# Community Governance Review

# **Draft Recommendations**

Scarborough Unparished Area

January 2023

#### CGR Draft Recommendations – Scarborough Area

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#### 1. Background to the Review

- 1.1. A Community Governance Review (CGR) is a review of whole or part of a principal council's area for the purpose of making recommendations with regard to creating, merging or abolishing parishes and the naming and electoral arrangements of parishes. Where a parish of over 1,000 electors is created it must have a parish council. A parish council may be called a Town, Community, Neighbourhood or Village Council. The review is undertaken:
  - In accordance with the legislation in Chapter 3 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007:
  - Having regard to guidance published by the Secretary of State and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England; and
  - Complying with the terms of reference that the council has adopted for the review
- 1.2. A review is often undertaken when there have been changes in population or reaction to specific new issues to ensure that community governance for the area continues to be effective and convenient and reflects the identities and interests of the community. The aim of the review is to bring about improved community engagement, communities that are more unified, better local democracy and more effective and convenient delivery of local services.
- 1.3. The review offers two opportunities for residents to have their say. The first period of consultation has been undertaken, which forms the basis of these draft recommendations.

Revised* Timetable for Consultation and Recommendations		
August to October 2022 Initial consultation period		
Nov 2022 to Jan 2023	Consideration of responses and drafting of	
110V 2022 to Jan 2023	recommendations	
February to April 2023	Further consultation period on draft	
1 Coldary to April 2020	recommendations	
April 2023 to June 2023 Formulation of final recommendations		

<sup>\*</sup> Reasons for revisions are delays are explained in Appendix A.

1.4. If the Executive approve the draft recommendations a second period of consultation is planned for February to April 2023, to allow final recommendations to be drafted and presented to North Yorkshire Council in the summer of 2023.

- 1.5. On 1 April 2023, a new unitary authority to be known as North Yorkshire Council will be created and will deliver all local services. The new council will replace North Yorkshire County Council and Scarborough Borough Council (SBC), along with the county's six other district councils.
- 1.6. A central pledge in the bid for a new unitary authority was 'double devolution' which will enable town and parish councils the opportunity to take on greater responsibilities. Currently the only parts of North Yorkshire which do not have a parish or town council are the towns of Scarborough and Harrogate, hence those areas have limited ability to take on these responsibilities. More information on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) is available here <a href="The new council and devolution for North Yorkshire">The new council and devolution for North Yorkshire</a> | North Yorkshire County Council.
- 1.7. The new Council will be committed to keeping services local and empowering local communities; more information about this is available here: <a href="https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/countywide-local">https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/countywide-local</a>. There is more about how the North Yorkshire Council intends to promote local empowerment through communities, towns and parishes at page 83 of "A Unitary Council for North Yorkshire, The Case for Change" which is available here: <a href="https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fileroot/About%20the%20council/Strongertogether/82237%20North%20Yorkshire%20Council/%20A4%20GOV%20-%20Accessible.pdf">https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/sites/default/files/fileroot/About%20the%20council/Strongertogether/82237%20North%20Yorkshire%20Council/%20A4%20GOV%20-%20Accessible.pdf</a>
- 1.8. Harrogate and Scarborough currently have borough status, which entitles them to have a Mayor. To preserve the historic property, privileges, rights and traditions associated with a Mayor, the structural changes order approved by Government to allow the creation of the single North Yorkshire Council establishes charter trustee areas for both Harrogate and Scarborough from 1 April 2023. Whilst charter trustee areas are intended to protect the history and traditions of an area, they have no powers in respect of providing services to residents and the trustees may carry out ceremonial functions only. Charter trustees are the councillors on North Yorkshire Council representing the electoral divisions in the unparished areas. More information on charter trustees can be found here: <a href="mailto:Previous consultations">Previous consultations</a> | North Yorkshire County Council
- 1.9. In the event that a parish council is created for Scarborough, the charter trustee body would be dissolved. If no parish council is created the charter trustees will continue and would only be dissolved should a parish council be established in the future.
- 1.10. Parish and town councils play a key role in representing the views and promoting the needs of communities and can provide services to their residents. Parish councillors are directly elected to the parish council by the electors of the parish area. Parish Councils are mainly funded by a levy incorporated into local residents'

- council tax bills, known as a precept. Parish Councils are also able to bid to a wide range of bodies for grant funding at a local level.
- 1.11. The terms of reference for the Scarborough area included three anomalous areas along the boundary lines of the unparished area, which following a Borough Council review of wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) in 2017/18 saw changes made to wards which were once coterminous with the parish boundaries. The changes now mean that affected residents no longer fall within the same borough ward, county division and parish, with some remaining unparished. It is felt that these 3 anomalous areas could be addressed as part of this review, being consequential matters arising from the LGBCE review. These 3 areas consist of an unparished part of Eastfield (Middle Deepdale development), 3 properties at Osgodby, and Charles Williams Apartments which are currently split between being part parished within Newby & Scalby Town Council, and part unparished. Separate draft recommendations documents have been generated for each of those areas.
- 1.12. North Yorkshire County Council agreed to conduct this review at a meeting of the Executive on 19 July 2022. The report and the legal basis on which the review is conducted, along with the terms of reference for this review can be found here:
  Agenda for Executive on Tuesday, 19th July, 2022, 11.00 am | North Yorkshire County Council.
  The Executive resolved that:
  - i) Community governance reviews be undertaken for the unparished parts of Harrogate and Scarborough, incorporating Eastfield Town Council.
  - ii) The Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) in consultation with the relevant Executive Members be given delegated authority to approve the terms of reference once final typographical changes have been completed and to take any necessary action to progress the Community Governance Review.
- 1.13. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health act 2007 requires the Council to consult the local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body who appears to have an interest in the review and to take the representations that are received into account by judging them against the statutory criteria.
- 1.14. Following the resolution of the Executive to commence a review the terms of reference were published on the NYCC website and preparations finalised for the stage 1 consultation. The methodology used for the consultation is set out at Appendix A and the survey at Appendix B.
- 1.15. The tensions between the potential cost of the consultation and the need to offer all affected residents and interested parties the opportunity to respond were considered. Direct mail was chosen for all households within the areas under review. Other known stakeholders were contacted by email and the consultation

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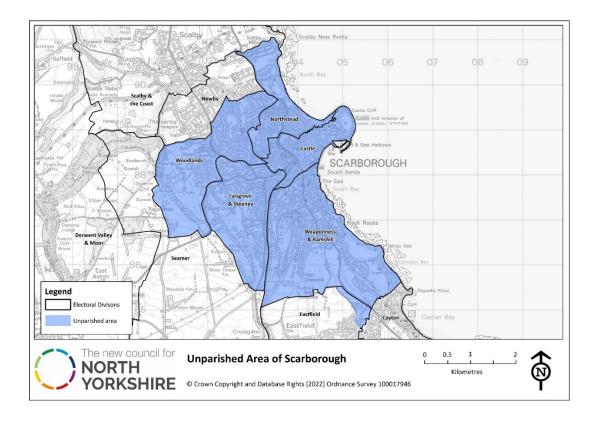
was also publicised by means of local press and resident newsletters and social media. Online responses were encouraged but alternatives were available.

### 2. Current Arrangements and History of the area

#### **Current Arrangement**

2.1. The unparished area of Scarborough includes the following current county council divisions. This area will comprise the charter trustee areas on 01 April 2023:

Division	Electorate	Households
DIVISION	(as at Dec 22)	(as at 1 June 22)
Castle	5,369	4,989
Eastfield - unparished part	84	44
Falsgrave & Stepney	6,137	4,213
Northstead	5,461	4,160
Weaponness & Ramshill	5,771	5,215
Woodlands	5,171	3,445
Totals	27,993	22,066



#### **Relevant History**

- 2.2. The current Scarborough Borough Council (SBC) was created in 1974 and comprised the Scarborough Borough and a number of Rural Districts. The footprint of the previous Scarborough Borough is the only part of the current borough to remain unparished.
- 2.3. There has been debate over the years on whether a town council be created particularly in relation to the perceived inequalities whereby Scarborough town residents receive the same services as residents of parish council areas, without paying an additional parish precept. It was generally considered that Scarborough was not disadvantaged in terms of having an additional voice at local level through not having a town council due to the fact that it is the largest town in the district and the home of the main council offices.
- 2.4. At SBC's Full Council meeting held on 06 September 2021 a motion was proposed to hold a referendum to ascertain the views of residents within the unparished area of the Borough in light of LGR. It was resolved that more information about options, processes, and timescales was needed before agreeing to a referendum.
- 2.5. A Member working group was subsequently established to consider all options, and it was agreed that a recommendation be made to NYCC Implementation Executive to undertake this CGR as soon as is practicable.
- 2.6. This issue was last addressed by SBC in October 2010 when in the absence of any evidence of popular support for a new parish in Scarborough, the Cabinet agreed to undertake a public consultation on whether electors in the unparished area wished to establish a new parish council either one for the whole urban area or three (South Cliff Community Council, Scarborough West Community Council, Scarborough Castle and North Cliff Community Council):
  - The consultation received 472 responses 77.5% voted against creating any parish or town council for the area and 22.2% voted in favour, hence SBC decided against commencing a CGR of the area.
  - The main two reasons cited by the no vote were that a community council was perceived as an additional and unnecessary level of bureaucracy, and they did not wish to pay a precept for a community council.
  - The majority of those who voted for community councils felt that they should be much smaller than the areas identified in the leaflet and several people suggested they should be based on the ward size.
  - The above views are 12 years old, and may have changed in light of LGR.

#### Five year electorate forecast

2.7. The electorate and 5 year electorate forecast of the unparished area is as follows:

Division	Electorate (Dec 2022)	Electorate Prediction (2027)	Predicted Electorate increase
Castle	5,369	6,027	658
Eastfield - unparished part	84	In excess of 84*	
Falsgrave & Stepney	6,137	6,170	33
Northstead	5,461	5,520	59
Weaponness & Ramshill	5,771	5,961	190
Woodlands	5171	5,171	0
Totals	27,993	Exceeds 28,933	Exceeds 940

<sup>\*</sup> unable to give exact prediction for that area as developments listed are not split between polling districts, and cover a wider area into Eastfield Town Council

- 2.8. The increase in Castle Division is due to an expected increase of dwellings detailed within the SBC Local Plan as developments at St Thomas Hospital, Former Argos Building, Westwood Campus Site, Pavilion House, plus various smaller site developments, building conversions, changes in premises use, etc.
- 2.9. The increase in Eastfield Division (unparished part) is due to the expansion of the Middle Deepdale estate, detailed as Middle Deepdale (East), Eastfield (Kebbell Phase 4), and Land to North of Middle Deepdale (east of Deep Dale Valley), Eastfield (HA8) (Outline) Outline Remaining within the local plan, which were taken into consideration at the time that the LGBCE carried out their review in 2017/2018. This led to the creation of the unparished polling district of QC, with wards being extended, but the parish boundary remaining unchanged, hence this anomaly exists. This is explored further within the recommendations for Eastfield Town Council.
- 2.10. The small increase in Falsgrave and Stepney Division is due to an expected increase in dwellings detailed within the SBC Local plan as developments at Land off Springhill Lane, plus various smaller site developments, building conversions, changes in premises use, etc.
- 2.11. The small increase in Northstead Division is due to an expected increase in dwellings detailed within the SBC Local plan in relation to various smaller site developments, building conversions, changes in premises use, etc.

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- 2.12. The increase in Weaponness & Ramshill Division is due to an expected increase in dwellings detailed within the SBC Local plan as developments at Villa Esplanade, The Breece West Street, 5 6 Esplanade Gardens, plus various smaller site developments, building conversions, changes in premises use, etc.
- 2.13. Electorate forecasting did not show any increase in the Woodlands Division as developments planned for within that area are for beyond the 5 year period.

#### 3. Assessment of Submissions

3.1. The following table shows the number of households written to, with the number of submissions received, and response rate. As detailed at Appendix 1 responses were not limited to households only, anyone with an interest was invited to respond.

Households posted to	21,930
Responses received for area	538
Response rate	2.45 %

- 3.2. Submissions received, both in summary form and in full, can be found in the Scarborough Consultation Report at Appendix C. Some comments are quoted in this assessment where they may be helpful to illustrate a point.
- 3.3. Response rates in the table above were calculated by comparing the number of returns with the number of households directly consulted by means of a mail out inviting responses from all properties in the areas under review. The total number of responses in 2022 is 538 and in the 2010 consultation described at paragraph 2.6, the total number was 472.

The 2010 consultation was recalled in comments by some respondents:

"Having just dissolved SBC why introduce another layer of LG. In 2010 77% of respondents overwhelmingly rejected similar proposals"

"I remember when a poll was conducted previously on whether Scarborough should become parished and the result was overwhelmingly against it despite one major political party in favour of two parish councils for the area. One of the main reasons against was the introduction of a parish precept. I note that there is constant reference to elected parish councillors. Unless the situation has changed there used to be quite a few co-opted members. From my experience the calibre of some left something to be desired particularly on planning matters"

"I am glad that this is happening and I hope a Town Council will be created. When Scarborough Borough Council held a Community Governance review about 12 years ago, the idea of parishing the Scarborough Town area was rejected by residents, mainly on the grounds that they didn't want yet more politicians and they didn't want to have to pay more council tax. I hope that this time they will realise that the proposal will put them on a level playing field with nearly everywhere else in North Yorkshire, rather than being disadvantaged. I favour Proportional Representation but I suspect that the law will not allow it in this case. However I hope that the wards for the new council will be big enough to allow for PR to be introduced, should this be possible in future. Each ward should have at least two councillors so that if one is ill or away or dies there will still be a representative".

3.4. Whilst the total number of responses in 2010 and in 2022 are similar, the outcomes are very different. In 2010 the majority (77.5%) were against creation of a new

parish council and 22.2% were in favour. In 2022, against a backdrop of changing local governance arrangements, the majority are in favour as shown in the table below:

Option	Number	Percentage
Option 1 – not to create a parish council	97	18 %
Option 2 – to create a parish council	376	69.9 %
Some other option	13	2.4 %
Don't know / not sure	52	9.7 %
	538	100 %

- 3.5. The report summarises the reasons people gave for their choice of option 1, not to create a parish council or option 2, to create one. Of those against, the most common reasons were additional costs, added bureaucracy or that it would be another tier of local government which seemed counter to the initiative behind the formation of the Unitary North Yorkshire Council.
- 3.6. The most popular reason for objecting to the creation of a town council related to the cost, including fears over increased council tax, and how it would be a waste of money. Comments were also received suggesting respondents were concerned they might end up paying twice for the same services. The second most popular reason was that there was no need to reintroduce two tier local government following the implementation of unitary status for the county.

"The creation of a new parish council would run counter to the logic which underpins the move to a unitary authority. Specifically, any forecast cost savings would be diluted and any new body could become an obstacle to North Yorkshire wide strategic planning. I understand the arguments about the benefits of local decision making, but feel that these are outweighed by the potential financial and operational benefits of a more strategic approach to local governance. Why remove one layer of councillors and then replace them with another?"

- 3.7. Of those in favour, the most common reasons tended to include "local" as a key theme, such as, local representation, local services, local decisions, and knowledge of local issues. Concerns were expressed by some that without a parish council, Scarborough would not benefit from the stated intention of North Yorkshire Council to encourage local empowerment through communities, towns and parishes.
- 3.8. There was a strong feeling that local democracy is important and people wanted a local body to champion Scarborough's interests. Many stressed the need for decisions to be made locally, with an understanding of local issues. A town council would provide a place for the interests of local communities to be heard and actioned. It was felt that a town council would provide a point for local concerns to be considered and dealt with or taken forward to the unitary council. A number of

respondents felt that as the rest of the county was parished, Harrogate and Scarborough would be disadvantaged by remaining unparished and it would be more equitable for all areas to have the same level of democratic representation. Some also felt unparished areas could miss out on opportunities for funding.

"It's important to have local services devolved from a county-wide local authority. We shouldn't be left as the only area in North Yorkshire with charter trustee status, which would be the case if Harrogate were to vote to become a parish council while Scarborough voted against. This would mean that Scarborough town would go from having much control of its own affairs through a borough council, to suddenly having no direct control over their own area and instead being directly controlled from County Hall by all councillors. This would mean that the promise of devolution as outlined in the plans for a New Council for North Yorkshire would not be fulfilled in Scarborough, as we would be left in a worse position democratically".

- 3.9. Those against, with concerns about additional costs and bureaucracy are considerably outnumbered in the consultation responses by others who are for creation of a parish council with concerns about local representation and that Scarborough should share equally in the benefits promised by the NYC from local empowerment through communities, towns and parishes as described at paragraph 1.7.
- 3.10. The report lists the 12 comments given by the 13 people who chose option 3, some other option. However, none of the suggested options are within the remit of this review and so they cannot be considered. Some respondents gave information about local groups which are active in the community though not necessarily able to provide an alternative form of governance to a parish council. They might form partnerships or relationships with it and their members might consider standing for election to a newly formed Scarborough Town Council. Community groups were included as stakeholders and included in the consultation as described in Appendix A, but if any mentioned by respondents were not included they will be added to the list of contacts for the second phase.
- 3.11. The report lists the 43 comments given by the 52 people who responded, "don't know" or "not sure." The comments indicate that people didn't feel they understood the process or didn't have enough information to make an informed choice. This was often because they didn't feel they knew enough about the new unitary council arrangements or what services parish councils might provide. The hyperlinks at paragraph 1.7 above point to sources of additional information and will be provided at the next phase of consultation.
- 3.12. There does not appear to be an alternative form of local governance which could be considered in place of a parish council. Whilst active community groups exist in some areas there is no indication that they could take the place of a parish council.

