vacancies. As of June 2025, 11 councillor seats represent 680 electors.

Sherburn Parish Council meetings are often cancelled due to not enough parish councillors being present. A parish council is considered quorate when at least one-third of the total number of councillors are present, with a minimum of three councillors. Reducing the council size will reduce the quorum from four to three councillors.

The options are as follows:

1. Reduce the number of councillors
2. No changes to the current arrangements and retain the parish council in its current form.

You are invited to have your say as part of this consultation.

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- [ ] I own a business in Sherburn
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- [ ] I am a resident of a neighbouring parish, please state below
- [ ] Other, please describe below

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

Are you aware that Sherburn Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and is currently holding several vacant seats?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I am unsure

What is your opinion of the current number of parish councillors (11)?

- ◯ Too many
- ◯ About right
- ◯ Too few
- ◯ I do not know

Which of the following would be your preferred option?

- ◯ 11 councillors
- ◯ 10 councillors
- ◯ Nine councillors
- ◯ Eight councillors
- ◯ Seven councillors
- ◯ Another option - please describe below
- ◯ I do not know

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

If relevant, what are your reasons for supporting a reduction in the number of councillors?

- ☐ The parish is small and does not need as many councillors
- ☐ It is difficult to fill the vacant seats
- ☐ Meetings are often cancelled due to insufficient councillor numbers
- ☐ Another option - please describe below
- ☐ I do not know

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

Please do not include any personal identifiable information about yourself or someone else in your response.

Any questions relating to the Community Governance Review can be forwarded to CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

Thank you for sharing your views.

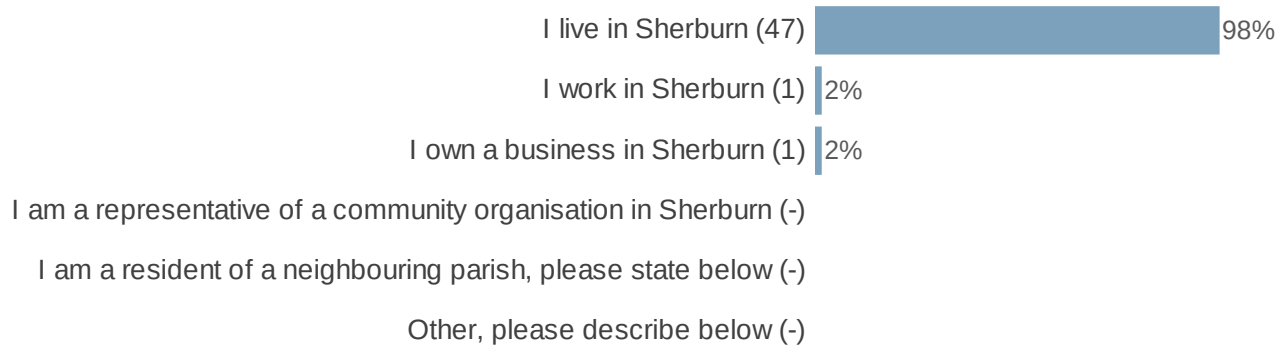
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2025-26 CGR - Sherburn

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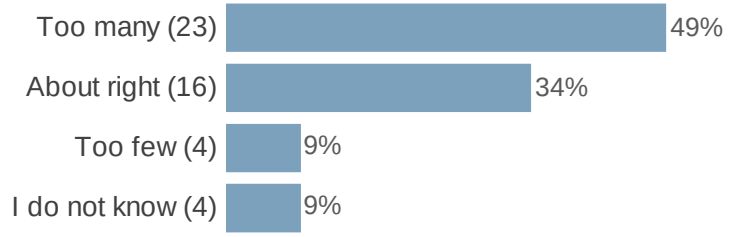
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Ls25	Ls25	LS25	Ls25	Ls25	LS25	Ls25	LS25	Yo17	Yo17	YO17	YO17
LS25	LS25	LS25	LS25	LS25	ls25	LS25	YO17	Yo17	YO17	LS25	yo17
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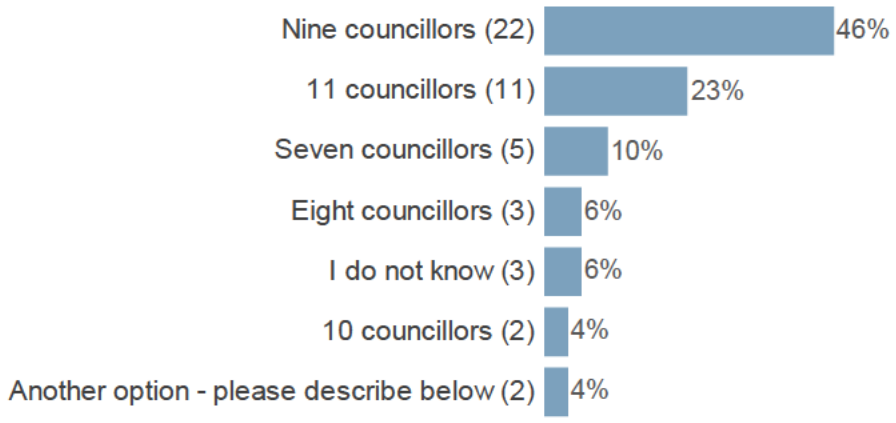
Are you aware that Sherburn Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and is currently holding several vacant seats?



What is your opinion of the current number of parish councillors (11)?



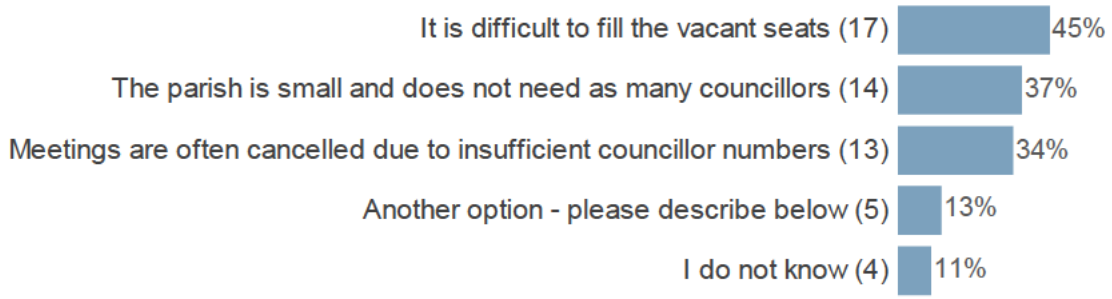
Which of the following would be your preferred option?



As the Town is continually growing, i feel 11 councellors is not enough, maybe the councellors who are on the parish council now could hold an information session, what does it entail, how much time .

As few as possible.

If relevant, what are your reasons for supporting a reduction in the number of councillors?



Promote the vacancies better, happy to get more involved but I have not seen a councillor in my street.

I dont support a decrease. In the past the council has not been open to suggestions by the public , which is why i believe its difficult to fill tje vacancies

Sherburn has grown significantly over the past years so I expect about 1 councillor to represent the major areas of the village which I estimate to be about 10 or 11

[redacted] Villagers feel it is a waste of time joining council as 'they don't get anything done'

Probably one of the reasons you can not get people to join is because nothing never gets sorted out.your wanting to build more houses in the village you can not even get a doctors appointment for weeks

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

[redacted]
I am not aware of ever having seen any invitations to become a parish councillor. If the need was made more obvious, then perhaps more residents would apply to join the council.
Sherburn is growing and should have representation by a reasonable number of councillors. Improvements in the area are noted but there is too much petty crime and drug abuse going on which may be reflected in peoples attitudes not to get involved.
No
I have attended the meetings on occasions as a resident, I find it interesting to know what's going on in the area, I have found that not many residents attend these. People want things to happen in their area but don't want to give up their own time, including myself, to make things happen. I commend all the current Councillor's as they give so much time as they care so much to keep up with constant challenged in the community. If they are struggling I would happily allow the numbers to be reduced.
Nothing.
The suggestion that the Parish council has difficultly in filling seats leading to cancelled meetings does not stand up to scrutiny. There are minutes of monthly meetings published which show little, if any evidence, of cancelled meetings. Vacancies are rarely published and there are no shortages of applicants as a rule. In fact, I am aware that there have been reserve lists created in the past. There is a turnover of councillors but this probably more relates to the conduct of the council and that it seems to operate more as a glorified social comittee with little accountability to the public. Any attempt to weaken further accountability should be refused.
The parish council needs to be more open with communications, they just say see our web site but we have a large amount of people who dont have online access, so need to look at other ways to share meeting minutes. We need to have a mix of ages, men amd women , LGBT, Also look at otjer options for those to attend , so if unable to attend maybe they could interact by being on line via zoom or teams. Im disabled and sometimes cannot attend meetings because my body is not mobile at that timebut im able to attend online, taking this step has had such a positive impact with work meetings . I believe this would help and hopefully never be in a position of not have enough attendees to pass any proposals in meetings.
Im guessing getting rid of councillors still wont reduce council bills. Or even freeze them like labour promised
[redacted] I didn't know there were five vacancies, so there is a problem of communication. I led the first Parish Plan Group on behalf of the council. My suggestion is that the council inform each household that they want applicants, with a detail of the commitment. I would also say that the quality and personality of the clerk is important, [redacted] With the Parish plan we canvased every household, plus the school children and a group of teenagers, to add their views, and gave easy collection posts for questionnaires to be returned too. Nowadays it might also be necessary to send out copies of papers as not all people have printers, or refuse to use their paper and ink.
I suspect many Sherburn residents are unaware of the lack of parish councillors. I do not think enough is done to encourage people to become parish councillors. Rather than reduce the number of councillors there should be a campaign to recruit the additional councillors necessary to have 11 parish council members.
Problems don't get resolved, mostly are forgotten about. No experience on committee. Cancel meetings at last minute. Minutes of meetings normally late, notice boards not kept up to date. Lack of experienced leadership to resolve situations. No interest in creating ways to improve the apperance of the village except cutting grass. Residents have no confidence in the PC capabilities. No attempts to resolve unauthorised building on the edge of the village, not even concerns to Ryedale Planning.
If I'd have known that there were vacancies, I'd have considered applying to become part of the team
NO

Is there anything further you would like to add about this community governance review?

I would like to offer my support to the Sherburn Parish Council request to reduce the number of councillors to 9. Sherburn is a small village and it seems that a fixed number of 11 is too many to ensure regular quorate meetings to make effective progress in their important and valued work. In these days of shift , remote, flexible working and working away I think this is a reasonable request, when other work takes place by individuals between meetings. Sherburn Council has really important representative work to do , for instance with regard to road safety, eg speeding through traffic lights on A64 , so quorate meetings are essential....a requirement of 9 would ensure that this and other crucial work is not impeded but is much more possible. Thank you.

Climate change impact assessment

The purpose of this assessment is to help us understand the likely impacts of our decisions on the environment of North Yorkshire and on our aspiration to achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030, or as close to that date as possible. The intention is to mitigate negative effects and identify projects which will have positive effects.

This document should be completed in consultation with the supporting guidance. The final document will be published as part of the decision making process and should be written in Plain English.

If you have any additional queries which are not covered by the guidance please email climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk

Version 2: amended 11 August 2021

Please note: You may not need to undertake this assessment if your proposal will be subject to any of the following:
Planning Permission
Environmental Impact Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment

However, you will still need to summarise your findings in the summary section of the form below.

Please contact climatechange@northyorks.gov.uk for advice.

Title of proposal	**Community Governance Reviews**
Brief description of proposal	**Community Governance Reviews of a number of parishes across North Yorkshire to ensure that parish level governance arrangements continue to operate as effectively as possible.**
Directorate	**Legal and Democratic Services**
Service area	**Elections**
Lead officer	**Jennifer Norton - Assistant Director Legal Operations**
Names and roles of other people involved in carrying out the impact assessment	**Christine Phillipson – Principal Democratic Services Officer**
Date impact assessment started	**18.09.25**

Options appraisal
Were any other options considered in trying to achieve the aim of this project? If so, please give brief details and explain why alternative options were not progressed.

An alternative option of sending all of the consultation documents by post was considered, but this proved to be too costly and due to the number of residents and consultations involved difficult to manage physically, therefore a standard covering letter will be issued to the residents of all parish areas affected and the consultation will then be completed digitally. There will be the option of requesting a paper copy if required.

A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a review carried out by a principal council and is used to consider whether parish council arrangements in an area should be changed. Community Governance Reviews must comply with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

What impact will this proposal have on council budgets? Will it be cost neutral, have increased cost or reduce costs?

Please explain briefly why this will be the result, detailing estimated savings or costs where this is possible.

There will be a cost for printing and posting circa 20k and will be absorbed by an underspend in Legal and Democratic Services so will therefore have no impact on budgets.

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

How will this proposal impact on the environment? **N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.**		**Positive impact** (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	**No impact** (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	**Negative impact** (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	**Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?** **Where possible/relevant please include:** • **Changes over and above business as usual** • **Evidence or measurement of effect** • **Figures for CO_2e** • **Links to relevant documents**	**Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.**	**Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.**
Minimise **greenhouse gas emissions** e.g. reducing emissions from travel, increasing energy efficiencies etc.	Emissions from travel		x				
	Emissions from construction		x				
	Emissions from running of buildings		x				
	Emissions from data storage		x				
	Other			x	Emissions from printing and postage.		
Minimise **waste:** Reduce, reuse, recycle and compost e.g. reducing use of single use plastic			x				
Reduce **water** consumption			x				

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

How will this proposal impact on the environment? **N.B. There may be short term negative impact and longer term positive impact. Please include all potential impacts over the lifetime of a project and provide an explanation.**	**Positive impact** (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	**No impact** (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	**Negative impact** (Place a X in the box below where relevant)	**Explain why will it have this effect and over what timescale?** **Where possible/relevant please include:** • **Changes over and above business as usual** • **Evidence or measurement of effect** • **Figures for CO_2e** • **Links to relevant documents**	**Explain how you plan to mitigate any negative impacts.**	**Explain how you plan to improve any positive outcomes as far as possible.**
Minimise **pollution** (including air, land, water, light and noise)		x				
Ensure **resilience** to the effects of climate change e.g. reducing flood risk, mitigating effects of drier, hotter summers		x				
Enhance **conservation** and wildlife		x				
Safeguard the distinctive characteristics, features and special qualities of **North Yorkshire's landscape**		x				
Other (please state below)		x				

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Are there any recognised good practice environmental standards in relation to this proposal? If so, please detail how this proposal meets those standards.
N/A

Summary Summarise the findings of your impact assessment, including impacts, the recommendation in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker. The decision to complete the majority of the content of the Community Governance Reviews digitally will reduce the potential printing and posting costs significantly. All of the consultations will be signposted from the website for completion as well as supporting documentation detailing the individual parish requests.

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

Sign off section

This climate change impact assessment was completed by:

Name	**Christine Phillipson**
Job title	**Principal Democratic Services Officer**
Service area	**Democratic Services**
Directorate	**Legal and Democratic Services**
Signature	
Completion date	**18.09.25**

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature): Jennifer Norton - Assistant Director Legal Operations

Date:10.03.26

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE

Equality impact assessment (EIA) form: evidencing paying due regard to protected characteristics

Community Governance Reviews 2025/26

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) form is a document that proves paying due regard by considering protected characteristics. EIAs that accompany reports presented to Councillors for decision-making are published with the committee papers on our website and are also available in hard copy at the relevant meetings.

Section 1: Initial Equality Impact Assessment Screening

This section documents the equality screening process of actual or potential impacts of the proposed activity on a specific protected characteristic, along with NYC's additional agreed-upon characteristics, to determine whether a full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is necessary or appropriate.

Basic Details	
Directorate	Legal and Democratic Services
Service area	Elections
Proposal being screened	Community Governance Review Consultation
Officer(s) carrying out screening	Christine Phillipson – Principal Democratic Services Officer
Lead Officer and contact details	Jennifer Norton - Assistant Director Legal Operations
Date of the assessment	18.09.25
Please describe briefly what this EIA is about. (e.g. are you starting a new service, changing how you do something, or stopping doing something?)	A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a review carried out by a principal council and is used to consider whether parish council arrangements in an area should be changed. Community Governance Reviews must comply with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
What does the authority hope to achieve by it? (E.g. to save money, meet increased demand, do things in a better way.)	The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIH Act 2007) devolved power from the Secretary of State to principal councils to conduct CGRs and put in place or make changes to local community governance arrangements.
Further Details	
1.1 How have stakeholders been involved in this policy/ decision/ proposal? (e.g. a consultation exercise)	Communications with all effected residents, Parish Councillors and Clerks, Divisional Members. MP's and general public.
1.2 Will the proposal have a significant effect on how other organisations operate? (e.g. partners, funding criteria, etc.). Please explain briefly	No effect on how other organisations operate.

