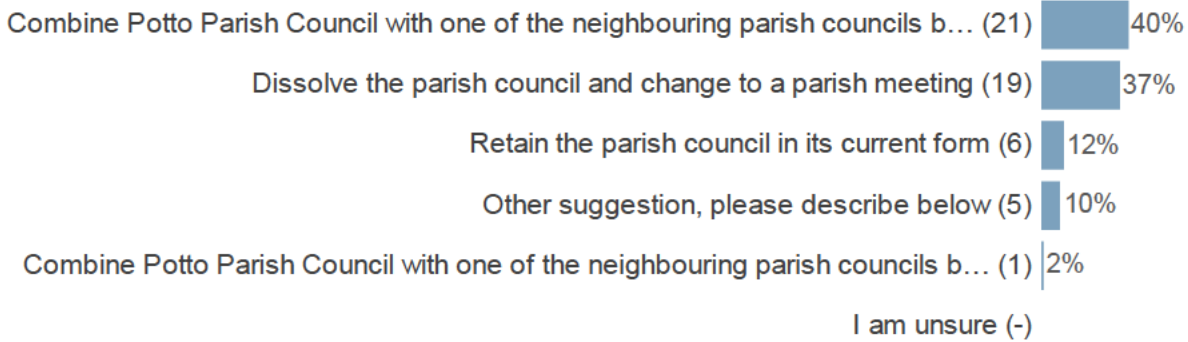




## Which of the following would be your preferred option?



Form a new Parish Council with all new members baring all the existing councilors from standing again  
 Ideally we retain in current form but moving to a Parish Meeting I am not against as we are a small Parish and the demands on volunteers have become excessive especially over the last couple of years due to unwarranted and unfounded challenges on people on the. Council who are doing their absolute best for the Parish. I do wonder if that had not occurred would this proposal have even been put forward ?

Mandate a two year maximum term for Parish Council Chairperson & for Parish Clerk compulsory training. Villagers should be balloted anonymously to vote for councilors when re-election is proposed or when a new councilor is proposed.

retain parish council with new clerk and chairman and run parish council properly.

retain parish council but run effectively. remove current chair, counsellors and clerk. adhere to audit recommendations and provide transparency of decision making.

## Which of the following parish councils would you like to see Potto combined with?



## Please tell us why you chose this option?

I think this is the right way to proceed. Potto Parish Council has worked adequately well for a long time and changing the present situation would be of no benefit to the members of the Potto parish whatsoever.

We fought hard to obtain our own Parish council and it is a disgrace the existing parish councilors have made of running it being dubbed THE WORST PARISH COUNCIL IN ENGLAND. I would like to form a new council with elected members baring all existing councilors. [redacted] years ago [redacted] there were never any problems and everybody seemed very happy with the way it was run. It can be a good council again given the chance.

This hamlet is more in line with Whorlton. We would only want this option however if Potto had representation.

As noted above

Reduced cost and administration

Reduce costs and administration

Cost saving

Cost saving

## Please tell us why you chose this option?

Local Parish Chairpersons in position over many years inherently risk demonstrating a resistance to being challenged & can create a lack of accountability, [REDACTED]. This is particularly well documented in several investigative press articles about Potto Parish Council by an independent journalist. <https://nyenquirer.uk/potto-bailiff-fodder> I find it remarkable that NYC has not taken remedial action given this protracted situation.

Parish Council is doing a good job with footpaths, keeping village near and tidy.

Happy with the way parish council is run. Open and honest in dealings with the community

I consider Potto is too small a community to require a Parish Council. Changing to a Parish Meeting will be more efficient and cost effective for our Village needs. It will still give all residents an opportunity to voice their opinions or concerns regarding Village matters. The Parish Meeting will also concentrate on Potto only. Potto does not need to amalgamate with other neighbouring Villages, which could deflect attention from issues that only affect Potto Residents.