The new Area Committees and Community Networks described at paragraph 1.7 should not be seen as an alternative to a parish or town council, indeed, the Community Networks will include representatives from parish councils. One respondent commented:

"It is fairer and easier to understand if the same system is in place across the whole county. The proposed nature of involvement in Area Committees in the documents about creating the new Unitary Authority involved Parish Councils - it is difficult to see how this could be achieved without a Parish/Town council for Scarborough"

One respondent suggested that a decision should be deferred:

"My response would be to say let's wait until the new system has operated for a while to see how effective it is before more money is wasted on change. I say this along with, I'm sure from many people in Scarborough have seen the old council make so many bad decisions & investments over many years with little sign of improvement. I agree it may be useful to have some sort of local representation, but let's see how the new system works for Scarborough".

However, others felt that formation of a parish council is overdue:

"It is necessary to have local representation to submit opinions on proposals by the new unitary authority and should have been in place from 1st April 2023 This lack of procedure by SBC has not been explained and warrants investigation as this cannot now be implemented for that date"

A Town Council for Scarborough Town Area is essential, and it is in fact long overdue. Since the formation of Scarborough Borough Council the Town Councils of Whitby, Filey and Eastfield and the Parish Council of Newby and Scalby have been invaluable in representing the interests of their Residents to the Borough Council, forcefully when necessary, and they have also taken on exactly the kind of role that is envisaged for them under the Double Devolution proposal. The Residents of the Scarborough Town area have had and currently still have nobody to take on this role for them. Important decisions have been made by Cabinet Members representing Whitby or Rural wards and there has been and still is no purely Scarborough forum to consider those decisions or purely Scarborough voice to question or challenge them. The NYCC Parish Charter sets out clearly the role and importance of Parish/Town Councils, and creating a Town Council for Scarborough is the obvious and essential forward.

- 3.13. The majority of responses to the consultation are in favour of creating a parish council for Scarborough with several respondents going on to suggest that it should be called Scarborough Town Council.
- 3.14. Some respondents went on to make suggestions for the electoral and warding arrangements if a new parish council for Scarborough is created. Some of the

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suggestions made are beyond the scope of this review, for example, one included a suggestion for the voting system and some concerned boundaries of existing parished areas which are not currently under review and, therefore, where households were not directly consulted. This review cannot consider the method of election which is prescribed in legislation and is restricted to the published terms of reference. Where suggestions received are within the scope of this review, they will be considered whilst formulating the draft recommendations.

#### 4. Statutory Criteria

- 4.1. Section 93 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires that the Council must have regard to the need to secure that community governance in an area under review
  - reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area
  - is effective and convenient

and in deciding what recommendations to make the principal council must take into account any other arrangements for community representation or community engagement that already exist in an area.

#### **Identities and Interests**

- 4.2. Parish councils have two main roles: community representation and local administration. For both purposes it is desirable that a parish should reflect a distinctive and recognisable community of place, with its own sense of identity. The views of local communities and inhabitants are of central importance. Some of the factors which help define communities of place are: the geography of an area, the make-up of the local community, sense of identity, and whether people live in a rural, suburban, or urban area.
- 4.3. The proposed parish is a clearly identifiable built up area, surrounded on all sides by existing town and parish councils with established identities. The town is made up of a number of residential suburbs, each with their own identities and small secondary shopping areas, but the town is of such a size that many shops and services are based centrally and the town centre is seen as the focal point for town life.
- 4.4. Parish councils can also bring added value to community life, particularly in respect of organising things which may have a financial cost, which the principal council may decline to provide as they are not a statutory service. This could include local events and festivals which may require insurance and other matters which may be easier for a parish council, rather than a community group, to consistently provide.

#### Effective and convenient local government

4.5. The Government believes that the effectiveness and convenience of local government is best understood in the context of a local authority's ability to deliver quality services economically and efficiently, and give users of services a democratic voice in the decisions that affect them.

- 4.6. Local communities should have access to good quality local services, ideally in one place. A parish council may be well placed to do this. With local parish and town councils in mind, effective and convenient local government essentially means that such councils should be viable in terms of providing at least some local services, and if they are to be convenient they need to be easy to reach and accessible to local people.
- 4.7. A single town council covering the whole of the unparished area is more likely to provide a council with the capacity to consider taking on services, should it be able to reach an agreement with the principal council. A single large council would provide economies of scale, freeing up resources for services.
- 4.8. A number of smaller parishes could be established covering different parts of the town, and whilst very likely that a series of smaller parish councils would be successful at a local level and bring local communities together, this would not provide the single unified voice to speak on behalf of the whole town, which is what a large number of respondents in favour of a town council gave as the reason for opting for a town council. Nor would it provide a parish council large enough to consider delivering services locally and with economies of scale.

#### **Existing Arrangements for Community Representation**

- 4.9. The consultation survey also asked if respondents were aware of any existing local community governance in the areas (e.g. community or neighbourhood forums, resident associations etc.) which would serve the local community as an alternative to a parish council. The principal council is required to take into account any other arrangements already in place in an area.
- 4.10. A number of local organisations were named by respondents and are listed at page 45 in Appendix C. Of the organisations listed, three are specific area residents associations (Barrowcliff, Green Howards Drive and area, and Castle Ward), with the other three being organisations covering a specific area of the town such the South Bay, Old Town and Weaponness Valley. If the outcome of the Review were that a parish or town council not be created, these organisations' ability to sufficiently represent and advocate for the interests of the whole town would be limited.
- 4.11. Such forums and residents associations may be unrepresentative of the areas they cover as their membership is self-selecting. No governance is involved and they lack the accountability and status of a democratically elected council. Such groups work best when they cover a specific area and are invited by the town/parish council to contribute to debate on a range of topics.

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4.12. It would be expected that such organisations would be involved in a community network for Scarborough, and work together for the benefit of the town. However, none of the organisations named could provide an alternative to a town council for such a large area. Whilst community organisations have the right to bid to take responsibility for assets or local services should they wish, they would not be able to take on statutory powers such as consultation on planning applications.

#### 5. Final Assessment and Draft Recommendations

- 5.1. The majority of responses (69.9%) indicated support for the creation of a parish council for Scarborough, therefore it is proposed to create a single parish covering the unparished area, with the exception of the following:
  - To <u>exclude</u> the unparished part of Eastfield Ward which is being recommended to form part of Eastfield Town Council (refer to Draft Recommendations for Eastfield area)
  - To <u>exclude</u> the unparished part of Charles Williams Apartments which are being recommended to form part of Newby & Scalby Town Council (refer to Draft Recommendations for Newby & Scalby area)
  - To <u>exclude</u> the 3 unparished properties at Osgodby which are being recommended to form part of Osgodby Parish Council (refer to Draft Recommendations for Osgodby Area)
- 5.2. The new parish would be known as the parish of Scarborough.
- 5.3. It is also proposed that a parish council be formed for the new parish as guidance states that where a parish consists of more than 1,000 electors a parish council must be created. Legislation offers a choice of alternative styles for a parish council: town, community, neighbourhood or village. Given the number of electors it seems most appropriate to propose the name Scarborough Town Council. Styling the parish council as a town council would also allow the use of the designation "Mayor" instead of Chair.

Recommendation 1 - A new parish be established for the unparished area of Scarborough (with the exclusion of the anomalous areas listed above)

Recommendation 2 - The new parish be named Scarborough

Recommendation 3 - The new parish of Scarborough should have a parish council and be called Scarborough Town Council

5.4. If the Community Governance Review continues on the current timetable, and second stage consultation shows support for the draft recommendations it is likely that an order to create the town council will be made in the summer of 2023. If that is the case it is proposed that the parish comes into existence for administrative purposes on 01 April 2024, and the date of the first election be 2 May 2024. This would be for a reduced term of three years to enable the election cycle to coincide with that of the principal council, in order to save costs. The next ordinary elections would take place in 2027 at the same time as for the North Yorkshire Council and all other parish councils in the county.

Recommendation 4 – that the parish comes into effect from 01 April 2024 for administrative purposes, and the first election for the town council be 2 May 2024 for a reduced term of three years, with ordinary elections taking place in 2027 and every four years thereafter

#### **Council Size and Warding Arrangements**

- 5.5. Consideration should be given as to whether a single election of councillors would be impractical or inconvenient. Given the size of the electorate in the unparished area it would not be practical to have a single ward. As part of a community governance review a principal council is required to consider whether parish warding should be put in place. A principal council should also be mindful of the provisions of Schedule 2 to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. These provide that when the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is making changes to principal council warding arrangements no unwarded parish or parish ward should be divided by a county division boundary. Whilst these provisions do not apply to parish electoral arrangements the LGBCE believes that, in the interests of effective and convenient local government they are relevant considerations to be taken into account during community governance reviews. If a new parish is established in an area which is covered by more than one county division a principal county may wish to consider the merit of putting parish warding in place to reflect that ward or division.
- 5.6. With this guidance in mind it is therefore proposed that the parish be divided into 5 wards, coterminous with the existing/new unitary county divisions. Coterminosity means boundaries that follow the same line, for example where a principal ward boundary (ie North Yorkshire Electoral Division boundary) follows the same line as a parish council boundary. Coterminosity aids electoral administration; non-coterminous boundaries can be confusing for the electorate and difficult to administer.
- 5.7. It is proposed that the names of the parish wards match those of the divisions they are based on. It is felt that the residents will already identify with those names which have been established and recognised for many years, maintaining a sense of community identity and familiarisation, again reducing elector confusion.

#### Recommendation 5 -

- (i) the parish be divided into wards
- (ii) the wards for the parish shall be those which apply for North Yorkshire County Council until 31 March 2023, and which will apply for North Yorkshire Council after 1 April 2023, as named below:

Castle
Falsgrave & Stepney
Northstead
Weaponness & Ramshill
Woodlands

5.8. The proposed Town Council area covers 5 relatively evenly sized divisions, and it is acknowledged that the proposal to retain the same warding pattern as for the divisions provides a good balance for equality of representation, as shown in the table below:

Proposed Ward of new	Electorate	Electorate	Councillors
council	(Dec 2022)	Prediction (2027*)	Councillors
Castle	5,369	6,027	2
Falsgrave & Stepney	6,137	6,170	2
Northstead	5,461	5,520	2
Weaponness & Ramshill	5,771	5,961	2
Woodlands	5,171	5,171	2
Totals	27,909	28,849	10

- 5.9. In considering Council size the terms of reference stated that the council would be mindful of existing levels of representation, the broad pattern of existing council sizes and take up of seats at election time as well as guidelines produced by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and the Aston Business School. There are no statutory guidelines on council size, apart from there must be a minimum of 5 councillors.
- 5.10. The Aston Business School undertook research on council size in 1992 and found that parish councils representing a population of over 20,000 had between 13 and 31 councillors. NALC guidance published in 1998 suggested that the minimum number of councillors for any parish should be seven and the maximum of 25, for parishes with over 23,000 electors.
- 5.11. The size of the current Scarborough Borough Council is 46 councillors representing the whole of the Borough. 15 represent those whole wards proposed to be included within the new Scarborough Town Council area, at 3 per ward.
- 5.12. It should also be borne in mind that in recent years, parish councils in the Borough have found it difficult to attract sufficient candidates to stand for election, leading to uncontested elections or a need to co-opt members to fill vacancies. A parish council's budget and planned level of service provision will also be important factors in determining council size. Nationally, recently created larger town councils are also reflecting a desire for smaller, more streamlined council sizes in an age when fewer people are interested in standing for public office.

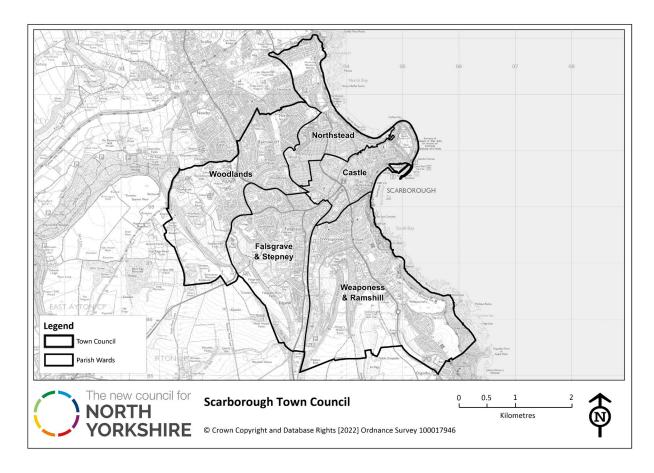
5.13. It is recommended that each proposed ward be represented by 2 councillors. This would give acceptable variances (ranging from -8% to 7%) and fair elector representation.

#### Recommendation 6 – there should be 10 councillors elected to the parish

# Recommendation 7 - the number of parish councillors to be elected for each ward shall be

Castle	2
Falsgrave & Stepney	2
Northstead	2
Weaponness & Ramshill	2
Woodlands	2
TOTAL	10

5.14. A map of the recommended new Scarborough Town Council is show here:



5.15. To enable and changes to be made to electoral registers in advance of nominations being made for the first elections to a town council, the Reorganisation Order will need to take effect from 15 october in the preceding year.

CGR Draft Recommendations - Scarborough Area

Recommendation 8 – that the change takes effect on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023 for electoral purposes (ahead of publication of the revised register planned for 01 December 2023)

#### 6. Consequential Matters

#### **Assets**

- 6.1. As part of Local Government Reorganisation all the assets of Scarborough Borough Council will transfer to the new authority North Yorkshire Council. Should a town council be created and should it wish to take on responsibility for any assets formerly belonging to SBC, it will need to demonstrate that it has the ability to do so, whilst delivering value for money.
- 6.2. No assets will be automatically transferred on creation of a town council. Assets will only be transferred to parish councils where they want it.
- 6.3. The only exception to this is the civic collection, including the civic regalia, which will be the responsibility of the Charter Trustees for Scarborough from 1 April 2023. Should a town council be created the Charter Trustee body will cease to exist and its assets transfer to a town council. It would then be the responsibility of a town council to pay for storage, insurance, upkeep, repairs and any other costs associated with the collection.

#### **Precept**

- 6.4. The principal council will be obliged to set the precept for the first year of a new council. Should the outcome of the review be that a town council be created a Reorganisation of Community Governance Order will be made, which must contain a budget requirement figure. The budget requirement is the amount a new town council would require in its first year; dividing this figure by the equivalent number of Band D dwellings would give an indication of the level of precept.
- 6.5. In setting the precept for the first year the principal council will need to consider set up costs, operational costs and costs of service provision. There is also an expectation that the year 1 precept would be set at a level corresponding to a fully operational town council which would give a first year surplus and any savings could be put into reserves to be utilised in later years.
- 6.6. For comparison, the table below shows the precepts for the three largest parish councils in the Scarborough Borough:

Council Parish precept 2022-23		Parish Band D tax
Newby & Scalby Town Council	£91,710.00	£22.84
Filey Town Council	£163,300.00	£55.26
Whitby Town Council	£233,385.00	£47.34

6.7. By comparison, in Scarborough a Band D tax of £10 would generate a Parish Precept of £122,986 (2022 figures).

#### 7. Contact Details

W: www.northyorks.gov.uk/GCR

E: CGR@northyorks.gov.uk

T: 01609 780780

North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD

Appendix A - Consultation methodology

Appendix B – Consultation survey

Appendix C – Full consultation results

#### Community Governance Review - Consultation Stage 1 Methodology

#### Scarborough Unparished Area

- The Stage 1 consultation commenced on 22 August 2022, initially it was programmed to run for a period of 6 weeks to 30 September. The decision was taken to extend the consultation period by 2 weeks to 14 October as a result of Royal mail strikes and the death of the Monarch during the period of consultation.
- A page was set up on the Consultation area of the NYCC website where detailed information was provided on the reasons and scope for the CGR. More information was also given on parish councils and charter trustee areas. The webpage contained a link to an online survey.
- An 8 page information pack was also prepared containing the same information as was on the webpage, as well as a copy of the survey in paper format.
- A letter informing residents that a CGR was taking place and enclosing the information pack was posted to each of the 21,930 households on the electoral register in the unparished area of Scarborough (excluding 1 12 Charles William Apartments, the unparished part of Eastfield Ward, and the 3 properties forming the unparished part of Cayton Ward, all of which received information and a survey specific to those areas). The letter explained the reasons for the review, and invited residents to have their say via the survey. The letter signposted residents to the consultation area of the NYCC website. A QR code was included on the letter to enable residents to access the survey directly from their mobile phones.
- 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.
- Copies of the leaflet, paper survey and pre-paid return envelopes were made available at Scarborough Library, Eastfield community library More Than Books, and Newby and Scalby library and information centre.
- In addition to the letter to every household, key stakeholders were also emailed a link to the consultation webpage and invited to give their views. This included the following stakeholders:
  - local MPs, the PFCC and councillors for the relevant area
  - Directly affected parishes of Eastfield, Newby & Scalby, and Osgodby, them having areas specifically detailed within the Terms of Reference
  - o Parish councils adjoining the unparished area

- Harrogate Borough Council's consultation stakeholder list which included disability groups, business, charities, voluntary groups, local associations, business groups and local public services
- The survey which was used for the Scarborough unparished area invited residents to select a preferred initial set of all possible options.
- In addition to the 'all households' letter, NYCC and SBC social media feeds were used to raise awareness of the review prior to, and at commencement. This was supplemented by reminder posts during, and close to the end of the review. All social media posts were done with consistent messaging, signposting and branding to ensure a consistent approach throughout and avoid confusion.
- A press release entitled "Residents set to be asked for views on creating town councils" was issued on 11 July 2022 leading to the review gaining coverage in the local press. A further press release entitled "Give your views on option to create new local voice for towns" was issued on 15 August 2022 to coincide with the start of the consultation.
- Information was also included in the Scarborough Borough Council 'Residents' newsletter' circulated via email.
- Council staff were informed of the review during LGR webinars and via the SBC 'Colleague News' newsletter and invited to take part.
- An 'easy read' version of the information leaflet was also produced and was available on request for residents with learning difficulties and the survey could also be made available in other formats on request.