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1.3 Impact on people with any of the following protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, or NYC's additional agreed characteristics

As part of this assessment, please consider the following questions:

- To what extent is this service used by particular groups of people with protected characteristics?
- Does the proposal relate to functions that previous consultation has identified as important?
- Do different groups have different needs or experiences in the area the proposal relates to?

If for any characteristic, it is considered that there is likely to be an adverse impact or you have ticked 'Don't know/no info available', then a full EIA should be carried out where this is proportionate. You are advised to speak to your directorate representative for advice if you are in any doubt.

Tick and indicate which protected characteristics are identified as relevant to the proposal (positive, negative, neutral or don't know).

Protected characteristic	**Impact**				**Comments**
	Positive	**Negative**	**Neutral**	**Don't know**	
Age			x		
Disability			x		
Sex			x		
Race (including GRTS)			x		
Gender reassignment			x		
Sexual orientation			x		
Religion or belief			x		
Pregnancy or maternity			x		
Marriage or civil partnership			x		
NYC's additional characteristics					
People in rural areas			x		
People on a low income			x		
Carer (unpaid family or friend)			x		
Are from the Armed Forces Community (including veterans)			x		

1.4 To which Part(s) of the Public Sector Equality Duties is the Policy/decision/proposal relevant? Tick and briefly describe.

General Duties	**Yes**	**No**	**Details**
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	☐	☐	N/A
Advance equality of opportunity	☐	☐	N/A
Foster good relations between different groups	☐	☐	N/A

1.5 Decision (Please tick one option) **Decision to recommend this policy/ decision for an Equality Impact Assessment?**	Yes	☐	No	☐ x

If the answer is "Yes", or you indicate a negative impact on any of the characteristics mentioned in the table above, please continue to Section 2 and complete the full Equality Impact Assessment.
If the answer is "No", please give a brief reason here.

No negative impact upon any of the characteristics.

Signed (Assistant Director or equivalent)	Jennifer Norton Assistant Director Legal Operations
Date	10.03.26

Section 2: Equality Impact Assessment

This section aims to provide a full assessment of the actual or potential impacts on specific protected characteristics, along with NYC's additional characteristics. It will also identify the proper actions to mitigate these impacts, if needed.

2.1 Evidence, Consultation and Data: What data or evidence source(s) has/ have been used to inform this assessment? Select the relevant source (s):

- Demographic data
- Service usage data
- Consultation feedback
- National/local research and report
- Expert opinion
- Others

2.2 Stakeholder Engagement: What engagement has been done regarding the proposal and what are the results?

- Who has been consulted?
- How were they consulted?
- What feedback was received?

2.3 What positive impact will this proposal have on the council budget, people, community, economic growth and environment, etc? Please explain briefly

2.4 Please briefly describe how will this proposal affect people with protected characteristics? Only those who are identified as relevant to the proposal in section 1.

protected characteristics	Negative	Don't know	Why will it have this effect? Provide evidence from engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information, etc.
Age			
Disability			
Sex			
Race (including GRTS)			
Gender reassignment			

Sexual orientation			
Religion or belief			
Pregnancy or maternity			
Marriage or civil partnership			
NYC's additional characteristics			
People in rural areas			
People on a low income			
Carer (unpaid family or friend)			
Are from the Armed Forces Community (including veterans)			

2.5 Geographic impact: Please detail where the impact will be (please tick all that apply)

North Yorkshire wide	
Craven	
Hambleton	
Harrogate	
Richmondshire	
Ryedale	
Scarborough	
Selby	

If you have ticked one or more areas, will specific town(s)/ village(s) be particularly impacted? If so, please specify below.

2.6 Will the proposal affect anyone more because of a combination of protected characteristics? (e.g. older women or young gay men) State what you think the effect may be and why, citing evidence from Q2.1 & Q2.2, e.g. engagement, consultation and/or service user data or demographic information, etc.

2.7 Mitigation and Actions: List the actions that will be taken to reduce or eliminate any negative impact identified above and how positive impacts will be enhanced. Briefly describe the action you defined.

Actions	Lead	By when

2.8 Monitoring and Review: If the proposal is to be implemented, how will the impact be monitored? Briefly describe the monitoring arrangements/systems that will be put in place to find out how the expected outcomes have been achieved in practice.

2.9 Conclusion: Please summarise the findings of your EIA, including impacts, recommendations in relation to addressing impacts, including any legal advice, and next steps. This summary should be used as part of the report to the decision maker.

2.10 Sign off section

This full EIA was completed by: N/A

Name
Job title:
Directorate
Signature:

Completion date

Authorised by relevant Assistant Director (signature):

Date:

Once this has been signed off, please send it to webteam@northyorks.gov.uk for publication on the appropriate webpage.

Publication:

To help people find completed EIAs, we publish them in the Equality and Diversity section of the NY Council website.

Contact details

If you need further support and guidance about carrying out EIA, please contact your directorate equality representative as listed in Stage 4 on our Intranet: Paying due regard to equality using equality impact assessments

Or contact North Yorkshire Council's equality team on email Equality@northyorks.gov.uk

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies

Report of the Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To enable appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies to be considered.

2.0 APPOINTMENTS TO NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL COMMITTEES

2.1 Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Following the appointment of Councillor Caroline Goodrick to the position of Chair at the meeting of Council on 13 February 2026, a vice chair of the committee needs to be appointed.

2.2 Pension Board
Sam Thompson is a Scheme Member Representative on the Pension Board. Her 4-year term ran from November 2021 to November 2025 and so she needs to be re-appointed for a further 4-year period.

2.3 Pension Fund Committee
Councillor Peter Wilkinson to be appointed to the vacant position of Vice Chair of the Pension Fund Committee.

2.4 Health and Wellbeing Board
Local Authority Officer appointments:

- El Mayhew, Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Service, to replace Pete Thorpe.
- Abigail Barron, Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services, to replace Richard Webb.

Integrated Care Board appointments:

- Matt Sandford - Director of Partnership and Place – Bradford District and Craven Health and Care Partnership (part of NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board)
- Mark Bradley - North Yorkshire Place Director, Humber & North Yorkshire Health & Care Partnership
- Amanda Bloor - Chief Operating Officer, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board.

2.5 Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Planning Committee
There is a Conservative and Independents vacancy on this area planning committee that needs to be appointed to. The membership, following the changes to political proportionality at the meeting of Council on 13 February 2026, is as follows:

4 Liberal Democrats and Liberals – Councillors Chris Aldred, Philip Broadbank, Hannah Gostlow, Peter Lacey
2 Conservative and Independents – Councillor Robert Windass and a vacant seat
1 Green and Independent – Councillor Paul Haslam.

2.6 Standards and Governance Committee

At the meeting of Council on 13 February 2026, Councillor Heather Phillips stood down from the committee. As such, the position of vice chair is vacant and needs to be appointed to.

2.7 Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

Following the changes to political proportionality at the meeting of Council on 13 February 2026, there is a vacant Liberal Democrat and Liberal seat that needs to be appointed to.

3.0 IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no equalities, finance, legal or climate change implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

4.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The appointments are to be made by Council as per the Council's Constitution.

5.0 Recommendation

5.1 That the Council confirms the appointments to current vacancies on the committees, as per section 2.0 of the report, as nominated by the political groups.

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

Report Author: Daniel Harry, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny, North Yorkshire Council
daniel.harry@northyorks.gov.uk

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

Appointments to Committees According to Political Proportionality

Report of Assistant Chief Executive Legal and Democratic Services

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To make recommendations for changes to the allocation of seats on and appointments to committees, subject to proportional representation due to recent political changes.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The changes to the political make-up of the Council that have occurred since the last Full Council Meeting on 13 February 2026, due to changes of political group/party, are as follows:

- Councillor John Mann formally moved from the Unaffiliated Independents on 9 March 2026 to the Reform UK group.

2.2 The number of Councillors by political group and party is now as shown below:

Political Group/Party	Councillors as of 13 February 2026	Current Position	Overall Change
Conservatives and Independents	45	45	No Change
Liberal Democrat and Liberals	14	14	No Change
Labour	10	10	No Change
NY Independents	7	7	No Change
Green and Independents	8	8	No Change
Independent (unaffiliated)	3	2	Loss of 1
Reform UK	3	4	Gain of 1
TOTAL	**90**	**90**	

2.3 Due to the above changes and as requested, a new political proportionality calculation has been completed.

2.4 The reduction of the number of Unaffiliated Independent members from 3 to 2 means that their proportionality entitlement decreases from 3.33% to 2.22%. Reform UK have increased from 3 to 4 members and their proportionality entitlement, therefore, increases from 3.33% to 4.44%.

2.5 This results in the seat allocation on overall committees increasing from 7 to 10 for Reform UK and decreasing from 7 to 4 for Unaffiliated Independents, as below:

Political Group/Party	Total number of seats at 13 February 2026	Current Position	Overall change
Conservative and Independents	105	105	0
Liberal Democrat and Liberals	33	33	0
Labour	24	24	0
NY Independent	16	16	0
Green and Independents	18	18	0
Independent Unaffiliated (aggregated)	7	4	-3
Reform UK	7	10	+3
Total	210	210	0

2.6 The proportionality calculation, at Appendix 1, shows that the 3 seats due to be reallocated from the Unaffiliated Independents to Reform UK should come from the following committees: 2 seats on Scrutiny and Audit; and 1 seat on Ordinary Committees.

2.7 The 7 seats currently held by the Unaffiliated Independent are:

Scrutiny and Audit	Care and Independence OSC	Vacant
Scrutiny and Audit	Corporate and Partnerships OSC	Vacant
Scrutiny and Audit	Scrutiny of Health	Vacant
Scrutiny and Audit	Audit	Cllr Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff
Ordinary Committee	Pension Fund	Cllr Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff
Ordinary Committee	General Licensing x 2	Vacant x 2

3.0 HARROGATE AND KNARESBOROUGH AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE

3.1 The practice of rounding up and rounding down the mathematical proportionality calculation means that there are 8 seats through proportionality but only 7 seats on the committee. One of the political groups may wish to give up a seat to Reform UK or it could be decided by Council that Reform UK are not allocated a seat as their proportionate share is the lowest of all groups with representatives on the committee. See below:

Group	No of councillors in the area	Proportionality based upon 7 members	No of committee seats
Conservative and Independents	3	1.62	2
Liberal Democrats and Liberals	7	3.77	4
Labour	0	0.00	0
Green and Independents	2	1.08	1
NY Independent	0	0.00	0
Reform UK	1	0.54	1
Independent unaffiliated	0	0.00	0
Total	**13**	**7.00**	**8**

4.0 MAJOR OUTSIDE BODIES

4.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires political proportionality to be applied to all outside bodies where the Council appoints three or more representatives. For North Yorkshire Council, this includes: the Police Fire and Crime Panel; the North York Moors National Park Authority; and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

4.2 The changes to political group membership has no impact upon the allocation of seats to Major Outside Bodies.

5.0 TREATMENT OF UNAFFILIATED INDEPENDENTS

5.1 The allocation of committee places must reflect the membership of the Council irrespective of whether councillors are in a political group, non-aligned or single party councillors. If some councillors are not members of a registered political group of the Council, then the Council must allocate these members a proportion of the committee places that are remaining after the political groups have expressed their wishes to the Council.

5.2 Whilst legally the statute provides allocations should be to political groups, the Local Government Association has taken the view that in the true spirit of the 1989 Act, that morally or democratically, councillors who are not members of a political group on the Council are entitled to fair representation. Political groups are not entitled to have more than their share under the proportionality rules. Thus, they cannot exclude councillors that are not in a political group i.e. single party councillors or non-aligned independent councillors. Historically, the unaffiliated members have not taken all the seats allocated to them and some of these seats have been re-distributed to the groups.

6.0 POLITICAL BALANCE GUIDANCE

6.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 introduced a requirement that certain appointments should be proportionate to the political composition of the Council.

6.2 The Council or the Committee must give effect to principles set out in the statutory provisions. The principles are:

1) All the seats must not be allocated to the same political group
2) The majority of the seats must be allocated to the political group (if any) that holds the majority of seats on the Council
3) Subject to 1) and 2), in the case of ordinary committees, the number of seats on the ordinary committees which are allocated to each political group must bear the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the ordinary committees as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the Council.

6.3 Please note that “Ordinary Committees” of this Council are: Chief Officer Appointments and Disciplinary Committee; Employment Appeals Committee; Pension Fund Committee; Strategic Planning Committee; (Transport) Appeals Committee and Standards and Governance Committee.

6.4 Scrutiny committees and Audit are not “ordinary committees”.

6.5 This means that it is necessary to add up the total number of seats on all the ordinary committees. If a political group represents, for example, three quarters of the membership of the Council, it is entitled to three quarters of the total number of seats on all ordinary committees.

6.6 As a result, on some ordinary committees a political group may have more members than the application of the next principle would justify. It provides an allowance for the fact that calculating the proportion will not usually lead to whole numbers and so there will be rounding up and rounding down.

6.7 The duty on the Council is to give effect to these principles in *so far as is reasonably practicable*. This recognises that there cannot be an exact application of the rules.

6.8 Co-optees are not considered as part of calculating political balance except for any co-opted member with voting rights appointed to a committee with education functions under section 13(5) Local Government and Housing Act 1989 - see section 15 of that Act.

7.0 ADDITIONAL LOCAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 It is established practice that every Councillor, who is not on the Executive, has a place on either an Overview and Scrutiny committee or on the Audit Committee, where practicable.

7.2 During the period of this Council it has been the established practice to allocate 1 seat on Scrutiny and Audit committees and 1 seat on Ordinary Committees to each of the unaffiliated Independents. This is practice rather than a legal requirement.

8.0 COMMITTEE REVIEW

8.1 At the meeting of Full Council on 13 February 2026, the seats that Councillor John Mann previously occupied as a member of the Conservative and Independent group were not retained by the Conservative and Independents when he became an Unaffiliated Independent. Councillor John Mann continues to sit in the following Conservative and Independent seats:

- Scrutiny of Health
- Children and Families
- Housing and Leisure
- Development Plan Committee
- General Licensing
- Strategic Planning.

8.2 These seats now need to be appointed to by the Conservative and Independents.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 In considering the proportionality calculations and analysis, it is recommended that the following changes be made to the allocation of seats on committees:

- Reform UK to gain an additional two seats on Scrutiny Committees from the Unaffiliated Independents - this would be a total of two seats from the following three committees (Care and Independence OSC, Corporate and Partnerships OSC and Scrutiny of Health)
- Reform UK gain an additional one seat Ordinary Committees from the Unaffiliated Independents - this would be the General Licensing and Registration Committee
- One of the political groups may wish to give up a seat to Reform UK on the Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Planning Committee or it could be decided by Council that Reform UK are not allocated a seat as their proportionate share is the lowest of all groups with representatives on the committee
- The seats on the following committees that were previously allocated to Councillor John Mann when a member of the Conservative and Independent Group need to be

appointed to the Conservative and Independent Group as these are retained by that political group: Scrutiny of Health; Children and Families OSC; Housing and Leisure OSC; Development Plan Committee; General Licensing; and Strategic Planning.

10.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

10.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 introduced a requirement that certain appointments should be proportionate to the political composition of the Council and the Group need to consider a fair distribution of seats.

10.2 Alternative allocations could be made as long as they apply with the rules identified in paragraph 6.0. The proposals in paragraph 9.1 represents the application of these rules in so far as is reasonably practicable.

11.0 IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no financial, legal, equalities or climate change implications arising from this report.

12.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

12.1 The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 introduced a requirement that certain appointments should be proportionate to the political composition of the Council. The changes to the political balance that resulted from change to political parties necessitate a review of the proportional allocation of seats.