I have no objection to our present Parish Council, which has been run effectively for many years and whose members should be congratulated for carrying on under such difficult circumstances, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Because of this the PC has been forced to incur massive audit fees many more times greater than the annual parish precept. This is wrong and unjust. However, if by changing from a Parish Council to a Parish Meeting we can be relieved of this burden then I am in favour of doing so

I chose this grouped option because it will get rid of the awful Potto Parish Council, keep the Parish name, and keep a Parish council presence in Potto parish. To group with Hutton Rudby Council seems best, Swainby Council is too small. Potto is far too big for a Parish Meeting. This is the very worst option, as it would let the same [REDACTED] rule the roost but with less accountability.

I am very happy with the professionalism and dedication of the current council.

We have lived in Potto for over 20 years and have been active in supporting the work of the parish council. We are very appreciative of the work that the council have done but feel that we are a small parish and does not warrant the full level of bureaucracy in particular the time and expense spent on formalities such as the annual governance and audit reviews. We would however like to know how the parish meeting would be constituted and whether the annual precept would be affected and how expenditure would be administered .

I consider I understand why the PCC have made this application. That is to relatively reduce the formality of the governance environment of a parish council and to reduce the opportunities for largely irrelevant objections from members of the public as to how matters are dealt with in the Parish Council and indeed personal sniping at those involved in the activities of the Council. I do not consider that the transfer of the council to a meeting will reduce these adverse interactions between objectors and those charged with the governance of the parish. It is possible that because of the reduction in formality that the abuse of the public's right to question and object and also the ability of those involved in governance to reply to those objections will in fact get worse. The transfer to an adjacent Parish Council with the retention of say two councillors with representation for Potto will dilute the scope for the up to present continued largely irrelevant objections and personal sniping will be significantly reduced, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It would be important that representation of Potto comes from its "senior" parish councillors in the early years which would give Potto a proper voice in the new enlarged Parish, recognising that this may still provide the objector with some traction but which should soon be reduced to negligible influence by the demonstration of independent oversight by the greater parish organisation. Less objections [REDACTED] will benefit the members of Potto Parish by a reduction in external audit fees and any such fees arising in the early years will be spread over a larger parish.

## Please tell us why you chose this option?

There has never been a Potto Parish Council election since I moved into the village 23yrs ago. Allegedly there has never been enough members of the electorate coming forward to trigger an election. The Council survives by mysteriously finding someone to co-opt. This is perfectly legal within the existing rules, but over a long period of time muddies the transparency and democracy. All the councillors are unelected or not re-elected by the electorate. What the above does is to indicate the lack of appetite for a parish council and is a good reason for the dissolving of said council and having a change of governance.

All complaints have to be investigated often by professional outside sources costing the residents of Potto THOUSANDS of pounds via the council tax. The only way to stop this for good is to dissolve the parish council and move to parish meeting means of governance. I believe said arrangement could easily deal with any day to day business in this small parish and would be more cost efficient and transparent thus allowing all of the electorate equal say and not be represented by unelected persons. In one final point I would like to say that I believe the County Council has a moral duty to reduce costs.

Potto is a very small community and I don't believe it needs the time and resources allocated to a Parish Council. I do not believe it is necessary to amalgamate with other Parish Councils. The current Parish Council have always worked hard for the community and have suffered completely unwarranted and unfair criticism which costs everyone a lot of time and money.

I want to keep the parish of Potto.

Grouping will retain the Potto Parish name. A Parish meeting would be a disaster.

Potto Parish Council is a small parish council and others surrounding us are monitored by Parish Meetings, Seamer, Whorlton & Crathorne. We feel that a Parish Meeting would be better suited to meet the needs of our community..

If I understand it properly a group council keeps the name of Potto parish, gets rid of the terrible people on Potto council and if we group with Hutton Rudby we get the benefits of a much bigger council. Win Win Win

Lets keep Potto CP

My experience shows a grouped council can work well.