#### **Community Governance Review - Scarborough**

On 1 April 2023 Scarborough Borough Council will be dissolved to be replaced by the new North Yorkshire Council. On that date Charter Trustees will be established for the unparished parts of Scarborough town which will ensure the continuation of Mayoral and other ceremonial functions, but would not have powers to deliver any services.

If a town or parish council is established, the Charter Trustee areas would be dissolved. If there is no new town or parish council the Charter Trustees will continue and only be abolished if a parish council is created in the future. Please tell us your views by completing the questions below.

#### Using your personal information

Any information provided in this survey will be used in the strictest confidence and only for the use of the community governance review.

For further information on how we collect, use, share, secure and retain your personal information, and your legal rights, please see our Privacy Notice at https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy-notices.

# Q1 Please state which of the following best describes you? I live in Scarborough (please state your home postcode below) I work in Scarborough (please state your worplace postcode below) I own a business in Scarborough (please state your business postcode below) I am a representative of a community organisation in Scarborough (Please state which one below) Other Please state your postcode: Please state community organisation: Please state other:

#### Charter trustee / parish council

**Option 1 - Not to create a parish council**, Charter Trustees would be established in April 2023 and would continue to undertake civic and ceremonial functions unless a parish council is created at some time in the future.

**Option 2 - To create a parish council**, which would take over civic and ceremonial functions from charter trustees and be able to provide other local services. Charter trustee areas would be dissolved when the council is created.

er?

Q7	Are there any further comments you would like to add about the Community Governance Review?		
Alte	rnative forms of community governance		
Q8	Are you aware of any existing local community governance in the areas (e.g. community or neighbourhood forums, resident associations etc.) which would serve the local community as an alternative to a parish council?		
	Yes		
	□ No □ Don't know / not sure		
	Don't know / not sure		
Q9	Please tell us more about the group, the area it covers, and the reason for your answer?		
		┙	
Cor	tact details		
futu	u would like to be kept informed on the Community Governance Review and involved in any re developments of draft recommendations following this initial consultation, please provide name and preferred contact details below.		
you	Thathe and preferred contact details below.		
Na	ame:		
Ad	ldress:	7	
Er	nail address:	_	

Age		
Which age category are you	ı in?	
16 - 19	40 - 49	75 - 84
20 - 29	50 - 64	85+
30 - 39	65 - 74	Prefer not to say
Disability		
Do you consider yourself to	be a disabled person or to ha	ave a long-term, limiting condition?
Yes	No	Prefer not to say

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey

About you



# Community Governance Review – Consultation Responses (Phase 1) – November 2022

Scarborough

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#### 1.0 Summary

1.1 The Community Governance Review consultation started on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August and ran for a period of 6 weeks. All households within the community governance review area received a letter, information pack and how to participate in the consultation.

A total of **538** responses were received during this period, a summary of the responses can be found below along further details within this report.

#### 1.2 Please state which of the following best describes you?

I live in Scarborough	95.7%
I work in Scarborough	0.6%
I own a business in Scarborough	1.5%
I am a representative of a community organisation in	0.2%
Scarborough	
Other	2.0%

#### 1.3 Which of the above options is your preferred option?

Option 1 - not to create a parish council	18.0%
Option 2 - to create a parish council	69.9%
Some other option	2.4%
Don't know / not sure	9.7%

1.4 Please tell us why you chose option 1, not to create a parish council?

2		
Waste of money / How much will it cost / Reduce costs	36.7%	
No need for two tier local government	20.3%	
Increase in council tax	16.5%	
Other	10.1%	
Added bureaucracy	8.9%	
Negative experience with parish councils	8.9%	
Not a good idea / Not needed	7.6%	
LGR is supposed to increase efficiency & reduce costs	2.5%	
Unclear on the benefits / Further information needed	2.5%	
Parishes have limited powers	1.3%	
Charter Trustees best option	1.3%	

**Total number of responses** 

#### 1.5 Please tell us why you chose option 2, to create a parish council?

Decidents need a voice / local presence /representation	20.00/
Residents need a voice / local presence/representation	39.8%
Decisions made locally / Local governance	19.2%
More local control / Hand-on	13.6%
Local knowledge / issues	11.8%
Provide local services	8.8%
Parish council better for area / best options	7.7%
North Yorkshire is too large/remote / Don't agree with LGR	6.8%
More local accountable	3.5%
Can't see the benefit of a charter trustee	3.5%
Rest of NY have parish or town councils	2.7%
other	1.5%
Effective current parish councils	0.9%
Adequate training to councillors / Councillors fit for the job	0.6%
Required for double devolution	0.3%
North Yorkshire too diverse a community	0.3%
Increased engagement between councillors and public	0.3%
Councillors unpaid and elected	0.3%
Further information needed	0.3%
Total number of responses	

#### 1.6 Please provide details on other options available?

A total of **12** comments were received detailing other options available.

#### 1.7 Please tell us why you don't know or are not sure on which option you prefer?

A total of **43** comments were received providing a reason why people don't know or are not sure on which option they prefer.

## 1.8 Are there any further comments you would like to add about the Community Governance Review?

A total of **237** further comments were received by respondents about the Community Governance Review.

# 1.9 Are you aware of any existing local community governance in the areas (e.g. community or neighbourhood forums, resident associations etc.) which would serve the local community as an alternative to a parish council?

Yes	7.2%
No	64.9%
Don't know / not sure	27.9%

#### 1.10 Please tell us more about the group, the area it covers, and the reason for your answer?

A total of **38** comments were received by respondents providing details of existing local community governance in the area.

#### 1.11 Contact details:

A total of **338** respondents have provided their contact details to be kept informed on the Community Governance Review.

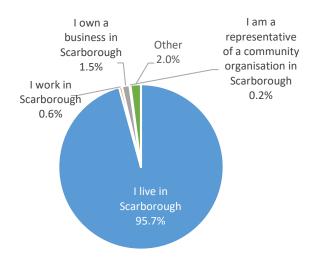
#### 2.0 Responses

#### 2.1 Where are you from?

#### 2.1.1 Please state which of the following best describes you?

The majority of responses to the Community Governance Review for Scarborough consultation live in Scarborough with **95.7%** of responses.

	No.	%
I live in Scarborough	515	95.7%
I work in Scarborough	3	0.6%
I own a business in Scarborough	8	1.5%
I am a representative of a community organisation in Scarborough	1	0.2%
Other	11	2.0%

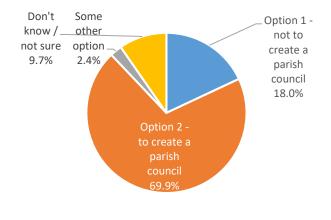


# 2.2 Charter Trustee / Parish Council

# 2.2.1 Which of the above options is your preferred option?

The majority of responses with 69.9% prefer option 2 to create a parish council.

	No.	%	
Option 1 - not to	97	18.0%	
create a parish			
council			
Option 2 - to create	376	69.9%	
a parish council			
Some other option	13	2.4%	
Don't know / not	52	9.7%	
sure			
	538		



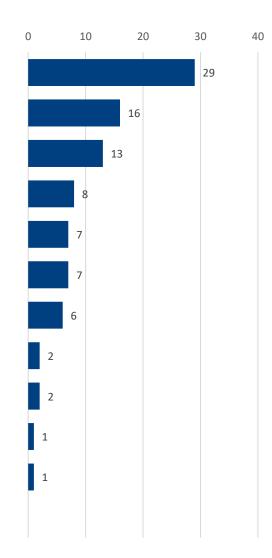
# 2.2.2 Please tell us why you chose option 1, not to create a parish council?

Out of the **97** respondents that ticked option **1**, a total of **79** comments were received. A summary of comments by theme can be seen below.

# 2.2.3 The top 3 reasons why option 1 was chosen

- 1. Waste of money / How much will it cost / Reduce costs
- 2. No need for two tier local government
- 3. Increase in council tax

	No.	%
Waste of money / How much will it cost / Reduce costs	29	36.7%
No need for two tier local government	16	20.3%
Increase in council tax	13	16.5%
Other	8	10.1%
Added bureaucracy	7	8.9%
Negative experience with parish councils	7	8.9%
Not a good idea / Not needed	6	7.6%
LGR is supposed to increase efficiency & reduce costs	2	2.5%
Unclear on the benefits / Further information needed	2	2.5%
Parishes have limited powers	1	1.3%
Charter Trustees best option	1	1.3%



#### 2.3.4 Below are the full comments:

- Not necessary. Should not be incurring any costs at this time. The public should see the financial justification for this whole change.
- I think the new Scarborough Council should have similar powers to a town like Ripon, it needs to be able to have ceremonial duties plus sufficient local tasks and duties to make the sake of a town councillors worthwhile. I also suggest that Newby Parish should be brought into Scarborough, NOT be independent. There are responsibilities which need looking at such as Peasholm Park, south cliff gardens, the spa complex. I feel strongly that future Town Councillors should NOT be paid.
- A parish council may add costs with little gain.
- Both Trustees and Parish Councils will be an extra expense, and will be added to the Council Tax. Also if we have a parish council, there offices will not be local and any problems regarding drains on roads, dog faeces, fly tipping, illegal parking etc. will not be dealt with locally. It is bad enough at the moment to log a complaint, we just get told go on the website to the correct departments. Website is so user unfriendly, can't make a complaint.
- Keep council tax down, we have everything we want in this area, Scarborough Council got rid
  of our closest public baths by knocking it down, what a joke a parish in this ward.
- Let all of us be the same no complications, easier to administer in the 'long run'. 'Equality' should abound everywhere in NYC.
- I don't want further expense for something that is usually ignored by full councils! Experience based on ex parish councillors who have been members of my family!
- I live at the side of Peasholm Park, by being in a parish it would not benefit me at all, there are litter bins, bus stops etc. and I do not want to pay any more council tax, certainly not to a parish council.
- It's always been that if you live in a parish council area, you had an extra precept on your council tax bill, which made it meant you paid more money. This is another way of getting more money from people for the Council. Same as you did when you fleeced some landlords for the private landlords licence, and not everybody that rented property out.
- Having just dissolved SBC why introduce another layer of LG. In 2010 77% of respondents overwhelmingly rejected similar proposals.
- The creation of a parish council will lead to the implementation of a parish council levy on the residents, an additional financial burden for no apparent benefit. The civic and ceremonial duties are no longer required. The new North Yorkshire Council will receive funding to provide the services and stated it would provide local services to local communities. The creation of a parish council would be reintroducing the two tier system that NYCC said needed to be abolished.
- Gone to one authority, North Yorkshire, to save money apparently, although I didn't agree it would, so why now spend more money creating another layer of costs!!!
- A Parish Council would require additional funding from Council Tax and is not required
- not worth the extra cost, I will save money not having one
- I do not wish to pay any more council tax than I already do.
- From what I hear that means extra council tax. I have little or no faith in Scarborough
  Borough Council as it has always been a self-serving members club who have successively
  raped and pillaged the town's assets taking no notice of public opinion. They are supposed
  to be elected by the people for the people, yet they have always acted for themselves
- An unnecessary layer of bureaucracy. LGR was intended to simplify local government and create clear accountability for services. The creation of a town council will create additional costs for residents.
- Another later of expensive bureaucracy

- We already had a Mayor, but were told moving to a North Yorkshire Council would save money. Council Tax bills have not been reduced, and now you want us to have a Mayor, which will include a precept charge. In other words you're going to charge people more for something we already had. Disgraceful.
- I do not wish to pay (through an increase in my Council Tax) for a Parish Council. I do not feel that I would get value for my money.
- In these hard times we should not expose ourselves to wastage of money and all associated items.
- Too many corrupt and self-centred people in charge locally, so nothing ever goes forward.
- I think it will cost more
- It will just create another layer of inefficient bureaucracy that will delay decisions and create an alternative elected body of representatives that will largely be the same people who have held the borough positions. The new authority was created to make a more efficient system and reduce costs. We do not need the extra cost of a precept in the current environment for another talking shop. Scarborough already pays the second highest Council Tax in the County, we are not a bottomless pit of funds!
- Another layer of governance is unnecessary, when all the services can be delivered adequately by the unitary authority.
- Better organised, less dominated by individuals with specific self-interests
- I don't want to pay more council tax
- Waste of money. People would not represent the area or listen just as the council do not now
- Parish Council's deliver very little material benefit to residents, they are often made up of coopted individuals who have their own agenda are not representative of the local community in age, sex or general competence.
- Seems to be another tier of local government
- mistrust this corrupt local council
- Previous experience of parish councils has not been positive
- NOT NEEDED
- My experience of parish councils is that they care more about themselves than actually delivering for local people. They have no real powers and that suits their capabilities
- I do not see the benefit of a parish council that the charter trustees could not do. All I see is an increase in council tax for little to zero reward, struggling families will struggle more.
- Not a good idea
- A parish council has no real power and is a waste of money
- We have lived in an unparished area for a number of years, not sure if creating one is going to make a difference
- There are bigger issues that need addressing far more urgently than those that are shown to be the role of the parish council on the documents provided.
- I do not wish to pay more council tax
- The creation of a new parish council would run counter to the logic which underpins the move to a unitary authority. Specifically, any forecast cost savings would be diluted and any new body could become an obstacle to North Yorkshire wide strategic planning. I understand the arguments about the benefits of local decision making, but feel that these are outweighed by the potential financial and operational benefits of a more strategic approach to local governance. Why remove one layer of councillors and then replace them with another?
- It is yet another layer of unnecessary administration and bureaucracy that is not needed

- Unnecessary expense just an ego trip for Councillors. I don't want to pay for their sense of importance.
- I feel the interests of the broader community would not be as well served as with borough council
- We don't need the added bureaucracy and associated cost.
- This will come with extra costs to the residents
- No point in taking away one tier of administration and then creating another one.
- I worry this will just be another name for the council we have now and not benefit the town
- Need to minimise layers of administration & bureaucracy. Minimise costs to taxpayer
- I've lived in a ward which has never had a parish council and don't feel the additional cost will be of any benefit
- We have sufficient tiers of governance so do not need another talking shop. There is also the likely hood of a Precept being required, we already pay a hefty sum in Council Tax.
- Want to leave it as it is and be central
- Reading your literature, it seems that in creating the unitary authority of North Yorkshire County Council you are diminishing accountable local representation and removing from residents the ownership and control of their services to use your jargon. Nowhere in the correspondence that I can see is there any mention of the increased cost which will arise if the new unitary authority then tries to offload some of the responsibilities which it sought back to local areas by creating parish and town councils. As well as extra administration hubs required for these new organisations, there would also be the cost of them undertaking the services which they are allocated. Inevitably there would be a parish precept levied. Again, no mention in your correspondence or website of a likely cost and whether the unitary authority would reduce its Council Tax levied by the same amount. How you expect your employers, ie. The public, to reach a rational decision without this information I do not know.
- We don't need a parish council
- Cheaper
- The combined authority was intended to consolidate and be more resource efficient- the establishment of a parish council is contrary to that
- I believe the present councillors and offices have/are making a mess of the town and do not
  consult the town residents. I would not want any of them to make any decisions on the town
  in future.
- Parish councils create another layer of government, in my experience they are not efficient, cost a lot of money and do not run in a democratic way. Councillors are volunteers so are not subject to the rules governing paid employees so are free to be opinionated, racist, sexist etc. and do not always represent the views of the community.
- Current councillors of Scarborough Borough council have proved a disappointment on many local issues, councillors with fewer vested interests in the local community may provide less biased and subjective oversight of the area. The additional costs of another layer of bureaucracy are an unwelcome burden on council tax payers at this time.
- cost
- Lack of trust in the elected councillors using the income from residents additional financial burden wisely
- Falsgrave/Stepney area has never had a parish council and I feel it would be a waste of money and resources to set one up now
- All to woolly, detailed information, cost v benefit etc.
- Because I have been a witness to how another local area parish council deals with issues and
   I don't think they do a good job. They ignore items brought before their committee and don't

spend money on things people in that area want. They act in a very superior manner and are not even polite at times