13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the allocation of seats is undertaken in accordance with proportionality rules as follows:

- Reform UK to gain an additional two seats on Scrutiny Committees from the Unaffiliated Independents - this would be a total of two seats from the following three committees (Care and Independence OSC, Corporate and Partnerships OSC and Scrutiny of Health)
- Reform UK gain an additional one seat on Ordinary Committees from the Unaffiliated Independents - this would be the General Licensing and Registration Committee
- One of the political groups may wish to give up a seat to Reform UK on the Harrogate and Knaresborough Area Planning Committee or it could be decided by Council that Reform UK are not allocated a seat as their proportionate share is the lowest of all groups with representatives on the committee
- The seats on the following committees that were previously allocated to Councillor John Mann when a member of the Conservative and Independent Group need to be appointed to the Conservative and Independent Group as these are retained by that political group: Scrutiny of Health; Children and Families OSC; Housing and Leisure OSC; Development Plan Committee; General Licensing; and Strategic Planning.

Barry Khan
Assistant Chief Executive, Legal and Democratic Services

County Hall, Northallerton
Report author – Daniel Harry, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny North Yorkshire Council.

10 March 2026

Appendix 1 – Proportionality Calculation

		Conservative and Independent				NY Independent				Labour				Liberal Democrats and Libera				Green and Independents				Ind Unaff Agg				Reform UK			
	SEATS	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF	PROP	RND	ACT	DIFF
Care and Independence	16	8.00	8.00	8	0.00	1.24	1.00	0.00	-1.24	1.78	2.00	2.00	0.22	2.49	2.00	3.00	0.51	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	0.36	0.00	1.00	0.64	0.71	1.00	1.00	0.29
Children and Families	16	8.00	8.00	8	0.00	1.24	1.00	2.00	0.76	1.78	2.00	2.00	0.22	2.49	2.00	3.00	0.51	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	0.36	0.00	0.00	-0.36	0.71	1.00	0.00	-0.71
Corporate and Partnerships	16	8.00	8.00	8	0.00	1.24	1.00	1.00	-0.24	1.78	2.00	1.00	-0.78	2.49	2.00	2.00	-0.49	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	0.36	0.00	1.00	0.64	0.71	1.00	2.00	1.29
Scrutiny of Health	16	8.00	8.00	8	0.00	1.24	1.00	1.00	-0.24	1.78	2.00	1.00	-0.78	2.49	2.00	2.00	-0.49	1.42	1.00	2.00	0.58	0.36	0.00	1.00	0.64	0.71	1.00	1.00	0.29
Transport, Economy & Environment	16	8.00	8.00	8	0.00	1.24	1.00	2.00	0.76	1.78	2.00	2.00	0.22	2.49	2.00	2.00	-0.49	1.42	1.00	2.00	0.58	0.36	0.00	0.00	-0.36	0.71	1.00	0.00	-0.71
Audit	10	5.00	5.00	5	0.00	0.78	1.00	0.00	-0.78	1.11	1.00	1.00	-0.11	1.56	2.00	2.00	0.44	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.22	0.00	1.00	0.78	0.44	0.00	0.00	-0.44
Housing and Leisure	16	8.00	8.00	8	0.00	1.24	1.00	2.00	0.76	1.78	2.00	3.00	1.22	2.49	2.00	2.00	-0.49	1.42	1.00	1.00	-0.42	0.36	0.00	0.00	-0.36	0.71	1.00	0.00	-0.71
TOTALS SCRUTINY	**106**	**53.00**	**53.00**	**53**	**0.00**	**8.24**	**8.00**	**8.00**	**-0.24**	**11.78**	**12.00**	**12.00**	**0.22**	**16.49**	**16.00**	**16.00**	**-0.49**	**9.42**	**9.00**	**9.00**	**-0.42**	**2.36**	**2.00**	**4.00**	**1.64**	**4.71**	**5.00**	**4.00**	**-0.71**
Chief Officer Appointments and Disciplinary Committee	10	5.00	5.00	5	0.00	0.78	1.00	1.00	0.22	1.11	1.00	1.00	-0.11	1.56	2.00	1.00	-0.56	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.22	0.44	0.00	1.00	0.56
Employment Appeals Committee	5	2.50	3.00	2	-0.50	0.39	0.00	0.00	-0.39	0.56	1.00	0.00	-0.56	0.78	1.00	2.00	1.22	0.44	0.00	1.00	0.56	0.11	0.00	0.00	-0.11	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.22
Pension Fund	10	5.00	5.00	5	0.00	0.78	1.00	0.00	-0.78	1.11	1.00	1.00	-0.11	1.56	2.00	1.00	-0.56	0.89	1.00	1.00	0.11	0.22	0.00	1.00	0.78	0.44	0.00	1.00	0.56
Development Plan Committee	24	12.00	12.00	12	0.00	1.87	2.00	2.00	0.13	2.67	3.00	3.00	0.33	3.73	4.00	5.00	1.27	2.13	2.00	2.00	-0.13	0.53	1.00	0.00	-0.53	1.07	1.00	0.00	
Strategic Planning Committee	15	7.50	8.00	8	0.50	1.17	1.00	2.00	0.83	1.67	2.00	2.00	0.33	2.33	2.00	2.00	-0.33	1.33	1.00	1.00	-0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	-0.33	0.67	1.00	0.00	-0.67
(Transport) Appeals Committee	5	2.50	3.00	3	0.50	0.39	0.00	0.00	-0.39	0.56	1.00	1.00	0.44	0.78	1.00	1.00	0.22	0.44	0.00	0.00	-0.44	0.11	0.00	0.00	-0.11	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.22
Standards and Governance	10	5.00	5.00	5	0.00	0.78	1.00	1.00	0.22	1.11	1.00	1.00	-0.11	1.56	2.00	1.00	-0.56	0.89	1.00	2.00	1.11	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.22	0.44	0.00	0.00	-0.44
Standards and Governance (Hearing Panel)	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
General Licensing and Registration (Taxi)	25	12.50	13.00	12	-0.50	1.94	2.00	2.00	0.06	2.78	3.00	3.00	0.22	3.89	4.00	4.00	0.11	2.22	2.00	1.00	-1.22	0.56	1.00	2.00	1.44	1.11	1.00	1.00	-0.11
Statutory Licensing Committee (Alcohol & Premises)	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS ORDINARY	**104**	**52.00**	**52.00**	**52**	**0.00**	**8.09**	**8.00**	**8.00**	**-0.09**	**11.56**	**12.00**	**12.00**	**0.44**	**16.18**	**16.00**	**17.00**	**0.82**	**9.24**	**9.00**	**9.00**	**-0.24**	**2.31**	**2.00**	**3.00**	**0.69**	**4.62**	**5.00**	**3.00**	
TOTAL	**210**	**105.00**	**105.00**	**105**	**0.00**	**16.33**	**16.00**	**16.00**	**-0.33**	**23.33**	**24.00**	**24.00**	**0.67**	**32.67**	**32.00**	**33.00**	**0.33**	**18.67**	**18.00**	**18.00**	**-0.67**	**4.67**	**4.00**	**7.00**	**2.33**	**9.33**	**10.00**	**7.00**	

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CULTURE, ARTS & HOUSING

CULTURE

We are currently completing Year 1 of our Creative Health training programme in Skipton/ Ripon/Harrogate/Knaresborough - a collaboration between Culture, Public Health and Localities, and delivered in partnership with Pioneer Projects. Year 2 will focus on Selby and Scarborough. The recently opened 'Belonging' Creative Health exhibition at Skipton Town Hall has been well received with excellent feedback and engagement. It includes content generated by participants of a social prescribing project funded through BD25 City of Culture, with the Council's Head of Culture and Archives and Pioneer Projects invited to speak at the Bradford Creative Health Conference on the North Yorkshire approach.

The new streamlined retail platform aimed at increasing income was trialled for the first time to facilitate pre-show online sales at Skipton Town Hall, significantly reducing queues, enhancing customer satisfaction and driving additional secondary spend. Online sales in December 2025 increased by 3,000% compared to December 2024.

The Vision & Labour Satellite exhibition that was developed from the Mercer Harrogate and toured to Northallerton library for December, is estimated to have reached around 2000 people – this has increased the potential audience reach from the main Mercer Art Gallery exhibition by 37%.

The exhibition 'Of Land & Sea' opened at Scarborough Art Gallery at the end of February; visitors are invited to pause, reflect and recharge as they discover artworks from Scarborough's collections that explore the shifting boundaries between coast and land. The exhibition features historic maritime objects on loan from Scarborough's Maritime Heritage Centre.

The second year of Selby Light launched on 27 February with a spectacular group of installations at Selby Abbey featuring the new works *Homeward* by Imitating the Dog, *Through the Liquid Crystal Display* by Jazmin Morris and new lightworks by students from Selby College. Selby Light has brought partners and communities together to create an ambitious cultural programme that brings world-class, inclusive and accessible arts, all completely free to audiences and participants, with core priorities including co-creation and collaboration, equity, diversity and inclusion across the programme, and a sustainable and ecologically responsive approach, and is a wonderful example of the Now Then! Programme in action, incorporating local residents and partner organisations forming part of the artist selection panel, to a wonderful group of residents working with the artists to create the stories of *Homeward*, which quite literally shines a light on Selby people and their voices. Now Then! Is a Place Partnership project funded by Arts Council England, North Yorkshire Council and the UK shared prosperity fund.

The UK Town of Culture competition has generated significant interest locally. The Council is currently supporting the following towns as they develop their expressions of interest, with discussions also taking place with a number of other towns who are considering the opportunity:

- Scarborough, Selby, Harrogate, Richmond, Malton & Norton, Whitby, Settle and Knaresborough

LIBRARIES

Libraries play a key role in digital inclusion, highlighted during Get Online Week in October 2025. Working with the national digital inclusion organisation, the Good Things Foundation, 76 library events were held attended by 471 people, including surgeries with IT Buddies, sessions on family history resources and mastering your mobile phone, coffee and digital conversation, STEM workshops for families and adult coding sessions. Twenty-two libraries joined our very first “Appy Day”, a day dedicated to actively promoting the Library app, supporting customers to download and use the tool.

In November, Libraries participated in Self-Care Week, promoting health messages, offering resources and organizing activities to help people take better care of themselves. Over 700 people attended 84 events in our libraries during the week. Libraries continue to host and promote many regular groups including breastfeeding support, knit and natter sessions, stay and play groups, reading groups, craft sessions, dementia cafés and chess groups to support health and wellbeing.

In a National Lottery Heritage Fund project, we worked with Oxygen Arts to bring to life the untold stories of Britain’s black ballet dancers in a touring exhibition: Into the Light: Pioneers of Black British Ballet. The exhibition brought together archive photography, film, newspaper articles and posters, and was held in Scarborough Library during November. As part of this project 10 libraries across the county welcomed over 350 primary school children through their doors to take part in creative writing workshops and interactive events.

As part of our commitment to the National Year of Reading 2026, a series of library events and activities are being planned to support reading for pleasure, with an emphasis on under-fives, disadvantaged families and boys aged 10-16: the target audiences that have been identified by the Department of Education, National Literacy Trust and the Reading Agency, who are national partners.

VENUES & ATTRACTIONS

Improvement works at the Promenade Lounge (Scarborough Spa) are scheduled for completion in March. Marketing activity promoting the space as an attractive indoor and winter wedding venue is already underway, resulting in good interest and a number of confirmed bookings.

The Scarborough Open Air Theatre has now announced its 28th show for the 2026 season, with Alanis Morissette performing on 5 July 2026 completing this season’s lineup. Ticket sales for the upcoming season have already surpassed all previous annual records for the venue. In addition, the Scarborough Food & Drink Festival will return to the Open Air Theatre on 11–12 April 2026, ahead of the stage build taking place in May in preparation for the new season.

ACTIVE NORTH YORKSHIRE

Following approval in February 2026, a single membership and pricing strategy will be implemented in September, with some minor changes coming into effect from April. A communication plan is in place to support the implementation programme.

A programme of work is currently being developed for the delivery of £36m of leisure investment focused on transforming facilities in Pickering, Selby, Skipton, and Whitby into modern health and wellbeing hubs with improved pools, gyms, and studio spaces. Alongside the leisure investment strategy, £3m will also be invested in new gym equipment across 12 hubs and this is currently going through the early stages of procurement.

The circa. £1m investment to repair and reopen both swimming pools at Richmond is in progress and it is expected that the pool will re-open early in Autumn.
In November 2025, Harrogate Leisure and Wellbeing Centre proudly won National Group Exercise Provider of the Year at the National Fitness Awards. This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our entire Group Exercise Team, whose passion, innovation and community focus continue to make a real impact. It's fantastic to see the team recognised nationally for the work they put into delivering the very best experience for every customer.

The Healthy You service has completed its first year of delivery. A total of 1934 adult referrals have been received to date. The service has some excellent examples of positive change for individual participants, however there is more work to do to increase referrals across the whole of the County and increase the understanding of the service by key partners to increase the referral levels for Children and Young People.

HOUSING

Landlord Services – the Housing Standards' rolling programme of stock condition surveys, scheduled for completion in September 2026, is progressing well. As of the end of January, onsite surveys have been completed for more than 5,000 homes. We are now validating and analysing the data to inform future capital work programmes.

The surveys are identifying a significant number of routine repairs that have not been reported by tenants. Addressing these issues is essential to prevent further deterioration and return properties to lettable standard. This has contributed to a growing repairs backlog. A draft strategy outlining our approach to managing and reducing this backlog was presented to the February Housing Improvement Board.

Similarly, our Tenant Census is also making good progress with over 2,220 responses received to date. The information we are gathering from our tenants will help to ensure that our services are inclusive, accessible and meet their needs.

Enforcement efforts continue to target the highest-risk private sector housing case. Preparations for the Renters' Rights Act are well underway, including updates to enforcement and civil penalty policies scheduled for decision in May 2026, as well as extensive staff training and increases to team capacity.

Progress has continued in the Housing Improvement Agency to reduce the backlog of Disabled Facility Grant cases with added staffing resources. The Healthy and Sustainable Homes team is on track to achieve its year-end target of installing energy efficiency measures in approx. 54 households. Marketing initiatives have now commenced to support Year 2 delivery, and new energy advisors have been hired to provide post-installation assistance to residents across all tenures. Lifeline transformation and the digitalisation of 2,400 households to prepare for the January 2027 cut-off date are also advancing.

We have continued adding new homes to the Housing Revenue Account through acquisitions both new-built and second-hand properties and are on track to have delivered 70 new homes by the end of March 2026. We delivered a further 12 homes to be used for temporary accommodation.

We have awarded our first grants from the Community Led Housing Fund, awarding £94,835 to Craven Community Land Trust to support the purchasing of two affordable homes in Giggleswick. With further smaller grants provided to community groups to progress feasibility studies, which should lead to applications for future development funding in due course.

We also awarded grants from the Affordable Housing Delivery Fund and Rural Housing Delivery Fund - £435,000 awarded to deliver 15 affordable homes for the Hunmanby scheme and £440,000 for 11 affordable homes in Shipton by Beningbrough. Both went to Broadacres Housing Association and all homes will be rented at a social rent.

COUNCILLOR SIMON MYERS

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Children and Families services have continued to work within a challenging environment, characterised by sustained levels of complexity and need. Throughout this period, our focus has remained firmly on quality, timeliness and improving outcomes for children and families. This has been supported by close oversight of performance trends, strong partnership working and a continued commitment to reflective practice.

Leadership and Strategic Capacity
Since our November meeting, there has been a significant strengthening of leadership across the Service. I was pleased to welcome El Mayhew as our new Corporate Director. Alongside this appointment, the directorate has implemented refreshed leadership arrangements, which bring a lengthy period of interim structures to a close.

These arrangements include the creation of a new Assistant Director for Children's Partnerships and Sufficiency, bringing together partnership infrastructure, commissioning responsibilities and sufficiency planning. This integrated approach places the directorate in a strong position to respond to the imminent national reforms across children's services and education.

Performance and Service Activity
Early indicators suggest that enhanced early intervention pathways and strengthened partnership responses are beginning to have a positive effect. Referrals to Children's Social Care have decreased for a third consecutive quarter. The number of children entering care continues to rise but is being monitored closely. Placement stability has improved.

Early Help continues to play a crucial role in providing proportionate and timely support, 96.6% of Initial Assessments were completed within the 20day timescale. Assessment Reviews rose to 98.7%, reflecting robust oversight and effective planning. Quarter 3 saw the first reduction in the number of children subject to Child Protection Plans, with a 7.5% decrease from the previous quarter.