There is a baseline cost and workload of running any small council properly and this makes tiny councils unviable. Grouping with a bigger and better council next door is the best value for money option which will also regain the democratic process.

The council does an excellent job for Potto. Especially good work on rights of way, entertainment and the parish hall.

The parish council works very well for Potto, all members are approachable and I feel they work for the best outcome for the village. The village is well informed about the affairs being dealt with. I most certainly would like Potto parish council to stay as it is.

A grouped council means the Potto council records will still be needed and must be kept safe.

I have read into this and think that group council with Hutton Rudby is best. We get a decent and bigger council without the on Potto council.

Hutton Rudby Council has some neighbouring Parish Councils in its group. Potto should join them.

I am no expert, but having read the guidance on your website, a grouped council seems easily the best choice.

I am concerned there is bias within the Parish Council resulting in the Parish Council not truly representing the views of local residents.

I cannot understand why a Parish meeting is even on the option list. It's ridiculous.

## Please tell us why you chose this option?

It's the option recommended by those currently elected and most familiar with the challenges of the council. It should reduce overall costs and administration. Hopefully it will end the continual personal bickering and addition audit costs [REDACTED]

To create a simpler arrangement but retain the involvement of local interested residents.

Too much time spent dealing with complaints and not dealing with community issues

to retain the parish of Potto

The audit fees are very high because Porto council is so badly run. I read a news article where is said POTTO was the worst little council in England. Shocking !

Simpler management of matters that effect residents

We need to get rid of the [REDACTED] people in Potto council and group with Hutton parish council. Whorlton council has infighting so would not be a good option.

It is important that Potto can have an effective method to discuss and action parish affairs, without the additional beurocracy requirements of a parish council.

Hopefully changes enough for ongoing disputes to stop Do not think merging is a good thing

In support of our current Council

parish council has been run ineffectively for years with a 'old boys' network. If ran to proper guidelines, as like swainby or hutton rudby, it could be effective.

in my experience this is the best option

To let the villagers have more of a say and to save some money

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

No. [REDACTED]

As previously stated, I personally want to keep a Parish council in Potto.

Your letter was the first time we heard of the proposed changes and didn't know there was an issue.

Only that those on the Parish Council do a fantastic job for the Parish and residents of Potto and I hope they continue to do so whatever the outcome

There does seem to be a lot of money and time being wasted in the various reviews of our parish council

We are very grateful to the present Parish Council for their service to date. They have always served the Residents well and I especially praise their perseverance in coping with particular incessant and, I believe, totally unwarranted complaints which resulted in excessive Auditors fees. The formation of a Parish Meeting forum will prevent such costs being sustained in the future by the Residents of Potto.

I think if there had been fair elections in Potto, the ruling gang would have been banished and the Parish Council could have been run properly [REDACTED]. This CGR could have been avoided then.

Would there be an open forum to discuss the community governance review.

I consider that the most appropriate parish with which to merge is Hutton Rudby. I have followed this PC over a number of years and they seem most capable and organised as compared with Whorlton PC.

We must get rid of the current chair and clerk at all costs The council is not being run correctly at the expense of the parishioners.

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

As a retired [REDACTED] it is clear to me that Potto Council has failed as a result of the abysmal way it has been managed and led,

I don't care what else you do, but get rid of these councillors. There hasn't been an election ballot for parish councillors for decades. This can't be right. This CGR is the nearest option we have to get rid of the [REDACTED] on Potto council.

They spent £67.89 on Christmas Cards last year [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

According to the latest accounts, they had income of £8,500 and only spent £17 on some salt scoops for the parish – the rest was wasted on overheads. OBSCENE

No good reason to change the current system

I am grateful to North Yorks Council for identifying the huge problems we have experienced in Potto under such a dysfunctional parish council. We look forward to this review being implemented.

Things must change here

Why did it take them a decade to put the white flag up?

No

Anything but a parish meeting

No

no

No

N/a