- cannot afford more tax
- I suspect we would see an increase in our already high council tax charge.
- It will be another expense added to our council tax- for which we will not get a good return on. We do not need a parish council
- Lack of competence both on intellectual and operational management levels. The years of SBC in charge have been a disaster for the region. The town council in Filey is not fit for purpose. Total absence of a management cadre with any common sense or aptitude.
- Additional levy on council tax to be paid
- I remember when a poll was conducted previously on whether Scarborough should become
  parished and the result was overwhelmingly against it despite one major political party in
  favour of two parish councils for the area. One of the main reasons against was the
  introduction of a parish precept. I note that there is constant reference to elected parish
  councillors. Unless the situation has changed there used to be quite a few co-opted
  members. From my experience the calibre of some left something to be desired particularly
  on planning matters.
- You are disbanding both Scarborough Borough Council and North Yorkshire County Council, and replacing with North Yorkshire Council, why would we then also want to pay for a parish council too. If this was to be the case all along, why disband SBC and NYCC?
- As a former councillor and mayor from another area, I feel that we would be better represented by the town councils who can consider the wants and needs of the whole town. Too often, smaller town and parish councillors can be a vehicle for Nimbyism.
- The parish council would undoubtedly be overwhelmingly unrepresentative of the wider population and therefore be divisive. A Charter Trustee would be the democratically local Councillor would undertake civic and ceremonial as part of their role and this ward has a particularly good local Councillor who commands respect.
- It is just another layer of bureaucracy and addition cost that will give very little benefit. A Scarborough Town/ Parish council will simply give a forum for over inflated egos that will deliver nothing but hot air.
- I do not think we will be well served. The point of re-organising was to remove levels of bureaucracy. I'd rather have kept the borough council then get a town council, which in my experience are wasteful, toothless, talking shops for out of touch retired people. If the new unitary council cannot provide all the service we need then we must question if it is fit for purpose. A parish or town council will not have any power at all over planning applications other than to offer an opinion. We do not need this. Current borough councillors on planning already show a frightening lack of knowledge and ambition. Adding town councillors to the mix is literally pointless. Back yourselves and carry out the promises you made when the unwitty model was chosen. NO TOWN COUNCIL.
- We are just about to get rid of two tiers of unnecessary local government by creating a new unitary council. We do not immediately need to recreate a second tier. It is not required and elected members of NYC will provide sufficient representation. The additional costs and precept that will be charged are unnecessary and unwelcome during these difficult times of extreme financial hardship. A parish/town council will offer nothing new that we don't have already.
- It will increase our taxation and deliver no improvement in services.
- I am confident the new unitary council can deliver for Scarborough without an additional layer of local government. I would also not have confidence in there being enough sensible potential councillors with the right skills and mind-set to run a parish/town council. Local

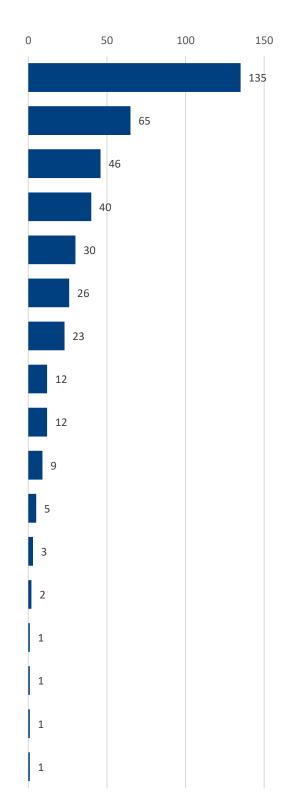
- voices will be heard through the proposed area committees and community networks. There is no need for yet another body.
- My response would be to say let's wait until the new system has operated for a while to see
  how effective it is before more money is wasted on change. I say this along with, I'm sure
  from many people in Scarborough have seen the old council make so many bad decisions &
  investments over many years with little sign of improvement. I agree it may be useful to
  have some sort of local representation, but let's see how the new system works for
  Scarborough.

# 2.2.4 Please tell us why you chose option 2, to create a parish council?

Out of the **376** respondents that ticked option 2, a total of **339** comments were received. A summary of comments by theme can be seen below.

- 2.2.5 The top 3 reasons why option 2 was chosen
  - 1. Residents need a voice / local presence/representation
  - 2. Decisions made locally / Local governance
  - 3. More local control / Hand-on

	No.	%
Residents need a voice / local presence/representation	135	39.8%
Decisions made locally / Local governance	65	19.2%
More local control / Hand-on	46	13.6%
Local knowledge / issues	40	11.8%
Provide local services	30	8.8%
Parish council better for area / best options	26	7.7%
North Yorkshire is too large/remote / Don't agree with LGR	23	6.8%
More local accountable	12	3.5%
Can't see the benefit of a charter trustee	12	3.5%
Rest of NY have parish or town councils	9	2.7%
other	5	1.5%
Effective current parish councils	3	0.9%
Adequate training to councillors / Councillors fit for the job	2	0.6%
Required for double devolution	1	0.3%
North Yorkshire too diverse a community	1	0.3%
Increased engagement between councillors and public	1	0.3%
Councillors unpaid and elected	1	0.3%



#### 2.2.6 Below are the full comments.

- More collective residential control over public services.
- I think it is beneficial to have local council able to provide other local services, run by local people who know the area, problems and resources.
- I am proud of our existing 'customer first' service, its location and beautiful Town Hall. I would urge those involved to leave Scarborough as it is with services intact.
- To retain and improve community involvement.
- A TOWN council to retain local control over some services.
- It is beneficial for the community ('the demos') to be able to engage with matters of local concern and interest. This option is favourable for that purpose.
- The town I have lived in for 56 years has become a lawless society, drugs rule in the Old Town, violence, and murder yesterday. We need a strong leadership in the Old Town.
   Retired (26 years ago) Scarborough Police Officer.
- Provision for local services. Civic functions to be provided.
- Believe local is preferred.
- This council needs a change, there are too many neglected areas in Scarborough eg all the terraced houses areas, the seagull problem, litter and dog poo!! To name a few. (pot holes in roads never addressed in my area)
- We believe that it is imperatively important for local residents to express their opinion, with a right on how the locality is to enjoy the necessary benefits.
- So there is someone to represent the views and needs of our community. They will know the areas so are more able to assess how the residents feel and what is really needed.
- My take on life is progressive / visionary. Small is beautiful, big is not best.
- A parish council would debate issues local to this area which should be brought, especially if
  urgent or of great concern, to the North Yorkshire Council for due consideration and action is
  appropriate.
- Need a local Council can look after the town of Scarborough and provide local and vital services (hopefully for better than the present Borough Council, which been hopeless) not some far off Authority - if possible not on Party lines. Though also hope a local Mayor as a needed focus.
- To create a voice for us in such a huge area
- Because they provide the opportunity for governance at a more local and less populous level, and in my experience (living elsewhere in the past) they provide a valuable tier and greater democracy than other options I've experienced (I have been an officer in a local Community Association, inter alia)
- A Parish Council will be vital in a town with such specific needs and specialised assets (eg
  harbours, major theatres including the OAT, huge areas of public gardens). It is also one of
  Britain's largest and most successful seaside resorts. With some major improvement and
  development projects planned and in train for the next decade or so, Scarborough needs the
  resources and local representation to see these through successfully.
- It easily puts the whole area on a level footing
- Scarborough needs a physical representative body that is actually local
- I want a Town Council
- Because we need local people to deliver local services if it's at all possible. I can't see the point of the Charter Trustees.
- It is vital that local councillors can do more than only civic and ceremonial functions. They should be able to represent the local community.
- The Parish Council is an official body with elected members that can be used to form official views on matters impacting the parish and input those views to the new NYC

- We need local representation to deliver any problems or queries to our new North Yorkshire representatives. Otherwise we will be lost voices.
- I believe local matters can be best dealt with by the establishment of an elected parish council to deal with civic and ceremonial matters.
- I feel we should have local councillors to speak up for us rather than people who live miles away in very different circumstances.
- I think it is important to have a democratically elected body which is closer to where people live than the enormous North Yorkshire council. Having served on a Parish Council in the past (Newby and Scalby in the early 90s) I know that even modest improvements and hearing the voice of the people are worthwhile. There is a lot of disillusionment with politics and I fear this may lead some to reject the idea of a parish council; however if all the local government is more distant, the lack of engagement could become even greater. Without a council, Scarborough Town will be in danger of losing its political identity and it will miss out on advantages which are available in the areas which do have a Parish or Town council. Civic and ceremonial functions will be more highly regarded if they are part of an elected council rather than existing for their own sake.
- Because local governance is important.
- It is very important to have a LOCAL decision making and representative body. Vital.
- Scarborough requires a Parish Council which will be the lowest tier of local government. We shouldn't spend all these time and money for a "temporary" system such as Charter Trustees. Scarborough deserves better with more power and authority.
- It's important to have local services devolved from a county-wide local authority. We shouldn't be left as the only area in North Yorkshire with charter trustee status, which would be the case if Harrogate were to vote to become a parish council while Scarborough voted against. This would mean that Scarborough town would go from having much control of its own affairs through a borough council, to suddenly having no direct control over their own area and instead being directly controlled from County Hall by all councillors. This would mean that the promise of devolution as outlined in the plans for a New Council for North Yorkshire would not be fulfilled in Scarborough, as we would be left in a worse position democratically.
- We need to keep local government local, and local people who are involved need to be able to provide services which suit their own particular areas
- So decisions can be made locally
- Local input
- To keep a local feel to local population and a voice for the community.
- Sounds better
- Better than not having anyone routing for Scarborough
- local council that know the area intimately needed
- If we don't have a local parish council, we have no recognised "council" to register local views, look after local interests etc. A parish council is essential for a town centre like Scarborough which relies on tourism for its economy but also has a large local population to represent.
- The town needs some local governance and control. Northallerton is too remote. The town has specific needs best managed locally
- Required to allow "double devolution" to be fully implemented
- For greater local say in the decisions made about my local area.
- To have representation of our local area
- knowledge should be more local
- To have some local input

- Scarborough needs a parish council to have a better voice and push for Scarborough at county level
- North Yorkshire is a large diverse community. The needs of a coastal community with tourism at its centre are very different to other areas of the county
- In order to have someone local to represent local interests
- Because our Falsgrave and Stepney area has particular needs and is best served with a local decision making body.
- The current Parish Councils which exist provide a useful voice in matters relating to their areas. As we are now going to be in the hands of a much larger authority, Parish Councils will be an even more useful intermediary.
- Can deal with localised parish issues.
- need some local democratic structure
- WOULD HOPEFULLY HELP THE AREA I LIVE IN AND IMPROVE SERVICES
- It is essential to have a coherent local view of the needs of the town and a democratic mechanism through which to respond
- To have a local representative with a vested interest in the area.
- We need local support, to be able to have our input into local matters. Control from disassociated powers will not be invested in our needs. We will lose control and have less support for our local area and people.
- If we do not choose this option we will instead be paying for Charter Trustees who have no power or voice and are purely there to carry out 'ceremonial' duties that mean very little
- To ensure a local focus and representation
- I like the idea of being represented by a parish council that has function other than just ceremonial
- I am not happy about the formation of the new North Yorkshire Council as I think it is detrimental in that it reduces the focus on local concerns. The formation of a parish council is not an adequate replacement for Scarborough Council, but better than nothing. Charter Trustee option a total joke
- For efficiency and for better accountability and civic engagement I believe it is essential Scarborough needs a body close at hand with appropriate powers to act with the best interests of its residents, both young and old. It's not just about the buildings and the heritage but about real people with real, sometimes problematic, lives
- Local influence
- I think decisions made locally are better informed than those made by councils far away
- I think it would benefit people and be more closely monitored this way allowing more people say
- More local people taking local decisions
- Local representation
- The provision of some other services particular to the area will likely be of benefit to the residents.
- I feel a parish keeps us in touch with local issues
- In other areas such as Cayton there seems to be much more interaction at a more local level. I feel this would give residents more control over their own area
- I feel it would be in better hands under a parish council.
- Because a parish council is elected
- More local involvement
- I cannot see the point in spending money on ceremonial functions, local services are more important and more residents will need help as the cost of living crisis continues, I don't see how having a Mayor will help anyone. So, in my opinion a parish council may be a better

option but a parish council will only succeed if the right people come forward to be elected. It is good having a few ideas and the best of intensions for your neighbourhood but the ability to plan a budget and spend the income from residents' council tax bills wisely is also a necessity, how can we be assured that we will have councillors fit for the job?

- I think this will ensure local people make decisions about the area they live in
- So that there is some local control of decisions in (limited) areas which are still of importance local people
- Think it's best
- Some local control over what is done and how it is carried out.
- NYCC has never been interested in its coastal communities, and a disproportionate amount
  of its resources are allocated to rural areas close to Northallerton. The only way Scarborough
  will sustain its leisure facilities for residents, and jobs and businesses in the visitor economy,
  is if it pays for and runs them itself. NYCC is incapable of change.
- I feel it is vital for all communities within the Borough to have the same access and opportunities as other parish councils have. The unparished areas is larger than expected and some big communities are included in this area which I feel should have the arrangements as other areas.
- to provide other services
- local people need a voice
- Our local area needs local representation to match that available to existing parishes
- Once the changes come in we need to have some local input to our services from local people, not some bureaucrat miles away
- I am a firm believer in devolved governance and this is as close as we can get. I would also be extremely interested in getting involved with the process and making a difference
- local input
- Charter trustees are pointless toothless tigers. Not value for money. Don't represent the people. No power to implement policies that will help the people or town. My only issue is that there is a lot of talk in Scarborough about corruption within the council with a lot of self-serving self-interest councillors. If true this MUST STOP. We would need strong policies/authorities to oversee fairness openness and honesty, and punish wrongdoing. We need forward thinking people with vision and talent to make Scarborough great again. Build nice good looking developments that are not cheap eyesores. Redevelop (rebuild) Northway, St Thomas St. Make so that more people want to come to Scarborough and stay for longer in our hotels and B&Bs. Many more quality acts at the OAT.
- Local decisions should be made locally
- Keep some control locally
- More hands-on.
- To ensure some level of local decision making and accountability.
- More control of what we need
- I believe there needs to be a very local layer of government as the single unitary authority covering the whole of North Yorkshire feels somewhat remote from our local area.
- The Parish Council would have powers to provide some local services, in response to local need. They should also be a voice for our community.
- A more appropriate option for a town the size of Scarborough, keeping many lower scale services at an accountable local level. Able to keep close relations with the local community and particular needs of the town.
- It's nice to have a unity council but we should also have more of a hands-on approach with a local parish council.
- It will organize everyone in one umbrella

- We need more direct common community management in Weaponness and Ramshill. There
  is too much litter, too much neglect of public assets, and too little say that individual
  members of the community can have with the next tier of local democracy. This is a golden
  opportunity to put that right. I speak as a former community councillor in another part of
  the country.
- I believe this will give us more say in what happens in our area.
- Greater local buy in. Greater understanding of local issues.
- Because it is better to have decisions about Scarborough to be made locally.
- To retain some local control over services.
- If I'm understanding things correctly members of a parish council will be able to do exactly as the charter trustees and more which is always a good thing.
- Our area needs local representation and decision making powers. North Yorkshire is a vast area and cannot be governed on a single tier system.
- Weaponness Drive/Park has no sense of community. The houses are spaced and therefore
  there is little contact with neighbours. Having a parish council would enable residents to
  have a forum in which to discuss issues of local concern. This may be to do with such things
  as criminal activity, planning, voluntary support for those in need.
- Very local issues should be sorted by local people
- Better access for local services
- Would appear to provide a local contact for local issues
- The new proposed unitary authority will cover many square miles. A parish council has more localised knowledge for many types of issues.
- Because I believe strongly in local representation as part of the democratic process. I don't
  wish any decisions to be made on issues local to me without local representation to put
  forward the views of the parish/area. Local areas should be able to take responsibility for
  issues and services important to them. These should not be controlled from above.
- It's important to know that local people are supporting what is happening in the local are.
- Chance for more representation of local needs
- To increase our voice in local issues.
- More local accountability
- Probably the best option
- Believe there would be a better degree of decision making in the area
- I want someone to represent the local areas and have the ability and desire to improve the
  lives of the local community, such as community activities, safety, wellbeing etc. I am
  concerned that if we do not have a parish council those aspects will be lost as a Charter
  Trustee does not have the power to act in these areas and I would not have faith that the
  North Yorkshire Council would focus on a small area like ours.
- Whilst I find it admirable to promote the historical links and traditions, I think we need to prioritise efforts towards satisfying the current and future needs of our residents. Besides, I would imagine that many people (albeit not necessarily all people) are already knowledgeable of Scarborough's history and traditions and can access such information with greater ease today if they wish. Although the councillors would still make the decisions under a parish council, the public would benefit from transparency and possibly voice their opinions of topics discussed at meetings. The first set of statistics released from the 2021 census indicate that Scarborough's population, despite being relatively unchanged in terms of numbers from the prior decade, is still getting older despite efforts being made to encourage its youth to stay and to attract young professionals to the area I suspect such efforts would bear more fruit under a parish council's influence.