Timeliness of statutory assessments remains a strong indicator of responsiveness. In Q3 2025/26, 93.6% of children and family assessments were completed within 45 working days. The median completion time fell to 29 working days, meaning families are now receiving support more quickly.

Corporate Parenting and the Voice of Young People
A corporate parenting briefing was given at the February members seminar meeting reaffirming our corporate parenting responsibilities and asking members to “bake in” these responsibilities. Following this directive, we spent a Saturday morning baking cakes with a group of enthusiastic care leavers led by the chairman of the Corporate Parent Group. We have continued to work directly with care experienced young people through consultation activities. Together, the young people and I met with the Deputy Mayor of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority to discuss the Police and Crime Plan and explore how policing can best support children and young people, including those with lived experience of care.

Fostering, Kinship Care and Support for Carers
Foster carers and kinship carers continue to provide essential, life changing stability for children unable to live with their birth families. I am delighted to report that a North Yorkshire foster carer received an MBE in the New Year Honours for more than 30 years of outstanding service.

The Mockingbird programme has continued to expand, with well-established hubs and increasing engagement from carers. Recruitment activity has strengthened further, with more enquiries from

both unrelated foster carers and connected carers, helping ensure more children remain in family-based care within their communities.

SEND Partnership Improvement and National Reforms
The service continues to work closely with regional colleagues through peer support and challenge to strengthen SEND partnership arrangements. The overall volume of plans continues to be extremely high; however, I am pleased to report that in Q3 2025/26, 72.8% of new Education, Health and Care Plans were issued within 20 weeks.

The Government published its schools and SEND White Paper, every child achieving and thriving, on 23 February 2026, alongside a national consultation on SEND reform. The service is currently reviewing the proposals to shape North Yorkshire's response.

The reforms indicate a significant shift in the way children's needs are identified and supported. We welcome the emphasis on inclusion and the strengthening of mainstream support. Further clarity is required regarding detailed expectations, transitional arrangements and the level of resources needed to ensure successful local implementation and smooth experience for children and families.

Virtual School
Training for Designated Teachers has been delivered on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Further training has been provided on bereavement, PDA and emotion coaching, involving foster carers. Support for schools around Child in Need and Child Protection continues to grow, with upcoming training for secondary headteachers. The NY Virtual School continues to lead the North East Emotion Coaching network.

Financial Context and High Needs
(shared across CYPS portfolios)

High Needs funding remains a considerable national and local issue. Like many authorities, North Yorkshire continues to experience increasing financial pressures across this system.

The Final Local Government Funding Settlement confirmed the Government's intention to introduce a High Needs Stability Grant, which will cover 90% of accumulated high needs related DSG deficits up to the end of March 2026, subject to approval of a local SEND reform plan.

This is a constructive development. Further details are still awaited on how financial pressures arising after March 2026 will be treated and on future funding arrangements.

COUNCILLOR JANET SANDERSON

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR MANAGING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Climate Change Update

The Council continues to implement approaches to energy use reduction across our own operations and supporting communities and businesses to also act.

In the last few weeks over £1million in Shared Prosperity Fund grant support has been processed through our Business Sustainability Programme to farms and businesses in the region, enabling energy efficiency, solar and wind generated energy and investing in local supply chains. We've also been successful in securing Mayoral Renewable Fund investment for our leisure provision and a regeneration project, which will also improve renewable energy generation across our estate.

The Climate Risk and Vulnerability project, in collaboration with York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA), City of York and the protected landscapes, is nearing conclusion and the implications and recommendations for our area will be shared with NYC services, likely to be impacted by the changing climate.

We are also reviewing the outcome of a piece of research into how to decarbonise the Council's fleet of vehicles. This will help officers to prioritise services where electric vehicles can be used to support service delivery and produce long term improvements to air quality, carbon emissions and also financial savings.

I would like to update you on our Carbon Disclosure Project score that was recently announced. This has improved from a grade B to an A minus, showing our continued commitment and progress across the sustainability agenda.

Natural Capital Service

The North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) was published on 18 February, and we are now working on the governance for the transition to delivery. North Yorkshire Council will remain the Responsible Authority (RA) accountable to Defra and we expect to work closely with the North Yorkshire and York Local Nature Partnership (LNP) in the coordination of the delivery of nature recovery.

Following a recent Secretary of State review of all proposed designations, the Yorkshire Wolds Area of Natural Beauty, has been given approval to continue the process of formal designation, including governance processes and agreement over the future host authority remit and management of the proposed designation.

For our existing National Landscapes, both Nidderdale and Howardian Hills National Landscape have been attending their respective Area Committees to give an update and overview of the next steps for the refresh of the Management Plans. These are prepared on behalf of North Yorkshire Council and will be brought forward for formal adoption by December 2025.

Waste

The Council is progressing the outsourcing the cleaning of our public conveniences, this should harmonise standards and generate long-term savings, while a Member Task and Finish Group has concluded to help shape a new Public Convenience Strategy that will guide

future investment and service models, I am very grateful for the time invested by Members of the group on this important topic.

The 2026 garden waste collection service has once again proved popular with subscribers, and we look forward to providing another year of reliable collections throughout North Yorkshire. In addition, the Street Cleansing Service is about to undergo a full reset to deliver a consistent countywide approach, clearer cleansing frequencies and enhanced performance monitoring to ensure cleaner and more resilient local spaces.

Transformational work to modernise and harmonise the waste service continues to progress at pace. In 2025, we successfully implemented standardised working practices, ensuring that all domestic waste collections now take place between Tuesday and Friday, with consistent start and finish times across the service. In 2026, our focus turns to the optimisation of collection rounds. This will improve the efficient and consistent deployment of staff and vehicles, supporting both service reliability and value for money. Alongside this, we will begin the rollout of the new twin-bin recycling service across Richmondshire, marking an important step in enhancing our recycling offer for residents and improving environmental outcomes.

Regulatory Services

Licensing

Taxis – The proposed revised Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy and the proposed new Inclusive Service Plan is progressing towards approval at Executive on 17 March 2026.

Pavement Licensing – The proposed new Pavement Licensing Policy will be presented to the Executive for approval on 17 March 2026.

Review of Licence fees – Changes to general licence fees have been agreed for 2026/27. Changes to taxi fees are currently being consulted upon.

National consultations – The Licensing Team is currently working with the City of York and the Mayors Transport Authority team to make agreed responses to the Governments current consultation to move taxi licensing to Transport Authorities.

Incidents at licensed premises – Incident rates have been low.

National Trading Standards eCrime Team and NYtech

Operation Bess – A major investigation has uncovered a £2 million fraud scheme in which elderly and vulnerable consumers were duped into believing they were speaking with legitimate customer service representatives from Microsoft, Epson, HP and other household IT companies. The fraudsters falsely claimed the consumers had issues with their devices – problems that were either fabricated or very trivial – and then charged the consumers up to £4,000 for unnecessary work. Seven defendants have now been convicted, receiving a combined total of 13 years imprisonment.

Farming, Food and Health

Bird Flu - On 6 February, the Grassington Captive Bird (Monitoring) Control Zone was revoked by the government following a successful period of disease control monitoring. As such there are currently no bird flu infected premises in North Yorkshire, albeit the national mandatory housing requirements remain for the time being.

Registration, Coroners and Bereavement Services

The Registration Service has begun rolling out a new national Digital Registration System. By Autumn this year all death registrations will take place using this new system, with births and marriages being moved across from 2027.

The Coroner's Service has recently appointed a new Area Coroner to replace the previous postholder who has moved to a tribunal judge post. Plans for the management of mass fatalities are being updated in conjunction with the Resilience and Emergencies Team and City of York Council.

Capital plans for replacement cremators at Woodlands Crematorium will go for approval before the end of the financial year. Following this further capital funds approval will be requested for cemetery expansion in Harrogate, Scarborough and Whitby. Alongside this the service is working with other departments in the Council and relevant Dioceses regarding closed churchyard maintenance responsibilities

COUNCILLOR RICHARD FOSTER

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS

Our Education, learning and skills services continue to focus firmly on inclusion, opportunity and strong outcomes for children, young people and adult learners across North Yorkshire. Over the past four months, we have continued to strengthen school standards, expand early years and wraparound provision, enhance enrichment opportunities, and progress significant developments in SEND sufficiency. We continue to advocate for fairer funding nationally.

Education Standards and School Inspections
Ofsted inspections resumed nationally on 10 November 2025 following a temporary pause linked to the introduction of the renewed framework. Fourteen North Yorkshire state-funded schools have been inspected since that time, with two report cards published so far. Safeguarding was judged as met in both. Where evaluation areas require attention, schools will receive a monitoring visit. This level of scrutiny provides clear assurance around safeguarding practice and supports consistent improvement activity where it is needed.

Adult Learning and Skills – Participation, Quality and Readiness for Change
Our Adult Learning and Skills Service, together with the Personalised Learning College, continues to prioritise learner experience, inclusion and readiness for inspection. Participation has grown strongly, with:

- 917 Adult Skills enrolments (an increase of 234 on last year)
- 1,966 Tailored Learning enrolments
- 199 learners at the Personalised Learning College

Achievement and retention remain positive, reflecting quality and strong learner engagement. We have also secured further national and regional investment to support literacy, numeracy and digital programmes, widening access to lifelong learning across our communities.

Early Years – Expanding Places and Growing the Workforce
Our work to strengthen early years sufficiency continues at pace. Seventeen providers were awarded £854,003.98 in DfE Early Years Capital Grant funding, enabling the creation of 336 new childcare places for children aged birth to 35 months. Fifteen projects are already complete, with the final two nearing completion.

North Yorkshire now has an extensive network of 625 early years providers, including childminders, day nurseries, pre-schools and schools with nursery provision.
Workforce development also remains a priority. A new course funded through the Combined Mayoral Authority—*Working with Children in Early Years, Schools and Colleges*—launched in November 2025. Thirty-five learners have successfully completed the programme, with a further 34 enrolled for the March 2026 cohort.

Wraparound Childcare
We continue to expand school-age wraparound provision. Sixty per cent of primary schools now offer full 8am–6pm childcare, with around 2,000 new places created across 105 schools. This is a vital support for working families and significantly enhances access to high-quality enrichment before and after the school day. Further expansion work is planned during March.

Elective Home Education, Alternative Provision and Inclusion
We remain focused on reducing the number of children moving into Elective Home Education by strengthening engagement with school leaders and ensuring families receive clear, timely information about their options.

Alongside this, we are progressing significant reforms in Alternative Provision. Following consultation, we have agreed to lower the age range for Pupil Referral Units to enable preventative places and deliver the statutory sixth-day provision for primary-aged children following permanent exclusion. Implementation is now underway with settings.

Music and Outdoor Learning
Our Music Service continues to broaden access through whole-class tuition pilots, collaboration with lead schools, and free ensemble and vocal events planned for spring and summer.

East Barnby remains temporarily closed, following the December condition survey, and the service has successfully relocated the majority of bookings to Bewerley Park, day activities, or alternative dates. Where this was not possible, refunds have been issued. Our priority remains safe, high-quality outdoor learning for North Yorkshire's children and we are working on ensuring that disruption to our schools is minimal during this period.

SEND Sufficiency and Specialist Provision
We continue to make progress in expanding local specialist provision. A key milestone was achieved with the groundbreaking ceremony on 11 February 2026 for the new specialist school in Osgodby, near Selby, which will help reduce our reliance on distant placements. The Department for Education recently offered a £5.6m capital contribution as an alternative to our existing plans for the Grammar School Lane site. Following careful consideration—and recognising the importance of delivering a 120-place special school aligned with assessed need—we have chosen to continue with the Grammar School Lane development rather than accept funding that would prevent the school's construction.

Financial Context – Schools Funding and High Needs
Funding decisions for 2026–27 have now been confirmed. High Needs remains a significant challenge nationally. The Department for Education have published some initial information on grant support for local authorities who have accrued high needs deficits within their Dedicated Schools Grant. Whilst the announcement of grant support is welcome, the operation of any grant support – and therefore the value of any grant – requires further clarity. Any grant support will be subject to an agreed local SEND reform plan. We await further detail on future-year arrangements.

National Reforms
The Government published its schools and SEND White Paper, *Every child achieving and thriving*, on 23 February 2026. We are now reviewing its implications for inclusion, mainstream support, specialist provision and the transition arrangements for families. This is a major national development and we will bring forward further detail as the Government's implementation timetable becomes clearer.

COUNCILLOR ANNABEL WILKINSON

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR FINANCE AND ASSETS

Revenues & Benefits

The annual Council Tax billing process was successfully completed over the weekend of 28 February to 1 March 2026.

In total, 309,206 properties have now been billed, generating a gross debit of £762 million for the financial year. Of these accounts, around 30,000 currently carry arrears, approximately 230,000 households pay by Direct Debit, and 14,000 residents have opted for electronic billing.

This year's Council Tax bills include clearer information to promote e-billing and to support residents in moving to more efficient payment methods. They also highlight the new Council Tax account numbers, introduced as part of the recent system consolidation work. The wider use of these new references will support more streamlined and reliable payment processes for residents going forward.

Turning to Business Rates, Members should note that the annual billing run was, at the time of preparing this update, scheduled for completion on 7 March 2026, covering around 33,000 non-domestic properties.

I want to draw particular attention to the challenges faced this year as a result of very late national legislative changes. These include new transitional arrangements, revised relief schemes, and the introduction of additional supplements. Many of these changes were confirmed only shortly before billing preparation began, adding significant complexity to the process.

Officers have worked intensively to ensure that all national requirements are correctly reflected, so that businesses receive accurate bills that fully comply with the latest legislation. Further detailed guidance on the range of reliefs and transitional measures will be made available to businesses via the Council's website, alongside additional information issued directly with the bills.

I would like to thank officers for their continued hard work in delivering both Council Tax and Business Rates billing at scale, while managing system change and late national policy updates.

Property

Progress against the ambitions and objectives set out in the Corporate Property Strategy 2025–2026 continues to move forward strongly, with several notable achievements:

- The Property team is actively advancing the disposal of approximately 70 sites that have been identified as surplus to service requirements.
- As at the quarter ended December 2025, £7.4 million had been achieved from asset sales in the 2025/26 financial year, bringing total capital receipts generated since vesting day to £17.7 million.
- A Strategic Sites Programme has been established to identify sites within the Council's portfolio with potential for housing development. This programme has the long-term potential to deliver more than 3,000 homes alongside substantial capital receipts.

- The Council is on track to deliver over £1.8 million in revenue savings per annum from planned asset-rationalisation savings.

A Member Seminar on property has been arranged for 1 April 2026, and all Members are encouraged to attend to learn more about these achievements and future plans for the portfolio.

COUNCILLOR GARETH DADD

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR OPEN TO BUSINESS

PLANNING

Planning Policy & Place

The government launched a new plan making system in December 2025. Although work on the North Yorkshire Local Plan is underway, the council will need to ensure that it is prepared within the new system from the beginning of the process. Officers are carefully assessing the implications before launching a new timetable for plan preparation. Work already undertaken will not be wasted and it is intended that, although the stages of plan preparation are different, adoption will still be in 2029 as previously planned. The Local Plan "Call for Sites" process has generated the submission of more than 2000 sites to date, which can be viewed on the Council's dedicated call for sites webpage.

A new draft National Planning Policy Framework has been released for consultation, which seeks to introduce a significant number of changes to national planning policy. A comprehensive response has been prepared for submission to the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government. The government have also introduced a new tier of development plan in addition to Local Plans. They are called Spatial Development Strategies and will be prepared by Combined Authorities. Officers have begun to work proactively with the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority to progress opportunities for joint working on evidence base.

We continue to support the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. The Clapham Neighbourhood Plan is now made. Neighbourhood Plans for Knaresborough and Terrington have been successfully subject to their independent examinations and will be coming to Executive Member for their Decision Statements to progress to referendums. Up and coming consultation is expected on Tadcaster (submission stage) in the coming months. Husthwaite's draft plan has now gone through its regulation 14 consultation. The Whitby Neighbourhood Plan is also now at its draft consultation. We have also designated Beadlam and Nawton's Neighbourhood Plan area.

Planning Delivery and Infrastructure

Following the adoption of the Maltkiln DPD by Council at the end of last year we now have a strong policy framework to guide the delivery of the new settlement. A framework masterplan for the whole site will be considered by Executive on 17 March 2026. As part of this work, we held a well-attended community consultation event in Kirk Hammerton. The masterplan aims to establish the key broad locations of land uses such as access and movement, green and blue infrastructure. It will include guidance on all aspects of design to ensure a high-quality development and incorporates sustainability considerations including measures to address climate change.

In December the Council also approved and published its first Infrastructure Business Plan (IBP). This provides a new framework and assessment process for identifying and prioritising infrastructure projects that support placemaking and planned growth, providing a more forward-looking approach to infrastructure planning and investment.

As part of our work to support and accelerate housing delivery, we have recently made available a site directory on the Council's website containing information on allocated sites within all our adopted local plans that had not been brought forward for development. This allows developers and registered providers an easy way to see what sites are available for

development across North Yorkshire. In the future we are looking to expand this to also include sites outside of Local Plans that have already got planning permission.

Building Control

The implementation of the national Building Safety Levy will come into force on 1st October 2026, meaning that a levy will become payable on some residential developments that are built within our area. The Council will have a new role as a collecting authority for the levy and officers are working to prepare for this implementation. Having the correct systems and processes in place will be critical to the collection of this levy and central government will be providing new burdens funding to allow for resources to be put in place prior to the implementation. Councils will also be able to retain part of the collected levy to cover their costs of processing of the levy while it remains in place.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, REGENERATION, TOURISM

Economy Update

A pipeline of strategic growth priorities was agreed by Executive in December covering regeneration in Scarborough, Harrogate and Selby, major employment sites, large housing allocations such as Maltkiln, and transport improvements including bus network and rail station upgrades.

Delivery of the NYC UK Shared Prosperity Fund / Rural England Prosperity Fund Programme for 2025/26 is nearing completion, with over 97% of the £5.137m now committed. 139 grants have been awarded and 3,106 individuals supported in numeracy, literacy, digital and tourism skills. Seven Council capital projects, totalling almost £1m, are complete or nearing completion, including the Ropery car park in Pickering. Tourism marketing continues in partnership with Make it York.

The Trailblazer Inclusive Employment Programme has delivered sector focus groups, one-to-one support and will produce case studies and guidance. An Inclusive Employment Conference also took place on 5 March 2026 at the Harrogate Pavilions attended by a wide range of local businesses.

Business North Yorkshire recorded over 125 engagements with businesses in Quarter 3, including support for 90 local staff facing redundancy from a Northallerton-based company working with DWP, National Careers Service and Adult Learning.

Tourism Update

Visit North Yorkshire (VNY) coordinated the Council's visitor economy response to the National Overnight Visitor Levy consultation. A survey of 277 respondents found 71% opposed, with detailed feedback on levy use being submitted directly to government by the Council in February.

Destination Marketing has capitalised on the new *Wuthering Heights* release, hosting six international media/influencer visits and creating content to boost web traffic.

VNY successfully delivered the first Helmsley & Howardian Hills Restaurant Week (33 restaurants, 23 February–1 March) and the Whitby Restaurant Week (2–8 March).

VNY also hosted its first Ambassadors Conference on 26 February at Ampleforth Abbey with over 80 attendees. A high profile 'Tourism on Track' event takes place on 19 March at Bolton Abbey Station during English Tourism Week, with MP engagement and a visit from Visit England Chair, Lady Victoria Borwick.

Regeneration

Town Investment Plans
Work on the Town Investment Plan programme has accelerated with 23 out of the 32 plans started their development. Seven towns are now in the process of agreeing visions and beginning to identify projects and Richmond has started working towards finalising their Town Investment Plan. To confirm their commitment to the program, YNYCA have opened a call for the LA High Street Fund to deliver projects emerging from the programme that will improve the high streets. NYC Officers, in partnership with local people, are preparing bids for Richmond, Sherburn, Harrogate, Whitby, Skipton and Ripon

Pride in Place - Scarborough
The Council is supporting the Neighbourhood Board to prioritise projects that will be delivered in Scarborough over the next four years. These projects focus on the regeneration of the high street, environmental improvements and community health and wellbeing. A consultation has just completed that asked residents to vote for the ideas that they saw as a priority for the town

Scarborough and Whitby Town Deal projects
The works on the Old Town Hall and Maritime Hub in Whitby are expected to complete this spring and will represent a major milestone for the Town Deal Programme. In Scarborough, the cinder track junctions project has also started on site and will be completed by the summer.

Selby Regeneration
Improvements to Selby Market Place start this month to improve facilities for the market and other events. New street furniture will also be installed. Just across the road, repairs and maintenance of the park is underway, ahead of a refresh of the area. Design work for improvements around the Station continues to progress.

Catterick Garrison LUF
The project to create a new multi-use centre and improvements to the park are progressing well. The steel work for the building is complete, and the project is on track to finish early 2027. Artists have been working with the community to create pieces that celebrate stories and people from the area.

HARBOURS

Dredging
The Whitby Harbour Lower Harbour Channel dredging has been completed, and the Upper Harbour dredging is now underway.

To date we have removed over 17,000 tonnes of material.

Scarborough West Pier Pile Repairs
Works on the repairs to the West Pier are continuing to progress well.

Harbour Strategy
The draft harbours strategy is available for public consultation and received its first public scrutiny at the Transport Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 28 January, where it was positively received.

The draft strategy will next be publicly considered by the Scarborough and Whitby Area Committee at its meeting on 02 March, before being reported to Executive in April.

Whitby Cliff Lift
Anglo American re-inspected the cliff lift shaft on 22 January and found that the condition had not changed from their previous inspection.

After being considered by the Scarborough and Whitby Area Committee on 02 March a final decision will be made by Executive on 17 March.

COUNCILLOR MARK CRANE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

**STATEMENT OF COUNCILLOR HEATHER PHILLIPS,
EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SERVICES**

Legal and Democratic Services

The Appeals Team is planning for the school admission bulk appeal that follow the national offer days for primary and secondary school places each year. For Year seven entry, the appeals run from the end of April until late July and for Reception entry the appeals run from June to July. This is a very busy time of year and so effective planning and scheduling is of paramount importance. Throughout the year, there are large number of in-year school admission appeals, exclusion reviews and transport appeals.

HealthWatch North Yorkshire is a grant funded service, contract managed by Legal and Democratic Services, that plays a lead role locally in ensuring that the voices of local people are heard in the planning, design and evaluation of health and social care services. National changes to a range of organisations involved with or linked to patient safety were announced in 2025. As part of this, subject to the necessary legislation being enacted, all HealthWatch services will be abolished in 2027 and the funding passported through to the NHS local integrated care boards and local authorities. The detail of this is still being worked through but there are concerns about what this then means for the voice of the service user and the potential loss of all that HealthWatch North Yorkshire has achieved over the past 5-10 years.

Localities

The Localities service has made strong progress this quarter, in areas such as voluntary sector and Parish sector support, strengthened partnerships, and outcomes across digital and financial inclusion, community resilience and wellbeing, and social regeneration. Some key highlights in recent months include:

Communities:

- **Digital Inclusion:** £500k UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funding fully allocated to 31 new cross-sector- projects, with demand for device recycling at its highest level. 286 refurbished devices were distributed through Reboot, supported by new tablet donations.
- **Local Food Support:** Enhanced collaboration continued across Scarborough, Harrogate and Richmond, alongside support to 29 Household Support Fund food projects to boost winter resilience.
- **North Yorkshire Local Assistance Fund (NYLAF):** Demand increased to 2,946 applications, with over 80% relating to food and energy. December saw a sharp seasonal rise. Importantly, the team has initiated developmental work to strengthen NYLAF's wider engagement model – including reviewing authorised agents, refreshing training and preparing for a stakeholder event to improve consistency, access and awareness going into next year.
- **Cost of Living Campaign:** Delivered in conjunction with Communications and Customer, Revenues, and Benefits, featuring social media activity and widespread partner distribution. The targeted Pension Credit mailout has been highly successful, with 90 households securing Pension Credit via the new telephone support service delivered by the Income Maximisation Team.
- **Inspire Grants:** Strong demand continued with 48 grants (£43,701) awarded – a significant increase on Quarter 3 last year.
- **Community Anchor Network:** Ongoing development with 27 place-based organisations. A new Community Anchor Organisation confirmed for Malton and Norton.
- **Community Partnerships:** Ten potential new partnerships explored; Nidderdale Community Partnership established and continue to support the delivery of the local Town Investment Plan (TIP). Broader work on TIPs continues across the county in partnership with Regeneration.

- **UKSPF Delivery:** Localities continue to manage £1.3m capital for village halls and £200k revenue for Community Wealth Building across North Yorkshire and York on behalf of the Mayoral Combined Authority. 52 awards to community buildings have been made, with 8 Community Wealth Building awards also made. Training and support are also being provided to social enterprises.

Parish Liaison and Local Devolution:
- **Parish Liaison:** Continued strong engagement through meetings, drop-ins- and surgeries, with further improvements in data management and Parish Charter implementation.
- **Devolution:** The proposal for Knaresborough Market was agreed in October, implementation is underway.

Migrant Programmes:
- The SWIFT programme continues to grow, delivering 51 hours of training to 288 people and strengthening casework pathways.
- Rolling out new translation and British Sign Language access tools that are improving first point of contact resolution.

Customer

Customer Service

Performance by month for front line queues – % of calls answered in four mins

Month	Q3 2024/25 % of calls answered in 4 mins	Q3 2025/26 % of calls answered in 4 mins	% Difference in 2024/25 to 2025/26
October	92.73%	91.71%	-1.02%
November	96.00%	91.65%	-4.35%
December	95.25%	97.51%	+2.26%
Q3 Overall	94.51%	92.48%	-2.03%

Performance by month for front line queues – Average speed of answer (- difference is a quicker average, a + difference is a longer average)

Month	Q3 2024/25 % average speed of answer (mm:ss)	Q3 2025/26 % average speed of answer (mm:ss)	% Difference in 2024/25 to 2025/26 (mm:ss)
October	00:52	00:50	-00:02
November	00:35	00:50	+00:15
December	00:38	00:28	-00:10
Q3 Overall	00:42	00:46	+00:04

In Q3 2025/26 demand for social care has declined compared to the same period in the previous year, this is a consistent trend to quarter 2. In Q3 call demand accounted for 49% of overall social care demand, compared to 51% for 2024/25. Email demand however is consistent across both years, indicating it is likely that the only reason for the lower percentage and volume of call demand is due to an improvement in call performance in social care which has led to fewer repeat calls. This improvement in call performance compared to the previous year has been consistent across the last six quarters which has resulted in the proportion of call work to decline within the service compared to the previous period. It is also important to note than now out of hours York social care calls are through a separate queue so have been removed out of the social care call figure from 17 July 2025.

	Q3 2024/25 Social Care Demand	Q3 2025/26 Social Care Demand	% Difference in 2024/25 to 2025/26
Call Demand	17,773	15,522[4]	-14.5%
Email Demand	16,895	16,206	-4.1%
Total Demand	**34,688**	**31,728**	**-8.5%**

[4] Reporting is broken for the weekend of 29-30 November 2025, this figure for out of hours calls cannot be retrieved, therefore please take into account that there are 2 days' worth of missing data in this section.

Customer Programme update

The new Customer Experience Strategy and transformation programme are moving forward steadily. Work has begun on launching a cloud-based Netcall customer platform and contact centre solution. The system is being set up now, with the telephony feature scheduled to go live on 16 March 2026. This upgrade will enhance agents' experience and provide customers with new options, such as requesting a call-back instead of waiting in line. Planning for upcoming phases of the new platform's development is underway, and further updates on progress will be shared in due course.

Welfare and Benefits

Household Support Fund (HSF)

The seventh phase of HSF began in Q3 and will close at the end of Q4. The Department of Work and Pensions funded programme aims to support those most in need or crisis with significantly rising living costs in 2025/26. In line with the scheme guidelines and the agreed eligibility framework and delivery plan, 26,270 households across North Yorkshire were identified for a direct award in the form of a £190 shopping voucher to support them over the winter months. The direct award window was live between 8 October 2025 - 12 November 2025, of which 95.4% of the eligible cohort redeemed their voucher, within this phase the eligible cohort criteria was expanded to include residents who received 75% to 100% of Council Tax Reduction as of 1 September 2025. The cohort continues to encompass families, pensioners and working age adult households.

This scheme is delivered in a combined cross directorate approach, where customer service handles all phone calls initially. Customer Services help customers redeem their vouchers and answer general queries, but more complex queries are passed through to the Welfare and Benefits Service. This year there has also been a communication campaign promoting Pension Credit uptake within the scheme. This entailed incorporating a Pension Credit leaflet to all household support fund eligible recipients and a more targeted communication to those who identified to be eligible for Pension Credit but not claiming the benefit throughout December. To ensure the support was available to these residents upon receipt of this communication, the Welfare and Benefits, Customer Services and the Income Maximisation teams worked together to provide this service. Overall, 2,955 calls were received that related to Household Support Fund and Pension Credit in Q3 of which 99.9% were handled.

Targeted Pension Credit Campaign 2025/26

Overview
A Pension Credit campaign launched in late November aims to boost take-up among eligible older residents by raising awareness and providing direct support. Aligned with the HSF and wider Cost of Living activity, the campaign was to run for around three months to focus on pension-age households. Due to strong engagement, the campaign has been extended to ensure more residents can access support they may be missing.

Support provided
The Income Maximisation Team has delivered a full range of support, including eligibility checks, telephone-based completion of Pension Credit claims, follow-up calls, in-person appointments, and comprehensive welfare benefit checks to identify additional entitlements such as Blue Badges, bus passes and Attendance Allowance.

Key Activity
Campaign activity has included issuing 1,200 targeted direct-mail letters, promoting the offer through social media, radio and partner organisations, maintaining a dedicated telephone line for resident enquiries, and sending follow-up letters to those who did not initially respond.

Customer Contact (to date)
To date, the campaign has supported 224 residents. Of these, 89 were found not to be eligible, 34 were already receiving Pension Credit, 90 successfully made a new claim, three require follow-up work such as call-backs or visits, and 8 chose not to proceed despite being eligible.

Financial Impact (to date)
Residents have collectively secured £4,418.58 in additional Pension Credit each week, equating to an annualised financial gain of £250,556.16.

Additional Benefits Secured (to date)
The campaign has also helped residents access 72 additional entitlements, including Attendance Allowance, Blue Badges, bus passes, Council Tax Support, health-related assistance, TV licence concessions, utilities support and other related benefits.

Real Stories from Local Customers

Blue Badge Renewal and Increased Income: Customer was unaware they could receive Pension Credit and was struggling after their Blue Badge expired. Following eligibility checks and a full benefits review, their Pension Credit claim was completed over the phone, and support was provided to secure a new Blue Badge and disabled bus pass. They now receive £79.75 per week, improving financial stability and mobility.
Private Pensions and a Second Property: Customer believed private pensions and joint ownership of an additional property meant they were not entitled to help. A full benefits check identified eligibility for Attendance Allowance, which will subsequently enable Pension Credit and Council Tax Reduction claims. Ongoing support will continue as further entitlements become available.
Hidden Entitlements Beyond Housing Support: Customer receiving only their State Pension, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction assumed no further support was available. After a full check, their Pension Credit claim was completed and further entitlements were identified, including Attendance Allowance, Blind Person's Tax Allowance and a free TV licence. They now receive £179.66 per week in additional income.
Risk of Losing Attendance Allowance: Customer worried about losing Attendance Allowance and unaware they qualified for Pension Credit received timely support. Their Pension Credit claim was completed immediately, and a home visit was arranged to help with the Attendance Allowance review form. This prevented loss of benefit and protected their Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support. They now receive £65.96 per week in Pension Credit.

Summary
The campaign is generating strong results, improving financial resilience for older residents and unlocking more than £250,000 in annualised Pension Credit awards. Feedback shows reduced stress, improved confidence and increased awareness of available support.

<u>Development Management and Enforcement</u>

Planning operations

Work on a single hosted planning system (One Uniform) continues. This is an important project to help us deliver a more efficient and effective Planning and Building Control service and provide greater consistency of customer service across the whole Council area.

Since my last update we have now migrated across Scarborough and Craven. For Building Control this now means that we have all our legacy areas in the single hosted One Uniform. For Planning and Land Charges we are now starting to focus on the next two areas to migrate across which will be Hambleton and Selby. This is a significant undertaking as the two areas will migrate simultaneously. This will happen over the weekend of 2 and 3 May with final checks being carried out on Monday 4 May and Tuesday 5 May.