- I feel that a parish council would be more beneficial to the residents in our area. As a resident I often feel that tourists are put before residents. The residents in the area where I live should be represented fairly and not be an afterthought as we are at the moment.
- To have a more local voice in the council
- I think it would benefit the local area
- No one over seeing local services, would make it make difficult, for anyone in the area, to sort an issue or make any changes needed.
- Sri that there is greater opportunity for the views of Scarborough residents to be aired, heard and acted upon.
- Localised council more likely to involve and welcome ideas from community they serve
- The ability to elect councillors who will allegedly represent residents' interests. I am not sure how transparency and accountability operate within a parish council, which has been woefully absent under the Borough Councils we have experienced. Residents have a constitutional right to be informed on decisions made by council and information on how those decisions were arrived at. I guess what I'm really concerned about is the 'status quo' being maintained post creation of the Unitary Authority.
- Ceremonial representation, which still costs the taxpayer money, is ineffective and largely
  useless without elected representatives who have the power to act on behalf of residents. I
  can't really understand why charter trustee area would be considered a sensible option by
  anyone.
- Local councillors will know more about the needs of the local community
- I think that charter trustees would be unnecessary, as they don't have any authority to make any changes, and would be an extra burden on the finances, a parish council keeps everything under one roof so to speak, and people can bounce ideas off each other and come to beneficial conclusions for the community. A parish council will be more democratic, in my opinion.
- Believe it would be better suited for our area.
- Someone to contact to get our streets back in the order they once was.
- Having a parish council would enable some decisions on local services and planning to be made more locally. Scarborough would be in line with the rest of North Yorkshire.
- I chose the option because I believe it will help for better administration and delivering good governance for the common good of the people.
- Because I'm not a fan of ceremonial roles, and believe a parish council would be able to advocate better for the residents
- I don't think there is much point to a ceremonial only body. A local body to provide some of the local services makes much more sense to me.
- We need some say in how our area is run especially given its economic importance to the area
- Because option 1 is ceremonial and has no statutory powers or practical functions, as I understand the proposition.
- Maintains local input to council decision making
- Residents and small business owners should have a say in their local communities.
- Prefer the idea of parish council
- Able to be proactive in dealing with local issues more quickly
- I feel it would help address local issues and interests for residents, more effectively than if a parish council wasn't created.
- As I believe it representative of the people and democratic.
- It would allow us to have more say rather than north Yorkshire county council telling us what we can and cannot do

- Because Charter Trustees are purely ceremonial and I think we would be best served by a Parish council.
- The abolition of Scarborough Borough Council is an undemocratic power grab by the Tory
  Party which dominates in the more prosperous surrounding countryside and villages.
  Scarborough is a run-down seaside resort with many social problems which will remain
  unsolved as it will be unrepresented and at the mercy of the Tory wreckers after the town
  council is abolished. A parish council is a poor substitute but better than nothing.
- Act on residents behalf
- We need people who actually live in our area to make decisions about local services and advocate for people sorting local problem such as the need for speed bumps etc...not someone possibly in a richer area like Harrogate who have no idea what is it like in Castle Ward, therefore keep voting in useless Tories. Having an overall council for the whole of North Yorkshire is unworkable anyway.
- It appears to offer democratic control
- No taxation without representation. Maybe a parish council would ensure the street lights work.
- Scarborough is deprived of the grass roots governance that a town/parish council would provide. In recent years, there have been examples of exclusion of the public from participation in discussion/consultation about potential fundamental changes of character in residential areas. A parish/town council would drill down to the street/neighbourhood-level representation that is now lacking, at negligible cost.
- Prefer local services to be governed locally
- It is fairer and easier to understand if the same system is in place across the whole county. The proposed nature of involvement in Area Committees in the documents about creating the new Unitary Authority involved Parish Councils it is difficult to see how this could be achieved without a Parish/Town council for Scarborough.
- Local amenities are important and to have local people managing it rather than a faceless organisation is important
- Provide other local services
- In general I believe it is better to have some services and representatives as locally as possible.
- to have some local representation and accountability
- A Town Council (so it should be called) is necessary so that the needs of this important part
  of the old Scarbough Borough Council are met, both for the benefit of those who live and
  work in the Parish, but also for those who live or work in the area (which is extensive,
  including a number of villages and small towns that are many miles (over 30mins drive in
  some cases) from a settlement this large.
- I feel the decisions being made by a Parish Council on local services would have more relevance and impact to the Borough of Scarborough. I have lived here my entire life and I feel the town is in decline and needs some urgent local decisions to be made to bring back to anywhere near its past glory.
- Because they can carry out a greater range of services.
- To be able to have a say in the area I live
- More democratic. I have served on a town council in another area in the past.
- I feel that a Parish Council will be more accountable and could better resolve local issues. The revenue normally spent on mayoral ceremony could be focused on local issues
- They would be closer to the neighbourhood and understand better what is needed
- Consider it important to have decision making on local matters made by people with local ties.
- Scarborough needs local representation and decision making

- It would focus on very specific local issues
- To put this area on a par with other parished areas in NY in terms of representation and provision of local services.
- More democratic coverage at a lower level than county
- Creation of a N Yorkshire council has taken democracy away from the people of Scarborough, this was the worse option possible for the people of the districts around N Yorkshire. I often wonder if anyone from NYCC had ever been to Scarborough with how poor local service are. At least with a town council there would be a semblance of local democracy. Personally it's a no brainer, Northallerton has shown for years that Scarborough isn't one of its priorities.
- Need to enhance local involvement in area
- Need to decentralise
- My area needs to be represented on local issues
- Important that Scarborough people have a local elected body that can consider the particular needs and wishes of our town. If everything is decided at North Yorkshire level the particular needs of this sea side town are in danger of being lost in the crowd.
- I'm not happy about the change to central North Yorkshire Council in the first place! I think Scarborough and the other poorer coastal towns will be neglected and all support will go to the already wealthy areas of Harrogate and York. So we will need a parish council to fight for Scarborough to get any support.
- To enable local decisions to be taken as locally as possible.
- The Castle Ward in Scarborough includes a wide range of different stakeholders, from the
  harbour to the castle, and a huge number of different contexts, extending from parks to
  amusement arcades, shops to libraries and museums, and hotels to the beach. Such a varied
  Ward of 5,000 households needs to be represented and governed locally, by people who live
  with and understand this variety.
- With the extended area of responsibilities of the new NY councillors, it is even more
  important that there should be a Parish Council to look after the local views of the
  electorate.
- for local accountability
- Greater local accountability.
- I believe that a parish council will be beneficial for the local area. Being able to make decisions about facilities in my community
- more local decisions to be made locally
- I would like some form of council that can provide services not just civic and ceremonial functional
- North Yorkshire Council cannot adequately represent Scarborough town as it has other
  responsibilities; this is why other areas have parish councils. Subsidiarity principle: local
  services etc. should be controlled locally, more representative of the area than Council as a
  whole, can consider local issues. Without a parish council there is less local democracy, less
  participation, and likely inferior services.
- I would like to see local people being involved in decision making on local issues. I would anticipate that local parish councillors would be known and approachable about local issues as the come to light.
- So that local people have a say about their own area
- Prefer to have Councillors to represent the residents in any decision-making.
- I am concerned that there will be nobody with local connections to represent us.
- North Yorkshire is a huge area and the new unitary authority needs to have an overriding strategic view for the whole area but would probably not be able to pay sufficient attention to all the needs and wishes of much smaller local areas. Members of a parish/town council

would have knowledge of the local area and the ability to consider and to provide some local services as well as to consider and make representations on planning applications and other matters being decided by the new unitary authority.

- It is important that local views into local decisions are representative of residents' wishes. Best way is to elect local councillors
- Promotes more local democracy
- North Yorkshire is a large place and I believe that Scarborough and other coastal towns will be left out of future investment and improvements. I believe a town/parish council is a must to ensure Scarborough continues to grow and improve.
- More democratic
- To keep a focus on local issues
- I think it is a good idea for there to be a Parish Council, which will be able to organise things for the local community.
- I do not have enough information on Charter Trustees. In recent experiences changes such as Police Crime Commissioners have just added a further Political hurdle to trying to get the job done. Once created defending that role and change for change sake seems to be the remit. As mentioned this is purely opinion and I do not have enough information on Option 1
- It's important to have local control over local issues
- Sensible option to represent local area
- Have more input locally
- I believe that the residents' of Scarborough need a local body to be responsible for local services. The new N Y Council is going to be huge, having a big range both geographically and culturally and we need local people who understand what is important to local people.
- Need someone to be accountable
- To keep local people in charge of the local area/ parish and provide other local services when needed.
- Scarborough's identity and voice must be maintained whilst the new unitary authority will be remotely based. Scarborough may, as it probably is now be treated as peripheral.
- I would prefer to have the town be able to still have a say over certain services
- I believe a parish council will have greater powers
- Need personal contact with local decision makers. Am disabled and mostly housebound. Am sick of officials hiding behind spurious documents and computer/ phone menus which don't work...well, not in the 'consumers' favour anyway,
- To have local representation
- So that we are represented locally
- Local control
- Maintain local input and involvement
- I think Parish Councillors would represent the views and promote the needs of the residents. Would also provide services to the women and men living in the parish and wards.
- Local decisions made locally
- To create democratic voice in the locality. To enable limited services to be initiated under local control. To strengthen a sense of place in the locality.
- So voices of local communities can be heard
- I believe it would help get local issues solved more quickly.
- The idea of Scarborough not having its own elected Council is ludicrous. Tiny villages have elected Parish Councils, but it is suggested that a town the size of Scarborough should be managed by unelected Trustees? NYCC is FAR TOO BIG to be able to properly handle local issues.

- Because the Scarborough community should be part of the decision making for what happens in Scarborough.
- It appears to be the most democratic option and would be more likely to consist of local people
- So local people can be more involved
- Better representation of local views, and definition of services needed.
- Because I believe we need local representation and control pf certain amenities. Whilst I
  understand the elected councillors will know local needs I believe they will have more than
  sufficient responsibilities with their substantive duties.
- To give some level of control to local residents
- So there remains a local voice in the new mega council Scarborough council are amazing at their jobs and I'm very pleased with them I don't disagree with the new merger plans at all but think a local parish council would be beneficial.
- To enhance local democracy.
- To ensure the provision of other services
- The creation of a parish council would make decisions and manage matters at a local level. The councillors would live locally so residents would be able to access them with ease. Political power should be as close to the people as is feasible.
- Creation of smaller councils will allow for communities to deal with problems internally and democratically. It will allow for the county council to focus on big picture issues that need to be addressed and not get bogged down in the minutiae.
- To be able to have local management of local issues.
- I consider to have local, approachable, named representatives is important for local democracy.
- From what I understand the Parish Council option would provide residents with more interaction and allow them to have a greater say in the everyday workings of local community, given the framework allows for more statutory powers at their disposal.
- to create a layer of local opinion and with some powers as with all other areas in n Yorkshire
- The current Scarborough Borough Council has for years been notoriously ineffectual in dealing correctly with issues of the community that really matter, and has allowed itself to be heavily influenced by personal interests. Creating a parish council would retain a local control which a charter trustee system would not. A more relevant and proportional parish council would represent and wholly defend the interests of the smaller community, which a remote body in Northallerton certainly cannot achieve, and which the SBC has thus far failed to implement or be mindful of.
- To ensure the residents have opportunity to give their views on local community issues.
- I think it would be better for the community
- A voice for local people.
- We need someone at local level
- I look at the areas within Scarborough which already have these and see that they seem to work well
- It is important for the community to be able to make decisions about where they live.
- To exercise powers related to certain community services (eg parking, parks and open spaces) as per information pack.
- We need local representatives.
- Control and provide services relevant to our local area
- I feel I would have access to a local person who could represent my views to North Yorkshire Council.
- It appears a better option for the community as a whole.

- Because I believe in the democratic process
- To enable local people to have a voice in how local services are provided
- I think that local governance solutions work best for residents like myself and I would like possibly to get involved.
- I think the establishment of a town council for Scarborough is really important so that the unique character and needs of Scarborough can be adequately represented within the larger remit of North Yorkshire Council. It would also be of great value in promoting community cohesion within Scarborough town. The information provided has left me confused and unsure of how and what would be appropriate regarding the provision of services by a town council (presumably one that provided the same services within the town as SBC does now would not be acceptable), so I'm unable to form an opinion about this.
- More residents would have the opportunity to ask questions, take part in Parish Council meetings
- More say over the needs of the community with services and facilities.
- Scarborough is a large town that requires local input into its running
- Hopefully to have a say in the future of Scarborough
- Parish councils seem to work well in the outlining villages of Scarborough. They can protect the heritage of an area and ensure the upkeep too. Irton is a good example of what can be achieved. From a business perspective, I think a parish council would be the best progression as I would still have designated points of contact for any local issues. A parish council may be more willing to address the many issues we currently have in the town centre including seagull mess, antisocial behaviour, a huge amount of empty buildings not in use at all, lack of open spaces in the town and hopefully just marrying everything up so its one place to call, not five!
- We'll end up paying more regardless so we might as well have a group of local citizens with some power. Might as well have kept the local council instead.
- From experience Parish Council members tend to be close to local issues and are therefore in a good position to respond.
- I think a parish council will have a better understanding of the needs of local people.
- I believe there is a stronger need that ever to ensure that Scarborough local resident's voices are heard, especially across a Unitary authority. Modern history has not been kind to Scarborough residents and there has been a distinct lack of proportional resources allocated to the area for non-tourism focussed growth. I fear within a unitary authority Scarborough may be forgotten amidst other powerful and wealthy voices across North Yorkshire. Finally I believe Scarborough Town Centre is absolutely bursting with potential for sensitive physical and cultural modernisation ensuring the history of the area is preserved while driving significant growth for residents which will in turn support Tourism in the town.
- Hopefully to have more control on decisions taken for the people of Scarborough rather than done centrally at Northallerton.
- Scarborough is an ancient borough with a long history and a parish council (which should be called a borough council) would be better able to take over traditions of historical importance. Scarborough is also an important tourist destination like no other in the new authority area and needs special local attention to the needs of its tourist industry.
- To have control of local affairs
- My understanding is that a parish council Would have more power to act to benefit local residents
- Notwithstanding the supposed economies of scale regarding the nascent NY authority it seems only fitting these befits should then be spent on a truly local authority! Am I missing something here?

- With the abolition of SBC being replaced by NY we will have Councillors but will anyone tucked away in Northallerton or wherever listen to the residents of Scarborough of its wards. It is difficult to get SBC to answer any emails so who knows what level of interest/attention we the TAX PAYERS will get from a unitary authority. WE need people in the area who KNOW the area and will stand up for our views etc. We need some ability to make decisions. That is democracy. We need more local decision making not less. Not really interested in the ceremonial duties just getting things done in the interests of the people not just vested interests. It's all about accountability and representing the interests of the population who are going to have to put up with the decisions made miles away.
- A vital tier in the handling of local politics.
- Whereas Charter Trusts have purely ceremonial roles, Parish Councils can actually perform useful services for the people they represent.
- It is vital to protect Scarborough town's identity. The more people representing the town (i.e. NYC councillors AND town councillors) the better.
- It is important that there is local input into the future of our town.
- The creation of the new Council and the abolition of the local Scarborough Borough Council leads to a greater distance of the political representation for local matters. The fact that purely local matters will be decided by a body that consists predominantly of members outside the local community will further alienate residents. Even though a parish council doesn't compensate for the loss of sensible democratic structures ANY kind off local representation is better than none.
- I am sad the Scarborough BC has been replaced by one massive mega authority. Each part of North Yorkshire is so different. I fear the people making decisions in Northallerton will lack insight into Scarborough's issues. A town council may remedy that and secure funding for local projects.
- If the Civic and Ceremonial functions are to remain in Scarborough then they should be part of a town council with the ability to influence local matters.
- The town, and specifically the South Cliff, contains many historically significant features which need care and attention to be maintained and improved. A parish council is best placed to serve these needs. Decisions on street parking, neighbourhood planning, crime reduction measures, facilities and tourism issues need making at the street level. These cannot be properly evaluated at a county level. A charter trustee appears to be another layer of ceremonial bureaucracy that is not required. I would expect significant opposition if such a charter trust attempted to raise a precept on council tax bills.
- Need for local representation and action
- To retain as much decision making at a local level as possible.
- We need local officials with some powers and a budget in order to deliver appropriate services for our community. NYCC is too remote.
- North Yorkshire is too large an area. Parish councils are an important way for residents to
  feel more closely connected with and contribute to, their local area. It's my hope that the
  new authority will grant the parish council significant powers to maintain public facilities
  such as bins, benches, toilets, rights of way etc.
- If the councillors do their job correctly they should listen to the rate payers and deal with the violence and deterioration of the area. They should give "value for money"
- I think that people living in the area should have some say over local event/services, etc.
- We need to be represented with North Yorkshire County Council
- To give me some sort of local representation.
- I believe Scarborough people need a forum in which they can make their views known to the County Council, and which will represent local interests over against county-wide perspectives.

- I believe that it is important for the town of Scarborough to have a voice and to have its own local representation, although I am also concerned at the extra cost this will involve.
- Because I believe that wherever possible power should be devolved as close as is feasible to the electorate.
- just believe in keeping things local
- I think local representation on Scarborough specific issues is important. The coast and small, tourist heavy towns like Scarborough have distinct needs and issues and there should be some local input into these.
- It is necessary to have local representation to submit opinions on proposals by the new unitary authority and should have been in place from 1st April 2023 This lack of procedure by SBC has not been explained and warrants investigation as this cannot now be implemented for that date
- To help our community
- Because we want to see improvements to our local area, as a lot of services are run down or not there at all. Firstly the shambolic bus services in Scarborough, umpteen services use the same roads while other areas have none. A clear to understand Hospital and cemetery service too. The lack of road sweepers and hygiene standards. Disgraceful cleaning of back passages which are actually in the councils domain but they choose to disregard they need cleaning and tarmacking. As animals are being allowed to defecate in them! Weeds, nettles and people's junk. Seagulls removed from town houses as we are more important than the visitors and relocated in their natural habitat. Better Hospital services local as we don't all have cars to be farmed out to other districts and cannot keep affording these extra expenses. Better care and understanding for the elderly, plus not everyone can manage the tec world either. Better understanding of noise nuisances, as loud music, anti-social flooring, dogs!
- To have local residents providing local evidence for local crucial requirements that may be vital to maintain a safe and enduring community.
- Because it is vital that local people make decisions based on the area that we live. Someone
  based at Northallerton cannot make a decision based on the whole county, when certain
  areas have more needs in one respect that another. For instance carrying out road works
  during August in Scarborough would have a detrimental effect due to it being a tourist place.
  However Selby in August may have quieter roads in August due to the schools being on
  holiday. There are lots of examples where this comes in to play.
- Because there should be people elected that understand the workings of the area that we
  live in. I own xxx in Scarborough and the issue of licensing worries me and drivers alike. We
  need certain rules to apply to each parish otherwise, in my industry it will become a free for
  all and could be detrimental to the private hire / taxi industry. It is already hard enough now
  without having to put up with larger companies operating in other areas.
- There should be some local representation and ability to control some spending on things that matter in Scarborough.
- Decisions affecting a specific area need to be made at the local level
- A parish council sounds more community focused and will be able to deliver on the needs and issues for my local area
- Charter Trustees have no power in respect of providing services to residents. A parish council will represent residents and their interests. Important to me as a resident otherwise we will be left trying to establish who will listen/action our concerns.
- Scarborough needs a voice within the new large authority. It will have representatives on the
  authority, but there will be some issues of particular relevance to Scarborough. Some would
  benefit from consideration by local representatives alone, rather than within the larger
  council. Particularly matters to do with the coastal strip.

- If they are able to provide other local services it would be better that this is done by a smaller council with more local knowledge.
- Because Scarborough Town needs some formal of local representation. Northallerton is
  miles away and Scarborough councillors in the new unitary authority will be focussing on
  countywide issues. The smaller works covered by town and parish councils will enable
  improved communication with the new authority. The more mundane works of new bus
  shelters, cemeteries, litter bins and dog bins etc. will be of zero interest to the big beasts of
  the unitary authority but they are important to people who actually live and work in
  Scarborough and it will mean such stuff can get done with a parish council. I would also
  suggest it is actually called Scarborough Town Council please.
- I feel that a Parish Council would have the needs of the area more in mind than Trustees...
- Those in Scarborough should have the basic representation which a town council would provide. Additionally those in these areas should be paying their proportion of associated costs. I question who currently pays this money now or whether other Borough residents are subsidising those living in Scarborough areas.
- To keep local democracy at a grass roots level and to improve local community facilities.
- A parish council would give residents a say at a more local level and the ability to shape services in the area.
- I have previously lived in a village with a parish council and found that that level of local government was useful and easy to access when required by attending monthly and annual meetings.
- The people of Scarborough need to have some kind of representation and influence on the Unitary Council
- It gives local people some control of the area they live in.
- To give the people living in Scarborough Town a greater involvement in local services
- because I wish our town to have as much say as possible
- It will create a second layer which will give local people more say in what happens in their area.
- It is vital to maintain some level of local control, especially given the size of the new unitary authority and the vast differences that exist in the areas it will now cover. If I understand it correctly Charter Trustees would merely be figureheads therefore would have no real impact on local services.
- I want locally elected residents of my area to represent my interests and local services and facilities.
- Subsidiarity. We need parish councils at a ward level. There are over 5000 electors in Weaponness more than enough for "local" governance.
- The status of Scarborough as a Borough is an ancient honour, one that the town has proudly enjoyed for centuries. Whilst the councillors elected to the new authority, those who would be the Charter Trustees if I have understood the arrangement correctly will be elected by the residents of the town wards, the remoteness of the new authority compared with the old SBC reduces the ceremonial traditions to superficial formalities conducted by members of a distant regional council, and most importantly it removes the credibility and gravitas provided by direct, independent responsibility for what happens at the local level. In my opinion, Scarborough deserves a local representative body, democratically elected, which can advocate for the Borough in a way that members of the new authority cannot, since they lack the cohesion of a formal entity that is Scarborough's alone.
- To allow the town to have control over local issues and amenities.
- I think it is very important to have a local council dealing with local issues, and easily contactable, especially for tourism in Whitby, Scarborough and Filey.
- In order to represent residents and our interests by elected councillors.

- Easy access
- I believe Castle Ward has very specific needs and challenges that can be best served by a local parish council
- Scarborough needs a Parish Council to operate local services (as happens at nearby Whitby)
- To have more say in decision making.
- Would prefer a Town council of all the parish's if possible, next best thing. you haven't explained parish council powers fully enough
- It could allow for more involvement of more locals in issues which directly affect us.
- Without the parish council there will only be 1tier of local government. Therefore there will
  be no one looking out for Scarborough specifically. Each other area has a local forum to feed
  in issues and listen to the needs of the local community and address concerns. Scarborough
  will be without this Relying solely on the new authority to do this
- It would represent residents, give them a bigger say and allow more focus on local issues.
- There seems to be much dissatisfaction with our local council. It has become similar to GP practice, difficult to speak to the person likely to hold the key information.
- To represent more locally views, concerns of residents in my area. These might be missed at north Yorkshire county level.
- Scarborough town needs to have some level of representation, however feeble, within the
  new unitary authority. My preference for local government as a whole, would be to retain
  the present borough council within an all-Yorkshire regional government with wide devolved
  powers. This would form part of new federal system of government for the UK.
- I think people in the locality should be making decisions related to their own community.
- To provide Scarborough with some local government representation, which would not be the case with North Yorkshire alone.
- To keep it local and relevant
- A parish council is the same as a town council. Scarborough has a town council, so will require a parish council to replace it. A parish council to replace the current town council should function more efficiently at similar cost or less than currently, to better administer local functions than may be possible by a county council, whose councillors would not have sufficient local knowledge. Any new local governance should take the opportunity to improve local infrastructure, much of which seems to have been left to dilapidate. The BID needs to get more buy-in from local business and to attract more businesses to the centre of the town, which appears very hollow and tired. This needs new energy and innovation from local government, something not evidenced by a few oversized planters.
- The Town needs a local council, similar to Filey and Whitby
- It is important that decisions about local services are provided locally
- If greater powers and funding are to be passed to parish and town councils, then it would be unfair to have 20% of the population of North Yorkshire County unrepresented at the local level, unless they paid extra council tax. An explanation is needed though for why the savings gained by the new unitary structure are not used to fund a uniform distribution of town councils.
- Every community needs its own governance at local level Scarborough has such a great history it cannot be thrown away, for example: what would happen with the mace that was used as a pattern when the House of Commons had to replace their mace?
- The new North Yorkshire Council will cover a vast geographical area. It is only equitable that there should be something like a parish council in every part.
- There is a very definite need to have control within Scarborough and not to be governed by NYC
- A Town Council for Scarborough Town Area is essential, and it is in fact long overdue. Since the formation of Scarborough Borough Council the Town Councils of Whitby, Filey and

Eastfield and the Parish Council of Newby and Scalby have been invaluable in representing the interests of their Residents to the Borough Council, forcefully when necessary, and they have also taken on exactly the kind of role that is envisaged for them under the Double Devolution proposal. The Residents of the Scarborough Town area have had and currently still have nobody to take on this role for them. Important decisions have been made by Cabinet Members representing Whitby or Rural wards and there has been and still is no purely Scarborough forum to consider those decisions or purely Scarborough voice to question or challenge them. The NYCC Parish Charter sets out clearly the role and importance of Parish/Town Councils, and creating a Town Council for Scarborough is the obvious and essential forward.

- I believe that having a council close to the people it represents is important. If a councillor knows their area well, they have a far better idea of what the residents need and/or want.
   This local democracy is basic and is likely to get much more engagement from the population it covers.
- The people of Scarborough would look after the interests of Scarborough knowing the community and the members' needs and assets
- We need representation
- Parish Council would provide more focus and voice to local issues. Charter Trustees do not have the same local interest.
- Came here, for retirement in July 2021. At or about the middle of January 2022 Green Gables became an asylum seekers hostel, changing our quality of life due to these transient persons who have made Falsgrave Park into a no-go area, for some people, due to their activities. There are daily deliveries of food in juggernauts/hgvs driving or reversing up, these vehicles being totally unsuitable for Springhill Road, which is narrow, and they cannot get up West Bank. The Home Office have with the approval of Scarborough Borough Council allowed this to happen, affecting the lives of residents on our road, West Bank and beyond. The owner of Green Gables has not applied for Change of Use and SBC planning are being pedantic in issuing enforcement action unlike Great Yarmouth Council who have taken such action. It is for those reasons that we are in favour of the creation of a Parish Council as this situation would not been allowed to happen.

### 2.2.7 Please provide details on other options available?

Out of the **13** respondents that ticked 'some other option', a total of **12** comments were received explaining other options that are available. Full details can be found below.

- Labour, everywhere.
- Reinstate the Borough council and the county council
- No extra layer of governance or trustees.
- Why not a town council?
- It makes no difference what the public say, as you will already know what you
  intend to do, and this consultation is just a whitewash to keep the public happy.
  It happens at local level, and at national levels. I think we have all come to
  accept it as the norm in politics. So go ahead and do what you intended all
  along.
- All statutory functions to be carried out by the new North Yorks Council, not by creating another layer of representation.
- Leave things as they are. We will be paying more for even less representation!

- Direct democracy where the citizens of Scarborough vote and suggest individual issues to vote on. Voting via mobile app.
- No thanks to a Parish Council at this time with growing inflation we don't wish to be paying ANY extra on our Council Tax Bill. A lot of people are going to be struggling to pay their energy bills. Also as far as we are concerned you could scrap having a Mayor and Deputy Mayor, and save the people who actually pay the full amount of their Council Tax Bill some money.
- To create a town council? Assuming the parish council options will increase our council tax rates and potentially create divisions in the town? Do we have to have a parish council? It seems quite antiquated, more modern alternatives would be of interest.
- Stick with Scarborough Council Forget about this North Yorkshire Council its too wide an area
- Scarborough needs one town council, not competing parish councils

### 2.2.8 Please tell us why you don't know or are not sure on which option you prefer?

Out of the **52** respondents that ticked they don't know or are not sure option, a total of **43** comments were received explaining why they don't know or are not sure on which option they prefer. A summary of comments by theme can be seen below.

### 2.2.9 Full details of the comments provided can be found below.

- I will need information on the number of elected representatives (councillors) before I can answer in a more positive way. If there are a sufficient number of 'local' North Yorkshire Council Councillors to represent our interests, then a new Town Council (extra bureaucracy) may not be necessary. Please provide this extra information, than I can give you an updated answer. NOTE: Generally I feel that Town and Parish Councils are 'talking shops' and a bit of a 'dog's breakfast' when it comes to any positive outcomes. They would need statutory powers to have any chance of being effective, and not just a ceremonial load of 'hot air'!
- I do not understand any of this.
- I am not in favour of Charter Trustees performing only ceremonial functions, and I am not clear who will be responsible for other local services, and how they will be chosen/elected.
- It is not clear what services are proposed to be devolved to the lower level and what funds they have to spend. Also if this means adding a layer of 'politicians' in this not self-defeating? What is a parish council reporting structure and who holds responsibility? Is the Parish Council an elected body? If so, who?
- Because it is trouble, from past parish council.
- Not enough information provided to residents.
- I want Scarborough Council to have as little as possible input as to running this area.
- Scarborough is a poor relation all the ex-cons and people unable to function are sent here so I'm not sure how it would benefit here by changing the status quo.
- Will anyone do any good?
- I'm not clear on what the practical difference would be
- I am unsure if I like either option. Very rarely do I feel represented by the council or by the way the masses vote in the town. I do not feel clear how either options would represent my views on what is needed not only in my area but throughout the town.

- Don't know enough about it
- Difficult to understand
- I don't understand what difference it would make. The explanations you have given are not enough for me to make a decision.
- Because it should stay as it has always been a borough council
- Is voting for a parish council going to make local council tax etc. cost more than voting not to create a parish council
- Not sure it would make any difference
- Not really sure what it is
- Not really sure what you people all do and so it's difficult to make an informed decision. It's important to be efficient and cost effective and by having "one council" I assume there Is a removal of tiers of management throughout the county. The balance required is that we receive the same level of service in all areas that we currently receive (whatever that is!). Your letter and Information pack is not particularly clear. Some effort is apparent, for example stating that "statutory functions" are "(things they have to do)." It may help if it was clear what 'they have to do'. This will also help to see what raised finances are used for and assist in making the choice you have asked to be made.
- Never really understood their role
- Don't know enough
- I was totally against the single unitary option, the area is too large and diverse. So in order for residents to have some representation, apart from the County councillors, a parish would be necessary. More specific local services/amenities could also be provided. However, this would also mean another layer of government. Whilst I think it is important to retain the mayoralty and other historic issues either option makes this possible. A major concern is the levying of a precept. I do not think you highlight this enough in the Information Pack. Residents of currently parished areas will be aware of precepts but not the unparished areas and there will be a lot of people that have no idea that this will be an additional cost on top of the County council tax charge.
- Not clear enough
- Either with council or parish council just how effective would either one be.
- Before deciding on this, it would be good to have an idea of how much the parish council option would cost residents, especially at the moment due to the cost-of-living crisis.
- Not sure how useful a parish council would be as it would seem to have limited powers to
  effect any meaningful changes local residents might desire e.g behaviourable or noise
  issues and waste collection
- Please provide a detailed list of pros and cons for each option.
- Afraid the creation of a Parish council would merely perpetuate the flawed Borough
  Council as it stands, also not sure that any appointed Charter Trustees would appear to be
  very similar to existing Council Officers. Both cases would not alter the Status Quo
  whereby paid servants make the important decision by way of, "Recommendations". This
  system is patently flawed, with the wishes of the electorate being largely ignored!
- Not enough information to make a decision. What happens to the councillors we elected this year? Will we have to have even more councillors than we do now or less?
- I am undecided
- Will creating a parish council give the people in the new parish council more power.
- You have not spelled out adequately the cost/benefit of each option. For example what is
  the cost on an annualized basis for the Charter Trustee function and fully what is the
  scope of that responsibility. How will the added cost of creating yet another layer of
  bureaucracy (i.e. Parish Council) ultimately benefit me as a resident and what is the cost

to receive that benefit. To ask residents to weigh in here, requires we be more informed as to the full scope and cost of a Parish council.

- I don't understand what it means this, a parish council
- I like the idea of the new unitary authority but am not sure whether it's a parish council or not. If it is then Option 2 would be my choice.
- I do not fully understand the full concept of a parish council, nor does any of the paperwork fully explain what powers this type of council can hold.
- I don't know what the difference is
- I'm unsure what exactly the need is
- Found the information pack too confusing to make an informed decision.
- I wonder how much it will cost residents initially and further down the line, how easy it is to abandon the idea of having a parish council if it turns out not to work for the residents benefit, and I have misgivings about whether it will be carried out effectively and appropriately (or whether there will be incompetence or corruption at the heart of operations . . .).
- The benefits of Parish Council status are well presented, and I agree that it is the most obvious option being democratically elected in theory, although in practice there are rarely contested elections for Parish Councils. Other options such as neighbourhood councils, community assemblies etc. might help to modernise and kick start local engagement as they don't have the history and image of a Parish Council. It depends how much real decision making would be devolved to the body, whatever it is, the relative costs of setting up and maintaining it, and what area/s it could cover. How would it feed in, for example, to the North Yorks budget making process could it follow the model of citizen's budgets as developed in Brazil and modelled in Manchester? I think that the principle of subsidiarity is crucial ie. Decisions devolved to the lowest level possible. Northallerton is far removed from Scarborough town in every way, not just geographically, including levels of deprivation.
- It seems that a charter trustee solution is temporary and a stepping stone to becoming a parish? If that is the case it doesn't seem to be much of a choice
- Don't know enough about what impact any of the options would have on me.
- Currently we do the have a parish council, so cannot see how having one would be any benefit?

# 2.3 Further Comments about the Community Governance Review

# 2.3.1 Are there any further comments you would like to add about the Community Governance Review?

A total of **237** respondents provided further comments about the Community Governance Review, full details can be found below.