As previously, in order to facilitate this work, we have to close down the current system which will have a short-term impact on service performance levels. We will be ensuring that appropriate communications are put out to our customers to raise awareness.

Development Management and Enforcement

From 1 April until 31 December 2025 the Planning service has determined 143 major, 1,182 minor, 2,319 other and 13 county matter applications. The number of applications being received remains high and, in addition, the service has also dealt with a considerable number of other types of applications, including prior approvals, screening opinions, scoping reports, trees, hedgerows, discharge of conditions, telecommunications etc. In addition, in the same timeframe, around 1380 new enforcement cases were received and the service closed 1,950 enforcement cases following investigation.

Performance for planning applications across all types continues to exceed statutory national government targets.

Locality budgets

The eleventh year of the scheme started on 12 May 2025 and the last date for the receipt of recommendations was 31 January 2026. Councillors were encouraged to focus on projects or activities that responded to local needs and community initiatives; the impact of climate change, and/or projects that promote the Council's Stronger Communities programme.

A total of 409 recommendations were submitted amounting to £429,379.40 (95.4%) of this year's budget. A report on the expenditure and operation of Locality Budgets in the 2025/26 financial year will be presented to Corporate and Partnership Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June 2026.

COUNCILLOR HEATHER PHILLIPS

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

Parking Update

The Council continues to make significant progress across several major parking workstreams which together support a modern, consistent, and financially sustainable parking service for North Yorkshire.

Parking Tariffs - The Corporate Director and I recently approved a 10% uplift in parking tariffs in recognition of inflation pressures going into 2027, the need to ensure sustainable services through the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the significant investments that the council is making in its 170 car parks as detailed below.

Machines Update - Procurement of new parking machines are progressing in line with the broader transformation programme and at the time of writing, we are just about to award the contract to the successful tenderer. The new machines will contribute to the MTFS through reduced printing costs, lower maintenance and improved reliability. We will also be replacing signs and upgrading the lighting in our car parks as part of the investment programme.

Parking Apps – Latest Position - Parking app provision has now gone out to tender, with queries received from suppliers currently being addressed as part of the procurement process. The aim of the project is to have single app provider making things more straightforward for customers. This forms part of a coordinated digital improvement package spanning Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs), permits, Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) systems and customer interfaces, providing a more accessible, user-friendly experience for residents and visitors and enabling more efficient enforcement and data use across the county.

Local Area Action Plans (LAAPs) - Local Area Action Plans remain a central mechanism for translating the high-level Parking Principles into place specific, evidence-based actions. LAAPs are now underway, beginning with Whitby, Scarborough and Filey, with Harrogate/ Knaresborough following shortly thereafter. The process includes survey analysis, internal workshops, member engagement and detailed stakeholder consultation, ensuring that persistent local parking issues are addressed systematically and transparently. Key themes include commuter parking pressures, the future of disc parking, motorhome management, resident permit challenges, and longer-term considerations around parking capacity and town centre functionality.

Across all areas, LAAPs provide a structured route for the development of tailored local solutions while ensuring consistency with countywide policy and financial frameworks. The recently adopted Parking Principles document also includes an intention to rebalance parking tariffs across the county to make them fairer and more equitable. In recognition of local Member concerns, we have undertaken to include this in our Local Area Action Plan process to ensure that we pick up on relevant local issues.

A59 Kex Gill – progress update and look ahead to planned open to traffic date - Since December, prolonged adverse weather conditions have placed the programme under strain however we remain on track to open the road to traffic in June 2026 although this is becoming increasingly weather dependant given the prolonged period of wet weather we have had over the winter.

Meetings with the contractor are ongoing to review and agree the larger value Compensation Events. These discussions are progressing constructively, with both parties working

collaboratively to reach agreement and maintain appropriate commercial control across the project.

Communications with stakeholders continue in line with the agreed Communications Plan, with the next update scheduled for release before the end of February. This update will confirm that Church Hill will be closed for eight weeks commencing 5 May and that the A59 will be subject to four evening closures from 11 May to allow surfacing works to be completed. Advance notice will help ensure that residents, businesses, and road users can plan accordingly.

Tree planting and grass seeding (wildflower mix) has now commenced in earnest. This early start will give the plants the maximum possible time to establish prior to opening and will help soften the visual impact of the construction works as the scheme moves toward completion.

Transforming Cities Fund

Skipton TCF – The scheme is complete and has been well received. The Council will seek to via remaining contingency into Selby project subject to the agreement of West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) – the amount of which is awaiting final confirmation. Officers are in discussions with Northern Rail regarding options for upgrading the station car park with York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (YNYCA) funding – an element of the scheme that was previously unaffordable.

Selby TCF - Start on site has been delayed for a number of reasons including planning expiry, design issues and rail/land consents. I can only apologise for the delay, but it is important that once work commences it does not stop to both avoid any additional costs and minimise disruption for residents and visitors across the three- year programme. Officers are planning to instruct the contractor to begin demolitions in March, subject to overcoming the need for further bat surveys.

Harrogate TCF - The scheme continues to be delayed by legal challenges from a small minority of local businessmen. By the time that this statement is published the Court of Appeal hearing on 3-4 March in relation to the initial challenge to the TROs 1-4 required for the scheme will have taken place and we will be awaiting the outcome. It is worth remembering that this is a challenge that was already successfully defended at the High Court.

The Council also received a Pre Action Protocol letter challenging the validity of the fifth and final TRO required for the scheme. The grounds for challenge are largely the same as those used to unsuccessfully challenge TROs 1-4. We have since submitted our ground for resistance.

The complainants are also seeking Judicial Review of the decision of the Executive at its meeting on the 18 Nov 2025 and in agreement with the complainants the Council will apply to the Court to have these two actions heard at the same time – not less than six weeks after the outcome of the Appeal Hearing.

It should be noted that the complainants have also challenged the decisions of WYCA/YNYCA to approve business cases and/or funding. We are in a position to enter into contract with NY Highways immediately on the release of funds from YNYCA & WYCA once the legal processes have concluded.

Winter

Whilst plans are always in place to commence winter treatments as early as 1 October each year, the first three weeks of October 2025 were dominated by a period of west to south-westerly air flow and widely mild weather.

November saw temperatures close to the seasonal norm overall, with a colder spell around the 17-24 of the month, and a snow event that week; this was the first 'proper' snowfall of the season being experienced across the county. The run up to Christmas was more benign, followed by a return of sub-zero road surface temperatures around Christmas Day and Boxing Day, giving rise to frost and ice hazards.

Things then got decidedly colder at the end of December, with the county experiencing its next major snow event of the season in the New Year, where conditions were particularly sustained and challenging on the east coast communities of Scarborough, Whitby and Filey. This was compounded by road surface temperatures plummeting to minus nine degrees centigrade. As always, Council duty managers, NY Highways personnel and our farming contractors were mobilised to treat the highway network.

Following the review of the January 2025 snow event, plans had been put in place to increase our resilience and response to such events. Therefore, alongside our usual responders, we mobilised colleagues from the Council's Parks and Grounds and Waste and Street Scene teams to treat footways. In addition to highway gritting crews and farming/other contractors, some 37 personnel were deployed on the east coast to treat footways from the snow that fell under repeated and sustained conditions, as well as tackling the resultant ice that formed under those exceptionally cold temperatures.

A combination of sustained wet periods and the impact of those significant snow events alongside the usual freeze-thaw winter cycle is also manifesting on the network in the form of actionable defects, with highways teams also identifying, ordering and fixing potholes that have formed, alongside ongoing winter treatments as prevailing conditions dictate.

Lane Rental

Lane rental enables highway authorities to apply daily charges to works occupying the busiest parts of the road network at the most disruptive times, with the aim of incentivising shorter durations, better planning, and collaborative working.

Initial approval for the Council's Lane Rental scheme has now been granted, confirming that the proposal meets the necessary policy and operational requirements and aligns with the national framework overseen by the Department for Transport.

The scheme has been developed to support network efficiency, reduce congestion, and minimise the impact of street and road works on residents, businesses, and road users. The next formal step is the laying of the statutory instrument before Ministers which is anticipated in late April. Subject to this being completed as planned, the scheme is expected to go live on 5 May.

Preparatory work is already underway to ensure systems, governance, and communications are in place ahead of implementation, including engagement with statutory undertakers and internal teams. Once live, lane rental will form a key part of the authority's wider network management and permit regime, supporting stronger compliance, improved performance, and more reliable journey times on the most critical parts of the highway network.

Parks and Countryside Services

Countryside Access and Parks and Grounds Teams merged at the start of February to become Parks and Countryside Services. There will clearly be benefit in a closer working relationship especially on well used countryside sites like the Nidderdale Greenway and Filey Brigg where there are public rights of way on Council land as well as potential cost savings on shared tasks like grass cutting. Public Rights of Way may also benefit from Parks and Grounds experience in utilising Section 106 funding.

Public Rights of Way and Unsealed Unclassified Roads - Planning Inspector's decisions have been published following two public inquiries held last autumn; the rail crossing footpath extinguishment at South Milford has been confirmed and the path is now closed, and the Definitive Map Modification Order for Thwaite Lane between Clapham and Austwick has had an interim decision issued, proposing to confirm the route as Restricted Byway. This is currently being advertised, and if there are objections the Inspector will decide whether to hold a further public inquiry or determine by written representations.

The new footpath at Beal is now open for use to overcome a longstanding building obstruction and we also have received path order applications to resolve similar building obstruction issues at Sherburn Mill, Eastfield, Shorten Hall and Staveley.

Coast to Coast National Trail establishment work is complete in time for the official opening of the Trail in March. All alignment and maintenance issues have been addressed, signage has been improved along the entire route and 95% of field boundary crossings have been upgraded to accessible gates with negotiations ongoing with landowners to replace the five remaining stiles. Work continues on the King Charles III England Coast Path including surfacing to improve the accessibility of a very well used section between the Bay at Filey and Hunmanby Gap. A popular bridleway has been diverted and resurfaced in partnership with Yorkshire Water to improve access around Swinsty reservoir.

A new footbridge over the River Riccal at Harome has been installed; a complex project which involved demolition of a derelict cartridge and riverbank reprofiling and stabilisation. A bridleway bridge has been replaced at Husthwaite and nine footbridges have been replaced at Cawton, Cawood, Husthwaite, Tollerton, Lower Dunsforth, North Rigton and Skipwith. Bridges have been repaired at Seamer, Darley (Haxeby Hippings footbridge over the River Nidd), East Cowton, Hemingbrough, Colton, Thormanby and Grantly and natural flood management is being trialled in partnership with the Tees Rivers Trust to extend the life of a footbridge at Little Ayton. A rope access inspection has been commissioned for Grosmont Suspension Bridge to inform the extent of required refurbishment work.

Lower Wharfedale Ramblers volunteer path-keeper group have been improving stiles with fully accessible gates in Weeton and the PROW team have been working with Nidderdale National Landscape volunteers clearing overgrown footpaths and repairing a footbridge at Grantley. Our volunteers have completed inspections of around 75% of our PROW bridge assets (1763 in total) with the remainder hopefully complete this financial year and have generally found them to be in good condition

Reprofiling work is ongoing on Unsealed Unclassified Roads in Troutsdale to improve drainage and encourage surface vegetation recovery on these sensitive unmade roads and Sheepwash at Osmotherley and Stop Bridge Lane at Downholme have been resurfaced.

Parks and Grounds - Since my previous statement, we have seen the first Winter season pass with new arrangements in place for Grounds Maintenance operational staff to support footpath gritting and snow clearance. These arrangements were activated in November 2025 and again in January 2026. On both occasions, they worked smoothly alongside the existing services delivered by our Highways teams and their contractors.

Our teams have also been working closely with Housing colleagues to support the Housing Grounds Maintenance Scrutiny Task and Finish Group in shaping the future design of grounds maintenance services and standards across our housing sites. There has already been strong collaboration through site visits, tenant engagement, and several community clear-up days. Some early actions, such as targeted winter gritting and snow clearance for our most vulnerable residents, have already been implemented. I look forward to receiving the outcomes of the Task and Finish Group's work in due course.

Our commercial team has built on last year's success with Christmas-themed revenue generation, including sales of Christmas trees and decorative poinsettias to the public, wreath-making workshops, and a variety of festive events and markets at our venues. We also continue to work closely with Knaresborough Town Council to support their ambitions around devolution of the market and to ensure that any transitional period runs smoothly for both traders and shoppers.

Trees and woodlands are a significant asset to our county, touching many Council service areas, stakeholders, and residents, while providing important environmental benefits. We are working to secure a harmonised policy approach to their management, and I am pleased to report that a draft Tree and Woodland Policy is scheduled for Member consultation at the upcoming meeting of the Transport, Economy, Environment and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee (TEEEOSC) at the end of April.

A major project partly funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund—representing a total investment of £7.031m in South Cliff Gardens, Scarborough—has now reached an important milestone with the approval of both a maintenance plan and business plan. This project has supported the restoration of heritage assets, the opening of the new community facility *Beeforth's Hive*, and the implementation of enhanced maintenance regimes across the site by our skilled and dedicated team. I would like to thank the local community for their excellent support, alongside our partners, contractors, and officers who have helped bring the project to fruition.

DfT consolidated funding settlement for highways and transport

Local Highways funding for 2026/27 and beyond is now paid direct to the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. This consolidates funding for Highway Maintenance, transport improvements, active travel and bus grants to a single consolidated settlement.

The Combined Authority is the responsible body for allocating this funding to North Yorkshire and City of York. In total £429M of capital funding has been allocated to York and North Yorkshire from 2026/27 through to 2029/30. 72% of this funding £312M has been allocated by DfT for Highway Maintenance between North Yorkshire and York. The Highway Maintenance settlement for 2029/30 would amount to a 48% increase in funding comparted to 2025/26

With the remaining £117M for improvement style schemes (Active Travel Fund, Local Transport Grant and Bus Grant).

For North Yorkshire, based on current funding splits, this equates to £289M of capital maintenance funding. Capital improvement funding is subject to bids into the Combined Authority, but we would envisage receiving circa £70M of this across the four-year funding period, based on current funding splits.

Maintenance funding has been confirmed for 2026/27. The Council will receive £59.672M, which is a 3.14% increase compared to 2025/26. Discussions are ongoing with the Combined Authority for 2027/28 to 2029/30, and we will be working to ensure we retain our full maintenance allocation for these years.

Proposals for funding £13.8 Million of improvement schemes in 2026/27 have been submitted to the Combined Authority, with development work continuing the future programme for delivery from 2027/28 onwards.

Integrated Passenger Transport

Officers at NYC continue to work closely with the Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) to deliver public transport services across North Yorkshire; with our public transport team

continuing to manage day-to-day service delivery. The team are continuing to deliver new Real Time Information displays and bus stop improvements. Following the successful installation of new displays in Selby, Tadcaster and Sherburn in Elmet, our plans for 2026 include locations in Harrogate and Scarborough as well as market towns and larger villages across the county.

The Combined Authority's review of bus services is progressing, and work will start shortly on a new Bus Service Improvement Plan covering York and North Yorkshire. The rural bus franchising pilot project, a DfT scheme which will explore the role that bus franchising models can play in delivering better bus services in the context of the particular rural geographies in North Yorkshire, is also underway. These projects are being led by the Combined Authority, with support from NYC officers, and should all conclude before the summer.

EV Infrastructure Delivery

In February 2026, the nominated winner of the Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) tender withdrew from the LEVI procurement process. At present, the focus is on ensuring any legacy infrastructure currently out of service, is replaced as a priority.

The Team is working through the options available to them, with support from Procurement and Legal colleagues to identify the next steps and most efficient timescales for re-commencing the procurement process.

COUNCILLOR MALCOLM TAYLOR

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND ADULT SERVICES

Health and Adult Services Appointments
I would like to place on record my thanks to Richard Webb as he has left the Council to take up a new position as Chief Executive of City of York Council, and congratulate Abigail Barron who has been appointed as the new Corporate Director for Health and Adult Services here at North Yorkshire Council, leading on public health, adult social care and NHS partnerships.