- Long overdue.
- The greater majority of residents I have talked to are totally baffled by this review. The review is the stuff of local government alright! Why not just get on with the needs of serving the community with those statutory functions as appropriate via your offices, who can make a difference in a more direct approach. Too many layers of local government are just a nightmare! All waffle and no action, just recommendations.
- I was just trying to get the number 10 bus route re-instated.
- It doesn't help to send out information packs half way through the review period. Mine arrived 30 August.
- I would like to emphasise the importance of local governance by local people.
- Keep it as a review. Do not incur any costs. Show all financial implications and savings.
- I think it's good to have a community governance review.
- Arrangements should be left as they are. I am sure that these changes will not improve conditions for people living in Scarborough. Also I would assume that this means more council expense which, hopefully, will NOT be passed on to residents. Should be local.
- It must not lead to higher costs to the public, they are far too high now!
- The CGR is inadequate, with regard to information about the opportunities for the community to have a say in matters of local interest/concern. Also the CGR seems to be a feeble attempt at consultation with the public just as public consultations always tend to be.
- Yes I am not paying for a parish council tax.
- I think it would be preferable for us all to be in the same category as everyone else, so
  that we can all know what is what, instead of having a 'parish council' and 'charter
  trustees areas' and having to work out who is responsible for doing different things.
- Keep the council tax down. What a sad idea.
- Get on with it, I am seventy on the xxth this month.
- Hoping it can improve the town and bring it into the 21st Century before it dies.
- The licence for private landlord renting didn't make any difference because there is still a lot of anti-social behaviour going on and the younger generations now have no respect for anything or anybody. So this governance review will already have been decided upon, same as the private landlord licence. These surveys are a waste of money because you will have decided already and figures if replies can be dis-drafted! I know that they can, and been done before.
- It is vital that all aspects of the history and tradition are held intact in the provider of services. A circumspect approach into claims of expenses by those affected.
- Communication is paramount, then all of us can be aware of what is happening in our local area.
- Any unparished areas should have a channel of representation through Parish Councils. Ceremonial functions of Charter Trustees are not adequate.
- See Q4

- I think there should be a further/third option, viz to form a Town Council for Scarborough with elected representatives from the areas which don't have a Parish Council. Parish Councils work well in small rural areas where they are long established but I find the thought of Weaponness & Ramshill as one quite daunting due to the diversity of the population there and the close-knit nature of the buildings, land allocation, etc.
- No
- I have a lot of fears about the establishment of this 'super-council' and believe it will favour towns like Harrogate at the expense of towns like Scarborough. Historically (eg with regard to health services) Harrogate always gets the lion's share of resources and Scarborough suffers. At least 'parishing' parts of Scarborough will enable some aspects of local government to remain local. Its all we've got left.
- Not at this time.
- The new administration should deliver all services through its existing structures.
- No
- The proposed timescale is too long from making a decision in Summer 2023 to elections taking place in May 2024. If this is to progress then more detail in terms of what services the parish council would deliver needs providing.
- I am glad that this is happening and I hope a Town Council will be created. When Scarborough Borough Council held a Community Governance review about 12 years ago, the idea of parishing the Scarborough Town area was rejected by residents, mainly on the grounds that they didn't want yet more politicians and they didn't want to have to pay more council tax. I hope that this time they will realise that the proposal will put them on a level playing field with nearly everywhere else in North Yorkshire, rather than being disadvantaged. I favour Proportional Representation but I suspect that the law will not allow it in this case. However I hope that the wards for the new council will be big enough to allow for PR to be introduced, should this be possible in future. Each ward should have at least two councillors so that if one is ill or away or dies there will still be a representative.
- We never wanted to lose our local council and feel the decision has been foisted on us. Now we need to do what we can to have LOCAL governance and influence.
- The proposal to move the unparished parcel of land which is currently in Eastfield ward to the control of Eastfield Parish Council (instead of any future parish council/charter trustee area for Scarborough town) seems to be a good and elegant solution.
- Why fix something which isn't broken?
- We're doomed anyway so what's the point?
- No questions but plenty of doubts, think Scarborough will be left behind not featured highly on NYCC list of things they already control.
- There needs to be transparency in the decisions made throughout this process. The community does not feel currently as though it is represented by the council and this review needs to provide more details on the impacts of both options it presents.
- Not sure why this exercise is taking place to me areas which at the moment don't have a
  parish or town council because they were central to local government obviously needs
  some local management. This should have been set in place automatically without waste
  of finance.
- Establishing yet another level of representation is going to add yet more financial burden to hard pressed households. Nobody in their right mind would vote to pay more council tax. This should go to a referendum type vote of the electorate concerned. More bureaucracy.....No Thank You.

- The running of Town Councils needs to be modernised to meet today's needs, also need much better controls in place to ensure properly run and responsible to the local residents. Most town councils are too remote.
- I am sure that the existing councillors will still find a way to get their snouts in the new trough no matter what happens
- I didn't even know that there was a local parish council besides one relating to a church
- No
- We are already going through a cost of living crisis, and you want to add to this burden by charging a precept.
- None at this stage
- No. Just the need for regular updates. Residents need to be informed.
- no
- The cost of carrying this review out could have been better spent on repairing pavements and roads.
- no
- The way it is being conducted disenfranchised a large percentage of people who do not have access to or have computer skills and are unable to get to the library or town hall.
- Spring bank needs resurfacing! Other areas have been done multiple times eg. Stepney drive! Are there councillors living there?
- The exact boundary of a town or parish council (is the former title not allowed? we are considering an area larger than one parish) requires negotiation. Is it anomalous for a section of Eastfield to remain outside the Eastfield town or parish boundary? Are the significant changes in housing being taken into account in deciding boundaries?
- No.
- We will struggle to better our living and working environment without any powers, a voice.
- Why wasn't a voting scheme put in place a long time before hand to allow residents
  within the borough a choice of a vote to select whether or not they wanted to change
  from a council to either a parish or trustee.
- No thank you
- It is a "sop" aimed to lessen the effect of removal of Scarborough Council. What it offers in terms of replacement powers and responsibilities, is minimal and will probably diminish local engagement in local affairs
- I think this is an important issue and there should be people on the streets, in community centres, and on social media etc. canvassing opinion to ensure that people who might not reply to a letter from NYCC get their say.....
- as long as it is done correctly and with no surprises
- No
- Better to have one town council than individual parishes.
- Relating the information to specific areas would be more helpful
- How much is this costing
- Sad it cannot own a building. The scouts often own their huts
- Every layer of bureaucracy has a cost and with the existing excess costs of the Scarborough Council Tax, we should be looking to modernise and reduce costs. The consultation should have been costed and presented in the information pack. Cost is a key issue and needs to be known to make a balanced decision!
- Why does it take so long?
- No

In matters such as parks and gardens, traffic lights etc. it is important that residents have
more influence. The seat of the main council is a long way from Scarborough and is very
much more influenced by its local area. This is much to the detriment to Scarborough
both historically and ongoing. Local people need to have some control of matters that
affect their daily lives.

#### AS ABOVE

- It is imperative that NYCC retains control of all waste collection. If the devolved authorities are tempted by large financial incentives to become Waste Collection Authorities it will be a disastrous mish-mash of waste collection across the county, and leave strategic waste management almost impossible.
- no
- Money will probably be spent needlessly and Scarborough being at the end of the line will be neglected. Scarborough needs to make its own decisions and if the only voice it are allowed is Parish Councils, then at least we have something
- It is often the case that the further from the centre of decision making a population is, the less of a service they receive. I hope the new set-up doesn't behave in this way, but I am doubtful
- See previous answer
- no
- Parish Precept needs to cost as little as possible
- Quite repetitive and not easy to understand finer details of distinctions between the two outlined options.
- We are concerned that Harrogate will get the biggest slice of the cake at the expense of smaller areas.
- No
- The provision of adequate community centres should be reviewed too
- The "glossy" Information Pack was a waste of money, a plainer pamphlet would have done.
- After reading it, if you asked me what it was about I am not sure I would tell you. It wasn't very clear.
- Scarborough needs representation by and for the people who live and work here. There
  should be a local, accountable and responsive body who will ensure that this community
  has its needs met, in a manner which promotes inclusion and community, growth and
  innovation.
- Do not create a parish council that has the same amount of councillors as the borough council got rid of. It needs to be smaller and a cost effective parish council to give more to the people. Also, former borough councillors who were unsuccessful in getting on to the unity council should not be allowed to try for a parish council position. Local and national governance needs more young blood.
- Need Job opportunities
- If local people and businesses were represented fairly then it would be worthwhile. This is the coast was set up enough said
- Scarborough should remain un-parished, the reorganisation of local government should be the focus not trying to form and upskill a town council.
- It is possible to see what can be done by engaged members of the community with, for example, the South Cliff Gardens renewal. There are many areas in Scarborough crying out for such regeneration. Please give the local community the ability to spread outwards from this excellent transformation throughout Weaponness and Ramshill (and, of course, the remainder of Scarborough).

- Yes. I think the CGR is an ideal opportunity to revitalise our Twin Towns. Scarborough is twinned with Osterode-am Hertz a beautiful German town. I think an action plan should be created, including named representatives to promote the twinning in a positive light and contact made. There are huge benefits to be had in the form of connections with Schools, businesses and interested individuals.
- Yes. The leaflet issued could have been clearer in explaining the consequences of not having a parish council in currently unparished areas i.e. North Yorkshire Council having full control.
- Only received the letter for this survey and no other information about what is happening so I cannot make any other comments.
- Local people need to be empowered to come up with innovative projects and facilities to improve the lives of everyone living in Scarborough. The councils seem to be out of touch, unhelpful and obstructive, never achieving anything of note and only interested in unsuitable housing developments. We need grassroots, practical improvements to build on for the future. Poverty and desperation blight too many lives in Scarborough. It's time to make real progress and change.
- nothing at this time
- I welcome greater involvement at grassroots level.
- No
- Not at this time.
- I welcome it and hope that we can push for a parish or local council to continue to represent the views of the community and ensure that we control and take responsibility for our area.
- The use of the term "parish" implies a connection to a church. There should be no religious connections at all.
- Parking needs to be reviewed. Residents have to pay for a permit on top of their council tax to park on the street where they live. Tourist can park for free using a disc or are given a scratchcard by the hotel/B&B. Why should I have to park my car streets away from where I live and have to move it every 3 hours when I can't park on the street where I live. I came home at 8pm one evening and was unable to park anywhere near my property. As a woman this is both unsafe and unfair. Why am I paying for a permit to park on the street where I live when I can only use it 50% of the time during the tourist season. Residents parking permits should be valid to park anywhere and there should be residents only parking areas on each street. We pay, why are we disadvantaged? I am not against tourism but the council puts residents last every time a decision is made. Residents should be made to feel welcome just as much as tourists but unfortunately we don't. Also Filey Road should have speed cameras. At night it is a race track for people with very loud exhausts accelerating up the road. The speed and noise is ridiculous. When it's busy during the day it's much quieter. But again I'm a resident so who cares? If we paid as much attention to the lives of the residents as we do for the tourists, Scarborough would be a lovely place to live and more people would want to buy property as a permanent residence. Surely that would be a win win for Scarborough?
- Focus on delivering good services and not be distracted by parishes who are not up to delivering any front line function
- I am continually sceptical about changes to local government. I understand why the
  Unitary Authority is necessary, but this has to be tempered with a desire to keep
  residents and the electorate informed. The historical record in the Borough has not
  covered itself in a positive light since decision making, particularly around project
  initiation and financial investments and has not involved the electorate from an
  information standpoint. I wonder whether this review will suffer the same transparency

issues, but I am quietly confident that we seem to be moving in a positive direction. History will provide the answers and will hopefully comment on a positive way forward for North Yorkshire and its environs after 2023.

- No
- I believe it's important that the local community retains a voice in wider decision making. I'd be devastated if we lost our best independent councillor who works tirelessly for the local residents of castle ward; Janet Jefferson
- No.
- no
- The review should seriously reflect on the areas within the former North Bay ward, which have been allowed to decline in the provision of services in terms of environmental impact, i.e. degradation of the local environment by uncontrolled waste dumping and property deterioration in a conservation area.
- No
- No
- I am very pleased that it is happening at last
- This should be publicised more locally.
- Get rid of this rotten government and give us electoral reform so the Tories never get elected again.
- N/A
- Not yet
- As there appears to be no provision to enlarge on my answer to Q8: Yes, I am aware of a residents' association. No this does not provide an alternative to a town/parish council.
- You have provided insufficient information to make a truly informed choice.
- The boundary changes with neighbouring parishes seem sensible.
- No, thank you.
- No
- No
- Now too old to take an active part in local government but still interested.
- Please try to communicate with the neighbourhood via as wide a variety of methods as possible.
- The decision on whether or not to create new parish councils will inevitably be based, at least in part, upon non-measurable issues such as the benefits of local decision making and locally managed service delivery. However, wherever possible I would like to see the review provide measurable information as well. For example, what would be the additional costs of managing and operating a new parish council / what are the likely delays in strategic decision making that / what level of precept might be required to finance the new body?
- Keep the cost of 'freeloading' Councillors to the minimum.
- I think we need local people in office to assess our requirements and carry them out
- Appreciate the opportunity to have a voice in the process.
- No
- No
- No
- It is completely unfair on the residents of some of the poorest areas in the country to
  have to persevere with a more reduced democratic representation because a vocal, welloff minority keep trifling over the possibility of a minute increase in council tax which the
  perishing process may bring. This must be taken very seriously and be effectively
  communicated to those this will effect most.

- No
- We don't want another Mayor, they are generally politically motivated, don't support the local community and a waste of money in difficult times!
- Unelected groups such as residents associations, forums etc. run the risk of being unrepresentative and can end up just pursuing the agenda of an unelected clique. That is why an elected parish council would be in the best interests of Scarborough town.
- If the previous question was it, this is a pretty poor Review! Doesn't look like you are taking this process seriously.
- I have read carefully the informative pamphlet that I was sent, and found my way to this online questionnaire, but I wonder how many of my neighbours will the same do. Your pamphlet indicates that Castle Ward has an average of 1.08 electors per household, and I suspect that many single-occupancy households are elderly people who may struggle to do what I have done in responding. If the response rate is low, I would suggest that the "Further public consultation" planned for February to April 2023 includes some door-to-door visits, to ensure that a low response rate is not confused with lack of enthusiasm.
- No thanks.
- This response is for me and my wife, we would much prefer the council to be referred to as a Town Council
- Under new structure Parish councils unnecessary bureaucratic level,
- I feel it's important for areas like Scarborough to have more say in how the parish/borough is run. We have different requirements to other tourist destinations
- no
- Not sure all the reading material clearly states what is in fact likely to happen. Like how many councillors will the area ultimately have?
- I appreciate the opportunity to take part and hope a large percentage of local residents take the time to take part so a reasonable conclusion can be reached.
- The amount of information you have provided is insufficient for someone to assist in making an informed decision or contribution to the governance review. There needs to be a lot more information provided around cost/benefits of each option for residents to truly have an informed opinion. It is your responsibility as a council to provide that.
- No.
- I just hope it isn't a waste of time and money.
- No
- no
- No. Only that I think that the new unitary authority is a good idea. What I should like is for more things to be dealt with in the local office rather than having to always go online.
- No
- I think the consultation document, perhaps necessarily is somewhat vague. There is no mention of public meetings. This consultation needs to be thorough.
- Yes, all the options listed (finally found after 20 mins searching) say nothing about the span of control, influence, or decision -making /budgetary inputs of each 'choice'.
- None past maybe teaching about these type of things at a school or college level so the
  younger generations like myself can make fully informed choices with the assistance of
  locals, instead of relying on online sources which can askew accuracy for our area.
- The consultation process fails to provide sufficient information to enable an informed decision to be made.
- Less cost is the best option
- None
- nope

- No
- It is good that the views of Scarborough people are being sought.
- Scarborough people have been ignored for too long, by the former council, and the town has seriously suffered as a consequence
- I would like to be reassured that costing proposals, measured against the current costs of SBC, will be included as a very important part or this consultation.
- no
- I am grateful for the opportunity to express my views on this issue.
- Just hope whatever is decided it is better than the shower we have now, who are selling land off which has not been put out for tender in order to get the best deal. All the best for a better future.
- We want locally elected councillors representing the community but also want to protect historical property and traditions of the area.
- This is prime opportunity for local council to engage with the people they serve, ensuring that voices are heard and addressed properly.
- Not at this time
- I believe it would be only be fair that all unparished divisions were given the same statutory powers as the rest i.e. all perished.
- No
- In our experience the Parish Council has no power except to propose chances, which are by the main part usually overruled by the County Council, so surplus to requirement.
- no
- I have seen some adverse comments about Scarborough Borough Council, but think these may be made by individuals who have been disappointed at not achieving what they want locally. I still feel it would be useful to have local contacts and representation. I have always found Customer First staff to be friendly and helpful.
- Not at this time
- I hope when a Parish Council is formed it will take on as many functions that it is allowed to keep it as local as possible.
- Although a lot of information about the changes has been provided, I've found it very confusing. For instance: Page 3 of the information pack says that NYC 'will deliver all local services' (para 1) and then that parish councils can take 'on responsibility for some local services' (para 3), which seems to be a direct contradiction. NYC is a 'unitary' authority and there's to be a 'single tier' replacing the 2 tier arrangement we have now. Then we are being asked to consider a new second tier .... At first I thought we were talking about 5 or 6 different types of council (town, parish, neighbourhood etc.). That these are just names for a new parish council only gradually becomes clear on very close reading. How a parish council would work in practice is unclear to me - what are the appropriate functions? (Could it just replicate SBC for Scarborough alone? If so, what is the reason for the devolution?) What constraints would it operate under? How would it interact with NYC? Real detailed examples from elsewhere in the country would help greatly. I'm also confused about how the changes achieve democracy. Local news informs us that NYC will be able to make decisions formerly made in Whitehall, but I feel extremely vague about what these are. Similarly, I don't understand the borderlines between the remit of NYC and the remit of any parish council working at a more local level. However, I'm grateful for the consultation and the opportunity to make these comments.
- Personally I'm not in favour of a unitary authority however I hope NYC (as it will be) do a better job than NYCC has done in the past.