I am pleased to say that Chris Watson has been appointed to an Adult Social Care Assistant Director vacancy which covers prevention services (including Living Well and Occupational Therapy), the quality team which helps support care providers, our in-house care provider services and our intermediate care teams. He will be leading over a thousand colleagues.

These are internal appointments, and I look forward to continuing to work with them both.

Input into central government strategy
I was pleased to welcome Baroness Louise Casey, chair of the national commission to review adult social care and Sally Warren, new Director General for Adult Social Care at the Department of Health and Social Care to Northallerton recently. There was a range of meetings and discussions with them, involving Members, officers, people who use services and partner agencies, about key issues in social care, public health and the NHS and we were able to showcase the actions that North Yorkshire is taking.

Extra Care/Supported Housing
Over the coming months we will be bringing forward procurements for additional Extra Care capacity at a number of sites across the county in line with the approach approved by the executive in October 2025. These schemes will build on our nationally recognised programme and provide high quality accommodation with support for people across North Yorkshire.

We are currently procuring enhanced and expanded supported housing services for people with a wide range of mental health needs as well as a service to support offenders reintegrate into society. These schemes are enabled by income generated through the second homes council tax and will help to address ongoing pressures around homelessness and the use of temporary accommodation.

Trailblazer
The council has been leading the delivery of a range of projects as part of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority's Trailblazer programme, which is a £10M Department of Work & Pensions funded programme focused on removing health and socioeconomic barriers for people who are economically inactive, at risk of economic inactivity, and to support employers to recruit and retain people to strengthen our North Yorkshire workforce. We are on track to deliver against our targets, and at the time of writing are working with over 1,200 individuals and over 100 businesses.

Some examples of positive early results are: Working to support people with musculoskeletal problems back into work; a project matching employers and prospective employees to offer subsidised part time employment for three months; providing vacancy solutions and creating learning about how to adapt and support health and work barriers to be overcome. In addition, voluntary and community sector partners are offering a range of bespoke programmes including support for carers, supported volunteering and intergenerational skills development.

Prevention Plus
Following the executive decision to invest up to £3.6m in a 3 year Prevention Plus pilot, planning is well underway. I was encouraged by the cross-chamber support I got from members to invest in this pilot. We will start by identifying lead community organisations to take this programme forward, and I have committed to keeping members and area committees informed as plans develop further.

North Yorkshire Staff Awards Event 25/26
In January, we celebrated the Delivering for North Yorkshire Staff Awards. The event illustrated the incredible work taking place across our council and showcased our values in action. We had 59 nominations for HAS staff overall, so a huge well done to all colleagues who were nominated across all parts of the Directorate. We were delighted that HAS teams won three awards:

Our team who developed 'Support to Unpaid Carers', led by Kate Allanson won the 'ambitious' category award. Their codesigned digital support tool is a brilliant example of innovation, and ambition coming together to make a real difference for carers.

Our team who led the 'NRS Incident Response', led by Mike Rudd won the 'together' category. Mobilising a new service model in under two months to protect 2,000 vulnerable residents is an extraordinary achievement in partnership and teamwork. The team also won the 'best video' award.

In addition to the winners, 'Charlotte Rudd', our Supported Employment Manager was shortlisted in the 'Inclusive' category for driving major improvements in inclusive employment across the county. In the same category, the Human Resources Team with significant HAS input were celebrated for championing inclusive training and embedding lived experience through the mobilisation of the Oliver McGowan Tier 2 training programme.

COUNCILLOR MICHAEL HARRISON

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR OF SCRUTINY BOARD

Scrutiny Board brings together the Chairs of the six thematic overview and scrutiny committees at the Council and the Older People's, Young People's and Climate Change Champions. It provides an opportunity for a whole council view of scrutiny activity, which avoids gaps and overlaps and helps establish a lead committee for areas of joint interest. It also provides a forum in which the key performance issues for the Council can be reviewed and items for further scrutiny identified.

The scrutiny function was created to act as a check on and balance to the executive and it is a statutory requirement for all authorities operating executive arrangements. There has been one meeting of Scrutiny Board since my last statement to Council.

This is my last statement as Chair of Scrutiny Board. I took on the role in May 2022 and have seen a number of positive changes to the way in which we conduct and deliver scrutiny over the past 4 years. This has included greater involvement in policy development in areas such as housing, closer working with the Area Committees and notable pieces of joint work being undertaken, more targeted pieces of in-depth scrutiny, enhanced scrutiny of Council performance, and a strong (scrutiny) focus upon service alignment and improvement as we became a unitary council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my fellow scrutiny chairs for their help and support over the past 4 years.

The meeting of Scrutiny Board on 16 February 2026 focussed upon the scrutiny of the Executive Q3 Performance and Finance Management Report, ahead of the members of the Board attending the meeting of the Executive on Tuesday 17 February 2026. Some of the issues highlighted by members of the Scrutiny Board at their meeting are as summarised below:

- The role that the Council has to play in reducing shop vacancy rates, particularly in Scarborough and Malton
- The work that housing teams do with private sector tenants who are at risk of eviction and so homelessness
- What more the Council and others can do to encourage recycling and so to reduce the amount of household residual waste collected at the kerbside
- The improved performance of MAST and the positive impact that this is having elsewhere in the social care system for children and young people
- The improvements being made with the stability of placements for children in care, albeit that there is further to go as a minority of children in care, around 13.2%, are experiencing 3 or more placements in 12 months, which can be hugely disruptive
- The role of the Healthy You Service and what more can be done help ensure that long term health problems are avoided or prevented at the earliest stage
- Obesity rates amongst 4/5 year olds, the factors driving this and what more can be done to address it and the arising long term social, economic and health impacts
- The improvements in the timeliness of EHC plans issued, what we have done that has led to these improvements and how can this learning be applied to elsewhere in the Council
- The rate of permanent exclusions from primary school and what is being done to support schools, where there are behavioural issues.

Updates were also provided by the Older People's Champion, Young People's Champion and Climate Change Champion on key elements of their work over the past 3 months, as summarised below:

- Engagement with North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Road Safety Partnership on the challenges that can be faced by older drivers (over 65 years of age)
- Attendance at a multi-agency Ageing Well event covering topics such as: transitions from military life to civilian life; frailty and how to prevent and delay its onset; enhanced care services for older people that supports independent living; and the development of the Hospital@Home, a virtual ward that should help relieve pressure upon hospital admissons
- The development of the York and North Yorkshire sustainable future strategy, which will be out for public consultation in the spring
- Innovations in farming and waste management/processing, including the use of insects like the black soldier fly to breakdown organic waste and produce fertiliser and other products
- Some concerns regarding the performance of mental health services for children and young people and the impact that this was having upon their long-term health and wellbeing
- Engagement with a range of services from across the Council regarding the work to support unaccompanied asylum seekers.

Members of Scrutiny Board reviewed the work programmes of the Area Committees, to help to ensure that opportunities for joint working and co-ordination of activity were identified.

Members of Scrutiny Board are next due to meet at 2pm on Friday 22 May 2026. At that meeting, the Executive Q4 Performance and Finance Management report will be scrutinised.

COUNCILLOR KARIN SEDGWICK
10 March 2026

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE CORPORATE & PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Corporate & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee oversees corporate performance, governance, transformation, workforce matters, partnership activity, and resilience planning across the Council.

Since my last statement to Council, the Committee met on 15 December 2025. The following items of business were considered:

- Community Safety Update
- Home Working Arrangements & Sickness Absence
- Transformation Update
- Annual Review of Equalities Objectives
- Annual Performance Update on National Resilience Standards

Members received a Community Safety Update with a focus on hate crime. The Committee discussed community engagement, the impact of misinformation, and the importance of joint communication between NYC and North Yorkshire Police. We also received an update on the activities of Community Safety Hubs which included an overview of the anti-social behaviour hotspots, the notable success in Harrogate with a significant reduction, delivered through a wider collective approach, and other ongoing initiatives in other areas.

The Committee considered data on sickness absence trends and hybrid working. Members discussed workforce age profiles, training to reduce injuries, and the importance of balancing flexible work with team-based learning. We noted that for the first two quarters in 2025/26 sickness absence in every directorate was increasing and requested further data in order to better understand the direction of travel. Given the age profile of the workforce, we also questioned whether age was a factor for some of the reasons for sickness absence. In regard to hybrid working, we noted the Council's Hybrid Working Policy, its application, and which teams have the ability to work in that way and the way it is managed.

In regard to ongoing transformation work, the Committee received an update on the convergence of systems, progress on major IT transitions, and the development of the Council's new Transformation Strategy. We were pleased to note the workstream around 'how we will work' aimed at delivering more effective governance and less bureaucracy and welcomed the launch of a staff suggestion scheme, recognising that employees are best placed to identify ways of increasing savings.

We reviewed progress on the Council's equality, diversity and inclusion objectives. Having received no comparative data from previous years, we queried the level of progress against the initiatives contributing to the achievement of the objectives. We suggested that future updates include more comparative and national data.

The Committee received an annual performance update on the National Resilience Standards and discussed emergency planning activity and recent incidents. We queried the cost to the council of dealing with the incidents and how they had been funded. We also discussed the Council's approach to sandbag use and requested improvements to sandbag storage locations.

COUNCILLOR ANDREW WILLIAMS

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Scrutiny of Health Committee reviews matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services within the county, including Ambulance Trusts and the policies of the Health and Care Partnerships. A key part of that responsibility is requiring NHS bodies to consult health scrutiny on proposals for substantial developments or variations to local health service provision. The committee contributes to annual reports by providing feedback to the Integrated Care Boards and the NHS Trusts serving North Yorkshire on their performance and the experiences that the committee has had with them.

Since the last Council meeting in February 2026, the committee met once on 9 March, to consider the following items:

Director of Public Health Annual Report 2024-2025

A key item was the Director of Public Health's Annual Report which focussed on partnership working. Members welcomed its focus on the wider factors that shape people's health, such as housing, education, and access to local services. The Committee asked challenging but constructive questions about whether current partnership arrangements are always effective, especially where many organisations are discussing similar issues. Officers recognised these concerns but emphasised that close joint working is essential for delivering good outcomes across such a large and varied county. Members also explored how the council can strengthen its use of data, improve communication with the public, and address longstanding health inequalities within North Yorkshire. Further concerns were raised about long waits for autism and ADHD assessments, and members welcomed commitments to share the new Autism Strategy and the Public Health Peer Review action plan.

Harrogate Acute Stroke Pilot Pathway Update

The evidence demonstrated that the stroke pilot has significantly improved access to life-saving hyper-acute stroke care for residents, reducing delays and ensuring more people reach the right specialist centre quickly. Members recognised this as a clear example of patient-focused improvement. However, the Committee also heard about challenges affecting the sustainability of the pathway. York Hospital has experienced a major rise in admissions as a direct result of the pilot, putting pressure on its stroke service. The Committee agreed to write to the Secretary of State for Health to highlight the impact of the national funding formula, which currently disadvantages areas like North Yorkshire when commissioning specialist services such as stroke care.

Humber and North Yorkshire ICB Update

Members also received an update on the reorganisation of the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB). The new operating model is designed to streamline commissioning and strengthen decisions taken at local level. While the Committee understood the national context for the changes, members expressed concern about the loss of public-facing roles such as Foundation Trust governors and local Healthwatch representatives. Officers acknowledged the issue and highlighted the importance of strong local relationships between commissioners and communities during this period of change. The Committee made clear its expectation that patient engagement should remain a central part of NHS decision-making.

Other Items

Alongside these items, members reviewed the latest Public Health performance data, discussed issues affecting children's mental health, and considered future topics for the work programme. The Committee also raised the need for better information about emergency mental health services, discharge arrangements, and pressures within community care.

The Committee will continue to monitor the actions agreed, including the outcome of the letter to the Secretary of State, and will revisit key issues as part of its forward planning.

COUNCILLOR ANDREW LEE

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR OF TRANSPORT, ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND ENTERPRISE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The latest meeting of the Transport, Economy, Environment & Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee took place on Thursday 28 January 2026. The reports covered at that meeting were as follows:

Allerton Waste Recovery Park (AWRP) – 2024/25 Performance

The Committee received the annual performance update for AWRP and heard directly from Paco Hevia, the Chief Executive of the operating contractor. This enabled Members to directly examine the reasons behind a challenging period for the facility. The report explained that during 2024/25 the availability of the Energy from Waste (EfW) facility reduced to 77%, due to a combination of planned and unplanned downtime. This resulted in a short-term increase in landfill diversion, but despite these events, operator still managed to divert 87.3% of the contract waste from landfill, well in excess of contractual targets. It was also noted that EfW performance from the first half of the current year (from April to November 2025), has been similar to the previous year.

Mechanical Treatment throughput was reduced, despite improved availability, due largely to the need to carefully manage bunker levels. The Anaerobic Digestion plant also experienced its lowest throughput to date, attributed both to mechanical issues and to reduced food waste content in the residual stream.

We examined in depth the causes of these operational difficulties, including boiler fouling, ash-handling issues, plant blockages and the impact of non-compliant materials such as vapes, gas canisters and lithium batteries entering the waste stream. An action plan to improve performance was also discussed, with engineering upgrades, capital works in the Mechanical Treatment Plant, new artificial vision technology in the bunkers and the replacement of the superheaters, which is a major investment to stabilise performance and has led to reported improvements since it was completed. Environmental exceedances were also reviewed and explained, with almost all classed as having no impact, and one minor dioxin exceedance requiring no further action following external assessment.

The Committee also explored the implications of the forthcoming UK Emissions Trading Scheme and emphasised the need for continued resident education around correct waste disposal.

It was requested that the 2025/26 annual performance report be sent to committee members as soon as it is finalised, to avoid any unnecessary delays prior to the committee considering the report later in 2026.

NY Highways – Annual Performance Report

The Committee considered a new style, consolidated Annual Performance Report for NY Highways. Performance highlights included: £31m of capital works delivered (88% of programme), 12,179 maintenance orders completed with £2.45m efficiency savings

returned to the Council, full completion of the gully programme (97%), and significant winter service delivery.

Members acknowledged the strong delivery across routine maintenance, capital works, fleet services and winter operations, but also highlighted several areas requiring continued attention, such as improved asset data and LGR integration, where Members expressed concern about inherited inconsistencies in street-lighting, drainage and gullies asset information from legacy councils, leading to missed or unclear asset records. Officers confirmed ongoing work to validate and correct the asset register, which was supported by operational teams increasingly reporting missing assets during onsite work.

While Members praised high-quality work on major schemes such as Ripon Market Place, concerns were raised about the quality and longevity of some smaller patching works. Members emphasised the need for consistent use of inlay over temporary cold-lay repairs wherever practicable and for stronger onsite inspections.

Members noted improvements in gully performance but stressed the need for robust follow-up where access restrictions or stuck lids prevent cleaning. Members also commented on the increasing prevalence of water pooling and vegetation growth, particularly in Ripon and other urban centres.

On highway verges, committee members raised concerns about leaf accumulation, weeds and debris in gutters, particularly following the transition to the unitary authority. Officers advised that additional funding had been secured to target the worst-affected areas during the remainder of the year.

Committee members also highlighted the difficulties caused when road space or parking suspensions are advertised for several days but works occur on only one of them. The need for clearer forward planning and communication was stressed, especially in densely parked streets.

The recent severe winter weather event was also raised, particularly on the response to this in the east of the county. Questions were asked about resource allocation, potential for cross-area deployment, footway gritting options and continuing to highlight the community involvement opportunities through notifying the council of grit bins requiring replenishing and the benefits to local communities of setting up community gritting partnerships.

It was a productive session that both officers and members took away information on. We look forward to receiving the 2025/26 annual report in due course.

Harbours Strategy

Members discussed the draft Harbours Strategy as part of the consultation process with stakeholders and the public. The Committee noted the strategic importance of the Council's harbours to local economies and tourism. Members emphasised the need for clarity around future investment planning, dredging requirements, the condition of assets, revenue sustainability and ensuring effective engagement with harbour users. Concerns were expressed regarding the need for transparency around fees, charges and long-term capital planning.

The feedback from committee members will be taken into account when finalising the Harbours Strategy document over the coming months.