- I am disappointed that this is taking place, however, I appreciate the government has to save money somehow and this is a strategy to do so. I am concerned that various projects currently in the pipeline will not happen due to the changes in 2023, We have been waiting for street furniture and new bins for over 18 months, with no end yet in sight. In the future I hope a town council will protect the local heritage, embrace the need for change in the town centre and then actually get on and do something instead of procrastinating like the current council.
- Whatever happens I am angry that we are supposedly being centrally governed and a perfectly functional council is to be lost. Then we now have to have extra added to our council tax to facilitate a local parish council or charter council. Waste of time and money to have changed things in the first place.
- I am not totally convinced that changing from a Borough Council to North Yorkshire Council, is a move that benefits the people of North Yorkshire. In these times of severe financial struggles for a lot of people, this change in local government seems to be a waste of money and unnecessary.
- I feel that's governance from Northallerton is too far removed from the coastal town of Scarborough and I'm concerned that there will be a lack of understanding of our needs locally. I would like things like taxi prices and local bus fares to be fixed as far as is possible by decisions made by a local Parish Council.
- As an ancient borough, I would like to see this recognised on the new boundary signs on the roadside. These could be inscribed 'The Ancient Borough of Scarborough'. I would also like the town mayor to be called a borough mayor.
- We think it's important for people to have control at a local level
- It is always important that people in a community have the right to elect their representatives and choose those who will work on their behalf. The alternative Charter Trustee thing seems to have no power to act at all. That means that authority is held by people who are not necessarily local and may have no interest in acting on the small things that matter to local people ....bin emptying, traffic etc.
- Time constraints preclude this I'm afraid......
- Good idea unlike the abolition of the Council for whom accountability was always possible. With devolution meaning in effect less democracy for the people I hope that we can still have some local representation and get under the skin of NYC if necessary
- As this is an ancient Borough, I think we should retain this title.
- Documents feel very repetitive and missing finer detail people may need to help form an opinion, eg what increase in council tax rates would a parish council option result in, and what are the consequences of not having a parish council option. Don't feel that has been clear
- It is essential that all existing public services formerly provided by SBC are maintained in future without increasing council tax. Any town council precept should be ring-fenced for any new services.
- It is also important that local taxation is not raised by these changes. The current services should be maintained and any precept should be used to finance new projects only. This should not be made an opportunity increase local taxes.
- no
- I am glad residents are being consulted. Just wish the council arrangements were remaining the same or that the country was going to be divided into an eastern and a western council area as the district councils favoured. Don't recall being consulted on that decision Seems a very costly exercise. I fear that Scarborough will get neglected. I feel the existing borough council does a good job on the whole. Definitely favour a town council

- The areas around Scarborough town centre (South Cliff, Weaponness, Ramshill) already feel politically disconnected from the main town. All attention appears focused on the North and South Bays and the town centre. To some extend this is understandable, they are the main commercial areas, but the residential areas often feel overlooked. For example, the lottery-funded redevelopment of the South Cliff gardens stops at the clock tower and areas further north remain untouched and unmaintained. Historic buildings in the town centre are often left to decay, and this is even more acute in the residential areas. One small example is the historic cast iron road signs. They have been left to decay and it is only with the efforts of two local volunteers that the ones in South Cliff have been restored. This should have been part of the duties of the council, but it is considered unimportant. Issues such as this can be raised at parish council level but would be lost at the borough or county level, and would be of no interest to the charter trust. The CGR appears focused solely on governance, structure and style, something that most people have no experienced opinion on. The review should be more focused on the results, on what is to be delivered and how best to achieve that. The CGR should talk about specifics e.g. "If you want traffic restrictions outside of your house (double yellow lines or residents' parking zones) then you currently would have to write to Scarborough Borough Council and the highways department would consider it. After 2023 you will need to apply to North Yorkshire County Council. With a parish council, you would make your request to them and they would take it up on your behalf. A parish council would be composed of residents in your local area, so would appreciate the issues. With a Charter Trust, you would have to apply to North Yorkshire Country Council.". That way, people have a clear example of how the different structures would impact their lives.
- A map showing the new council area would be helpful
- No.
- Not at this time
- This is important but difficult to grasp the implications unless one understands the key issues. Maybe the consultation could have been made easier and more informative by providing more tick box questions, including those such as 'on a scale of 1 to 5, how interested, concerned, in agreement etc.'.... with a range of statements. I think it is unlikely that the results will be very conclusive.
- We know and love our locality and want to see it kept as we like it. With the best will in the World, people in Northallerton do not know Scarborough and its spaces.
- It should be as widespread as possible including people who don't have internet access or skills.
- I believe there is a case for considering an enlarged Scarborough Town Council, by incorporating Eastfield and Newby and Scalby, despite the resistance these parishes would no doubt put up to the idea. An enlarged Town Council would have more clout and would better reflect the urban area of the town.
- Not sufficient detail on which to make a decision
- I would like to be able to speak to people who live in areas that have experience in all
  options to help me make an informed decision.
- I believe that current ward boundaries do not reflect the nature of the areas, ie tourism, housing, parks, retail and could be revised. There is a reduced representation on the new authority especially for Scarborough wards the provision of a parish/town council is necessary to be in place on the appropriate date 1st April 2023. I was Party to the 1974 local government reorganisation what local offices will remain within this area and how many employees will continue to work locally?
- No

- I think it is crucial to maintain local services such as the bin collections which are excellent here, and are run taking into consideration the number of visitors to the town, including the need to have daily emptying along the seafront. I don't think breaking the whole town centre area into smaller parish councils will bring together the communities but it will take away money which could be used for one bigger issue rather than several smaller ones, which benefit less people. An example would be the coastal paths maintenance or sports centres which are not in most areas. Also the community in the old town area has been much reduced by use of properties for Air BNB, a parish there would serve a smaller number of people
- It is also most important for the each different Borough or parish to have its own individualism. Otherwise this whole scheme would not work. I am not so ignorant to say there will be no benefits, as I'm sure there will be but only if done right and each area is understood to be different from other areas.
- I would suggest a meeting be set up for all private hire operators in order to set up rules of operation under the new North Yorkshire Council, rather than business owners being overlooked. This needs sorting in the near future before operators then start complaining. Prevention is better than the cure.
- It is not clear what the benefits are by opting for charter trustee status. As they are purely ceremonial and do not have powers to deliver services. So there appears to be little point in their existence in Northstead area.
- We are currently not "parished" as you put it parish is a noun by the way and not a verb and we should be. Scarborough town is a big area and deserves its own representation.
- Yes, Scarborough non parished areas should have four local area committees. OLD TOWN (Castle/Harbour/Foreshore & Newborough), South (Ramshill & Weaponness), WEST (Falsgrave/Westborough/Victoria Road/North Woodlands) & NORTHBAY (Northstead/Lower Newlands and lower parts of Newby). If you look at your map the lower half of Woodlands & Newby should be added to Northstead to create a North Bay LAC. As a North Bay resident I would have preferred our own Parish but after reading your 'bumf' this may create too many tiers within the non parished areas of Scarborough so in my view we should have a Scarborough Parish with distinct Local Areas. If you look at the map (again) there should be clear & natural borderlines for these four districts. Also if Scarborough were to be a Parish with four LAC's the Town Hall & Civic (Mayor) functions could remain at Town Hall.
- Yes you need to set out what models of Town Council you have in mind.
- Please do not waste tax payer money on this scheme.
- It would have been helpful to have had some face to face presentations of what it all means. The information pack has a lot of information any some people may struggle to understand all the pros and cons of what is being proposed. A one page executive summary of the key facts would have been helpful/
- I regret that we were not allowed to have a smaller unitary authority North Yorkshire is too large in population and even more so in geographical area.
- It's nice to be asked, since no-one asked us whether we wanted SBC to be subsumed into a regional body and I remain suspicious that the political impact will be to increase the influence of the large, rural, Tory areas at the expense of the more left-leaning, green-leaning urban areas.
- No.
- No more new or different tiers of governance as we already have sufficient elected councillors and particularly as there should be no more costs and expenditure on creating any more bodies.
- We think it should have been divided into two and not left as one huge area.

- This seems to me a great opportunity for poorer areas of Scarborough to gain better representation at a point when their needs may be lost in a broader regional system of local government
- Hopefully it will lead to greater democracy and more accountability. I don't currently feel
  engaged with local politics because no one seems to listen to what I want and we never
  seem to get a balanced argument to support the decisions that are taken.
- Make a Town council for larger Towns with more powers to act locally
- How would the officers be selected?
- No
- no
- Whilst welcoming the review and particularly the postal drop I feel it disadvantaged people without it facilities. I would have welcomed more access points.
- Parish/town councils should be given a stronger voice on local planning issues.
- One hopes Scarborough residents will have sufficient representation under the new local governance, but whether that will be the case in a meaningful sense remains to be seen.
- Need to look after the people in the community and not line the pockets of councillors who don't know their people or area
- The Review document could have been much clearer, many residents have not even tried to read it as they find it confusing. Current unparished areas are part of Scarborough Borough Council. The Review document suggests that there is no local governance now. It is unclear that a parish council would be similar to the borough council. It should also have made clear that a town/parish council would be funded in a similar way to current arrangements in the borough. It should be titled a 'Town Council' not 'Parish' which is traditionally understood to be more like a small village council with few administrative powers. A new Town Council should also take the opportunity to better publicise planning consultations and decisions to ensure processes are less opaque.
- I am disappointed that the local council will be disbanded, the town's identity lost, and decisions that affect the town made in Northallerton
- A much stronger case needs to be made for the creation of town councils. It is considered that Scarborough residents are unlikely to vote for additional councils if they are asked to pay more. In previous consultations they rejected the creation of a town council, but that was under a non-unitary structure, and therefore not a valid comparison. What level of representation, funding and involvement would Scarborough Town have in local issues, if they were only under the County Council, compared with say Filey and Whitby, each having both County and Town representation? It would be useful to have an idea of how these two versions of local government would play out on some Scarborough issues such as: the development of The Futurist Site, the closure of the South Cliff Lift, the council tax of second home owners.
- I feel that it is a great pity that the borough is being abolished.
- It would be interesting to learn the number of residents in this ward who have completed the survey and I trust that this information will be published on a Ward by Ward basis.
- None
- There should be a complete ban on North Yorkshire Council members from serving on any parish Council. It would be good if some way could be found to I) prohibit anyone who has served on Scarborough Borough Council for more than one four year term from standing for election to the Scarborough parish council and ii) to ensure that former Scarborough Borough Councillors do not make up more than 50% of membership of the parish Council. New blood and better ways of working are definitely needed.
- It is essential to have our identity.
- The East/West model made far more sense and I think everyone sees that now. Pity.

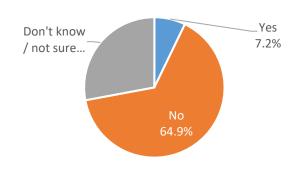
- They will want to occupy the town hall but will not have the budget to run it or maintain it. They will want to provide local services but will not have the staff to provide them. The unitary authority is the way forward with security of employment for local people and provision of high quality services.
- Parish and town councils on the whole are a complete waste of time. They deliver little have even less competent skills and I wouldn't have them in charge of anything
- No thank you.
- The timing of the setting up of a Town Council for Scarborough is fundamentally unsatisfactory. Even at this late stage it must be possible to find a pragmatic temporary solution. Otherwise, until May 2024, the current situation as described in my previous answer will continue except that decisions about Scarborough Town will be even more distant decided by The County instead of by The Borough. During this Once In A Generation change there will be nobody to speak for Scarborough Town or to negotiate about taking on Double Devolved responsibilities for the years and decades to come.
- Sad to see another step in the emasculation of local government by central government.
   In no way is the proposed council structure an example of "devolution". The case would however be different if Yorkshire was offered the opportunity to be a devolved democratic entity
- Scarborough has had its own governance and mayor since medieval times. It would be a shame to lose this from the community and the borough.

# 2.4 Alternative forms of community governance

# 2.4.1 Are you aware of any existing local community governance in the areas (e.g. community or neighbourhood forums, resident associations etc.) which would serve the local community as an alternative to a parish council?

Only 7.2% of respondents are aware of any existing local community governance in the area.

	No.	%
Yes	38	7.2%
No	344	64.9%
Don't know / not sure	148	27.9%
	530	



- 2.4.2 A summary list of all suggested existing local community governance in the areas can be seen below.
  - Barrowcliff Residents Association
  - Green Howards Drive and area residential forum
  - Castel Ward has a residents association
  - South Bay Traders Association
  - Weaponness Valley Community Group

- Scarborough Old Town Group
- 2.4.3 Below are the full comments on information about the groups suggested by respondents of this survey:
  - I suggest that the 'councils' which look after Selby, Ripon, Northallerton, Skipton, Thirsk and possibly Easingwold.
  - Scarborough Civic Society member.
  - Aware but don't have any formal contact.
  - Barrowcliff residents association could feed into North Yorkshire Local Authority plans for Scarborough and I am sure there are other local residents associations who could do the same and would involve limited costs compared to the proposal of setting up a local council...
  - The new council proposes community networks, these will not be an alternative to a
    parish council but would provide some local accountability and opportunities for a strong
    local voice without the bureaucracy and costs associated with another layer of local
    government.
  - These are not alternatives. They are not elected and accountable bodies.
  - What are our elected representatives at County for? Modern methods of communication provide for direct consultation with the electorate as in this instance! Time to evolve!
  - Barrowcliff association
  - Council tax
  - Green Howards Drive and area residential forum
  - Local churches with coffee outlets gather the community together and may take on extra responsibilities, so too the new community centre on South Cliff, plus the Gardens support association.
  - Neighbourhood forum. Know it exists, don't know anything else about it
  - Castel Ward has a residents association
  - I am aware of organizations such as the South Bay Traders Association and the Castle Ward forum but none of these cover the entire area of the proposed Scarborough Town Council. The STC might consider having a formal consulting relationship with these more specialised organizations.
  - No comment
  - Weaponness valley community group, various friends groups, etc.
  - Councillor Janet Jefferson ran an effective Castle Ward Residents' Association before the
    pandemic, which brought people together and liaised with the Council and local police.
    She also produced and delivered an informative newsletter. It would be good to see this
    initiative continue, although within a supportive framework that does not place the
    burden on just one individual.
  - The present Barrowcliff Residents Association covers the area designated as Barrowcliff
    which also includes parts of the Woodlands area. Unfortunately, although the volunteers
    of the association give lots of time and effort and are supported by the SBC I do not think
    they are in a position to be a parish council without more input from the Barrowcliff
    residents which to date has not been much in evidence.
  - existing Castle Ward neighbourhood group
  - Barrowcliff Residents' Association funding from Beyond Housing (previously Yorkshire Coast Homes) when the council houses were sold off. There is input from local SBC councillors but not sure there is enough expertise on the ground to be able to run in the way parish Councils do with their access to a parish Clerk

- Castle Ward Residents Association
- Citizens of Scarborough United as a town
- Scarborough old town group
- There are a range of voluntary organisations and emerging consultative / engagement vehicles which empower and support community voice and confidence
- •
- Barrowcliff Residents a newsletter comes through the door. I would imagine there would be a cross over.
- X
- I am aware that current local structures are not representative of the growing, more diverse population of the town. Louder voices in the area seem to represent older or more traditional (pejorative) views and are less dynamic than I believe is needed for growth and improvement.
- Friends of South Cliff Gardens to name but one....
- Gallows community centre covering Briarcliff area? Not sure it fully qualifies for what you
  are referring to but seems to be an active group
- South Cliff Community Group. This has now closed down
- Although I am aware of the local residents association I do not think it can serve the community instead of a parish council. It doesn't have any authority or budget. It can only be a pressure group.
- Castle Ward Community and Police Group, Castle Ward Tenants and Residents Association. However Scarborough needs whole town representation through a proper town council to be a cohesive force for good.
- Castle Ward Tenants and Residents Group Castle Community and Police Group
- informal grassroots interactions and we know which councillors to contact if needs be
- Neighbourhood Watch group for Weaponness and Ramshill.
- Know there is a neighbourhood group for Scarborough Old Town
- Friends of South Cliff Gardens, Friends of Valley Gardens have little legal standing, but do represent communities and commitments - and involve citizens in active support and real work not just for their area but for the whole of Scarborough

# Appendix A – Representations from community organisations and other types of respondents.

Below are details of a community organisation in Scarborough:

Sidewalk Youth Project

#### Below are details of other types of respondents:

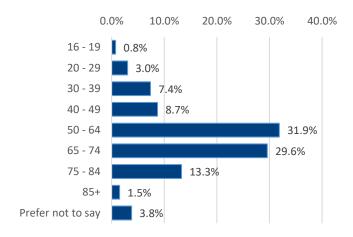
- visit often
- Have a second home on Valley Road but main residence is out of area
- YO186TD
- Second home
- I live in Scarborough (YO12 7TR) and also run my business from that address
- Live in neighbouring area
- I live in Sleights and own holiday accommodation in Whitby
- I visit Scarborough on a frequent basis and I am considering living there
- I have a second property in Scarborough which I use as a family holiday home, and so pay the full council tax
- Newby
- (emailed response)

# Appendix B – Equalities Monitoring

# **Age Group**

The majority of respondents are aged 50-64 with 31.9%

	No.	%
16 - 19	4	0.8%
20 - 29	16	3.0%
30 - 39	39	7.4%
40 - 49	46	8.7%
50 - 64	168	31.9%
65 - 74	156	29.6%
75 - 84	70	13.3%
85+	8	1.5%
Prefer not to say	20	3.8%



# Disability

The majority of respondents do not have a disability with 79.5%

	No.	%
Yes	60	12.0%
No	396	79.5%
Prefer not to say	42	8.4%