Public Conveniences Working Group – Final Report

The Committee considered the final report of the Public Conveniences Working Group. Members reiterated the importance of maintaining high-quality public conveniences, particularly in areas with high visitor numbers. The Committee discussed the financial pressures associated with operating these facilities, the varying conditions of inherited assets, and the need for a consistent countywide standard while retaining flexibility for local partnership models. Members raised questions about the proposed charging policy, alternative delivery models, and the opportunities for community or town council involvement. Whilst there was support for the contents of the report and the work undertaken, a number of amendments to the initial recommendations put forward by the working group were agreed at the meeting, and these are planned to go to the Executive for consideration in April.

Due to time constraints, unfortunately other non-urgent items on the agenda were deferred and will be considered initially at our next Mid-Cycle Briefing later this month to decide on next steps.

The next meeting of the committee will take place on Wednesday 29 April 2026 at County Hall, starting at 10am.

COUNCILLOR DAVID STAVELEY

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2026

STATEMENT OF CHAIR FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Since the last Full Council, there have been two committee meetings.

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 17 December 2025
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 17 December 2025

Public Statements
There were no public questions or statements.

Feedback from the Executive on 18 November 2025
I was unable to attend the meeting; however, prior to it, I met with the Young People's Member Champion, and we agreed on the questions she would put to the Executive Members. Councillor Baker updated the committee on the issues she raised, and the responses provided.

North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NYSCP) Annual Report 2024-2025
The Chair of NYSCP and the Independent Scrutineer explained how the multi-agency teams work together and receive frequent updates. Children provide regular feedback, primarily through the Growing Up in North Yorkshire Survey, which allows year-on-year comparisons and enables targeted work to address areas of concern.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Notice of Motion
The Motion to request that the Leader of the Council write to the Secretary of State to ask that the SEND review consider eradicating profits of equity backed private providers and provide strong financial oversight of providers was discussed. The Motion was not supported.

Approach to, and use of, Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Children's Services
We received a very informative overview of how the council is utilising various AI tools to assist officers. We heard how it reduces administration time, so that social workers can now spend more time supporting children and their families. Some members of the committee did express concern over data protection and GDPR but were informed that information is securely stored.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and Inclusion Update
We heard how the council is working to ensure the best possible outcomes for SEND young people as they transition into adulthood. In some cases, there is a link between children with SEND and school suspensions and exclusions, and Children's Services work with schools and parents to support children to remain in a school environment. We heard that Scarborough has been identified as an area of high SEND need and schools are being invited to apply to provide Targeted Mainstream Provision (TMP).

Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report
This report was noted.

Extraordinary Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 11 February 2026
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 11 February 2026

Public Statements
We received 5 public questions and statements.

Implementation of the Home to School Travel Policy
This extraordinary meeting was arranged at the request of 4 group leaders to address the distance measurements and mapping systems used to determine how home to school distances are calculated. There was also a request to explain the legal oversight and safeguards in place to ensure home to school transport appeals are run fairly.

The Head of Democratic Services and the Assistant Director for Education and Inclusion gave a summary of their report, addressing the issues raised by group leaders. There then followed a debate where a number of proposals were put forward by the Committee and voted via show of hands. The committee carried the proposal to engage in the Post Implementation Review (PIR) and take no further action on the issues raised at this time.

COUNCILLOR BARBARA BRODIGAN
March 2026

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE HOUSING & LEISURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Housing & Leisure Overview & Scrutiny Committee 1ecognized1 the Council's role and remit as a social landlord, including policy review, service improvement and governance arrangements to ensure compliance with the regulation of social housing. The Committee also oversees housing strategy, homelessness and housing needs, the delivery of affordable housing, private sector housing renewal, cultural services and the Council's responsibilities as a provider of leisure services.

Since my last statement to Council, the Committee has met twice. On 1 December 2025 the following items of business were considered:

- Library Strategy – Mid-Term Review
- Leisure Service Performance Update
- Active North Yorkshire Membership & Pricing Review
- Joint Venture Development Update
- Draft Asset Management Strategy
- Draft Tenancy Agreement & Tenancy Policy
- Draft Right to Buy Policy
- Lettable Standard Review – Implementation Update
- Q2 Housing Improvement & Regulatory Update
- Complaints Update

The Committee reviewed the mid-term findings of the 2020–2030 Library Strategy and endorsed several proposed updates. We acknowledged the continued value of library services and recorded our thanks to volunteers across the county, noting in particular the King's Award recently presented to Newby and Scalby Library.

The Committee received bi-annual performance data on leisure and culture services, focusing on the ongoing leisure outreach programmes provided mainly by volunteers, and welcomed their invaluable contribution in delivering community-based services.

The Committee received an overview of the emerging countywide pricing model for Active NY leisure facilities being developed for the range of leisure facilities across the county. We considered the principles behind it, alongside the findings from a recent customer survey. Having received a detailed presentation, we:

- welcomed the proposed virtual membership offer, noting the benefits it will bring to residents living in the more rural parts of the county, which will include access to online classes and healthcare services.
- acknowledged the potential for pricing changes for some customers, 1ecognized1 it would be necessary in order to finance future service developments and further invest in the council's facilities.
- discussed the potential barriers to increasing the number of new customers i.e. the quality of equipment and restricted opening hours at some sites.
- accepted that the two-tier membership proposal offered a more balanced financial approach for now, but welcomed the potential to re-visit that approach in the future
- suggested that further consideration be given to concessions for North Yorkshire Council staff, and ancillary services such as on-site parking, vending machines and cafes

Members received an update on progress toward establishing the Housing Joint Venture and noted the current status of the negotiations. We agreed to add a performance review of the Joint Venture 12 months after its incorporation to our future work programme.

The Committee considered a draft strategy and two draft policies. We noted the draft Asset Management Strategy and the ongoing tenant consultation 2ecognized2 the findings would likely inform some final amendments to the draft prior to its approval. In regard to the draft Tenancy Agreement & Tenancy Policy we discussed succession rules and the need for a register of adapted properties, and in regard to the draft Right to Buy Policy, we raised queries round eligibility and evidence requirements.

The Committeee welcomed the update on the implementation of the recommendations arising from its previous scrutiny review of the Lettable Standard and were pleased to note that most recommendations had now been fully implemented.

The Committee also received its usual performance updates focusing on Housing Improvement & Regulatory (Q2) and complaints. We were pleased to note the progress against the Social Housing (Regulation) Act requirements, and the ongoing overall improvement in complaints handling since the revised policy had been introduced. However, whilst we noted that the council's response and resolution of complaints was being done satisfactorily, we also noted the increase in the number of complaints across all areas and the drop in compliance with timescales from Quarter 1. The Committee agreed to keep a watching brief on those.

At our most recent meeting on 3 March 2026. The following items of business were considered:

- Tenants Panel Engagement Update
- Complaints Update
- Q3 Housing Improvements & Regulatory Update
- Shared Ownership Policy
- Renters' Rights Act 2025 & Introduction to emerging Empty Homes Strategy
- Cultural Strategy Update
- Draft Work Programme 2026–27

The Committee welcomed Tenant Panel members and discussed collaboration opportunities, including their involvement in the committee's planned year one review of the new Lettable Standard. We also noted the Panel's recent work looking at complaints handling and the progress against the implementation of the recommendations arising from their review.

We reviewed a draft Shared Ownership Policy, noting some areas were still under development, including alignment with leasehold processes and provided feedback to inform the final draft.

Members considered the new statutory enforcement duties of the Renters' Rights Act 2025 required from May 2026 and noted the associated resource implications.

There was significant debate about the scale of empty homes across the county. Whilst we 2ecognized that from a housing perspective, dealing with long term empties is mostly a discretionary function (as opposed to the increasing range of statutory duties it must comply with), and that the council currently has limited (or no) resource, we did agree there should be some focus on enforcement and the potential use of CPOs.

We therefore agreed to establish a task group to undertake a scrutiny review on the issue over the summer with the purpose of making recommendations to help inform the development of a strategy, even if the resulting strategy only sets out what the Council can and cannot do going forward.

The Committee received a year-one Cultural Strategy progress update, noting achievements across cultural programmes, events, and heritage projects, and ongoing work to support creative organisations and volunteers.

Again, the Committee received its usual performance updates focusing on Housing Strategy Monitoring (Q3) and complaints. We discussed progress toward Social Housing Regulation Act compliance and the Council's Housing Improvement Strategy. In regard to complaints, we noted the similar position to Q2 and the ongoing work to address the drop in compliance with timescales.

Finally, the Committee considered its draft Work Programme for 2026–27 and agreed several amendments based on its discussions at the meeting and ongoing countywide developments.

COUNCILLOR STEVE SHAW-WRIGHT

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

18 March 2026

STATEMENT OF THE CHAIR OF THE CARE & INDEPENDENCE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

The Care & Independence Overview & Scrutiny Committee scrutinises Adult Social Care, Public Health and related services, including performance, policy development, service transformation and the experiences of people who draw on support.

Since my last statement to Council, the Committee has met once on 27 January 2026. The following items were considered:

- Update on Financial Management of Adult Social Care Cost Pressures
- Public Health Annual Report 2024/25
- Health & Adult Social Care Local Account 2024/25
- CQC Inspection – Outcomes & Action Plan

The Committee received a detailed presentation covering Adult Social Care budget pressures, increased hospital discharges, the use of short-stay beds, rising placement costs, expansion of Extra Care, workforce changes, and innovation in commissioning and prevention. We noted the potential future cost pressures and debated the age split used to focus service delivery i.e. 18-74 and 75+ and suggested it may be appropriate to also have a clear focus on those aged 18-25, given the potentially high number of young people with complex needs transitioning from Children's Services to Adult Services. We also suggested the Council should consider using revenue from second homes council tax to fund the building of specialist housing.

The Director of Public Health presented her statutory Public Health Annual Report 2024/25 focusing on partnership working across North Yorkshire. We discussed deprivation hotspots, employer engagement and demographic challenges. Overall, we commended the report and endorsed its recommendations and agreed to keep a watching brief on their implementation and to take them into consideration when planning future areas of focus for the Committee.

In regard to the Health & Adult Social Care Local Account 2024/25, the Committee noted the examples of involvement work, the challenges and the achievements over the 2024-25 year. We considered the Council's performance against improvement priorities and discussed opportunities to strengthen future reporting with statistical trend data.

Finally, the Committee considered the draft CQC Action Plan arising from the findings of the CQC Inspection undertaken last year. We queried the timescales for completing the actions and will be considering the finalised plan at a future meeting to inform our 2026–27 work programme.

COUNCILLOR BARBARA BRODIGAN

OFFICIAL

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NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Full Council

18 March 2026

Report on Special Urgency and Call-in Exemption decisions under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16

Report of the Leader of the Council

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide the Council with a report on the use of the special urgency and call-in exemption procedures under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16 in respect of decisions taken since the Council's last meeting.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Council's Constitution provides that if a matter which is likely to be a key decision has not been included on the Council's Forward Plan for the requisite period, the decision may still be taken if an urgency procedure is followed.

2.2 The Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Constitution set out two urgency procedures, depending on the time available before the decision needs to be taken: the Rule 15 General Exception Urgency procedure and the Rule 16 Special Urgency procedure for use in more urgent cases. Use of the latter procedure is required to be reported back to full Council.

2.3 The Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules in the Constitution set out a call-in exemption process at Rule 16, use of which is also reported back to Council.

3.0 SPECIAL URGENCY AND CALL IN EXEMPTION PROCEDURES

3.1 Under Access to Information Procedure Rule 16:

16.1 Where the date by which a decision must be made makes compliance with Rule 15 (general exception) impracticable, then the decision can only be made if the decision maker (if an individual) or the Chair of the body making the decision, obtains the written agreement of the Chair of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee that the making of the decision is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred. If there is no Chair of a relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee, or if the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee is unable to act, then the agreement of the Chair of the Council, or in their absence the Vice-Chair will suffice.

16.2 As soon as reasonably practicable after the decision maker has obtained agreement under Rule 16.1 above, they must make available at the Council's offices a notice setting out the reasons why the meeting is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred and publish the notice on the Council's website.

3.2 Access to Information Procedure Rule 17 then includes provision for the reporting back to full Council on the use of the Rule 16 special urgency procedure:

17.3 **Reports on special urgency decisions**

17.3.1 The Leader will submit to the next meeting of the Council, a report on any executive decisions taken in the circumstances set out in Rule 16 (special urgency). The report must include particulars of the decision, a summary of the matters in respect of which the decision was made, the reasons for it and the reasons for use of the special urgency procedure.

17.3.2 The Leader must submit at least one report under 17.3.1 annually to Council.

3.3 Under Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 16(h):

(h) The call-in procedure set out above shall not apply where the decision being taken by the Executive is urgent. A decision will be urgent if any delay likely to be caused by the call in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public interest. The Chair of the Council must agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable in all the circumstances and to it being treated as a matter of urgency. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair's consent shall be required. In the absence of both, the Head of Paid Service or their nominee's consent shall be required. Decisions taken as a matter of urgency must be reported to the next available meeting of the Council, together with the reasons for urgency.

3.4 This report therefore provides the report back to Council on the use of the special urgency and call-in exemption procedures since the last meeting of full Council on 16 July 2025. Rule 15 (General Urgency) notices have also been referred to where they also include call in exemption.

4.0 USE OF SPECIAL URGENCY AND CALL IN EXEMPTION PROCEDURES

4.1 At the time of writing this report, the use of special urgency and call-in exemption procedures in relation to decisions taken since the last meeting of full Council on 16 July 2025, is as summarised below. Full details of the decisions taken under the procedures and the reasons for them along with the reasons for using the special urgency and/or call in exemption procedures can be accessed via the hyperlinks.

4.1.1 Adult Skills Fund acceptance

Access to Information Procedure Rule 16 – Special Urgency

Decision - Additional Environment Agency Local Levy Funding for the Upper Dales Flood Alleviation Scheme | North Yorkshire Council

On 19 December 2025 the Corporate Director of Environment considered a report in which authorisation was requested to submit an application for funding of £219,370 of the available Flood and Coastal Committee Local Levy and grant approval of the funding application. The matter could not reasonably be deferred as to do so would mean that the deadline for funding applications would be missed which would mean that the funding would not be available to enable the Upper Dales Flood Alleviation Scheme development, which offers peace of mind to residents that in adverse weather conditions their properties would be protected. The intention to make the key decision was published on the Forward Plan however it was not published on the Plan for the requisite 28 day period

4.1.2 North Yorkshire Council / NY Highways – Highway Officer Integration

Access to Information Procedure Rule 4 – Urgent Private Item
Access to Information Procedure Rule 15 – General Exception

Issue details - North Yorkshire Council/NY Highways - Highway Officer Integration | North Yorkshire Council

On 17 March 2026 the Executive will be considering a report providing an update on work relating to the proposed alternative operating model for duties currently undertaken by Highway Officers, Assistant Highway Officers and some Maintenance Managers in North Yorkshire Council's (NYC's) Highway Operations Area teams, and seeking approval for implementation of a new way of delivering that element of the service via NY Highways (NYH). The report will contain exempt information and under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 4 at least 28 clear days' notice must be given of a private meeting. The intention to make the key decision was published on the Forward Plan however it was not published on the Plan for the requisite 28 day period, nor was 28 days' notice given of the intention to hold a private meeting. The matter could not reasonably be deferred because consideration of this item at the following Executive meeting on 21 April would not provide sufficient time to enable a decision to be taken prior to the next financial year.

4.1.3 Border to Coast Pensions Governance Arrangements

Access to Information Procedure Rule 4 – Urgent private item

Issue details - Border to Coast Governance Arrangements | North Yorkshire Council

On 24 March 2026 Shareholder Committee will consider a report regarding approval of updated governance documents for Border to Coast pensions. The report will contain exempt information and under the provisions of Access to Information Procedure Rule 4 at least 28 clear days' notice must be given of a private meeting. Notification of the private item was received a day later than it should. The matter could not be deferred as the documents needed to be approved before 31 March 2026.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

7.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no significant climate change implications arising from this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no significant equalities implications arising from this report.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 Consultation is undertaken with relevant officers and Members prior to the use of the urgency and/or call-in exemption procedures.

10.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To report back to full Council on the use of the special urgency and call-in exemption procedures in compliance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules and Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules.

11.0 RECOMMENDATION

11.1 That Council receives and notes this report.

COUNCILLOR CARL LES
Leader of the Council

10 March 2026

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Background Documents:
The Council Constitution - Constitution - 12 November 2025

Note: Members are invited to contact the author in advance of the meeting with any detailed queries or questions.