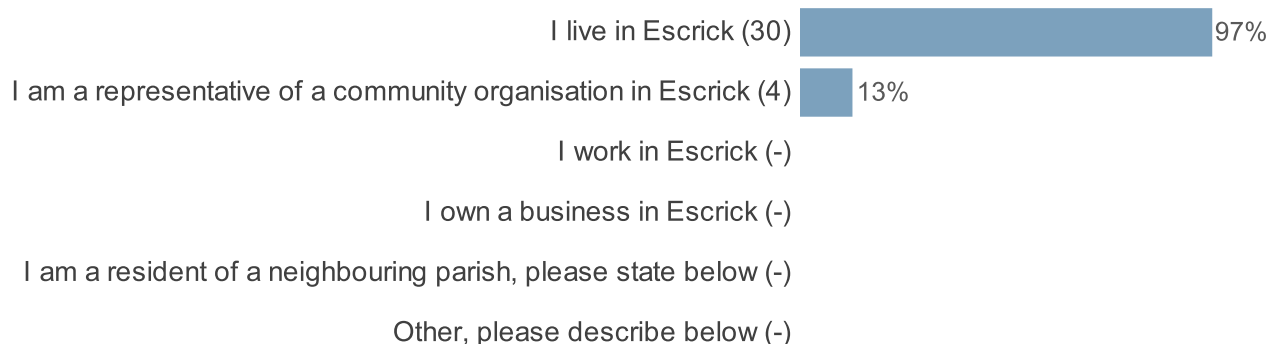


2025-26 CGR - Escrick

This report was generated on 23/12/25. Overall 31 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'. A total of 31 cases fall into this category.

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

Please tick which best describes you:



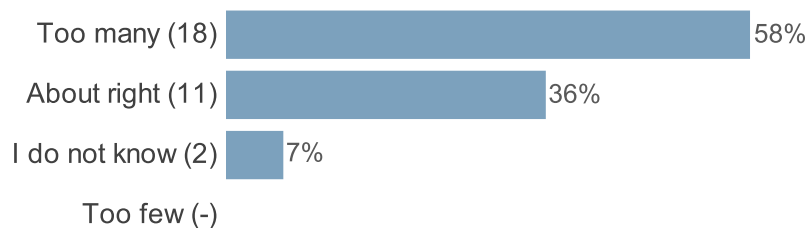
Please state the first part of your postcode:
(for example YO21)

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | yo19 | YO19 | yo19 | YO19 | YO19 | Yo19 |
| Yo19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 | YO19 |
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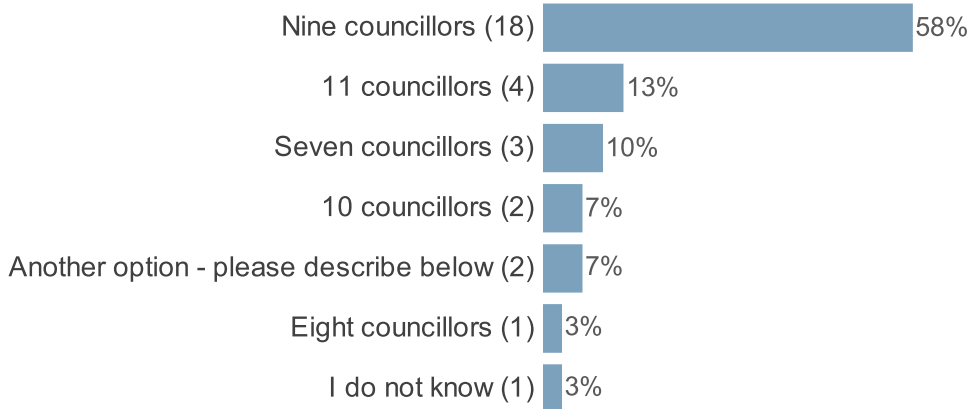
Are you aware that Escrick Parish Council has had difficulty finding residents to stand as parish councillors and is currently holding several vacant seats?



What is your opinion of the current number of parish councillors (11)?



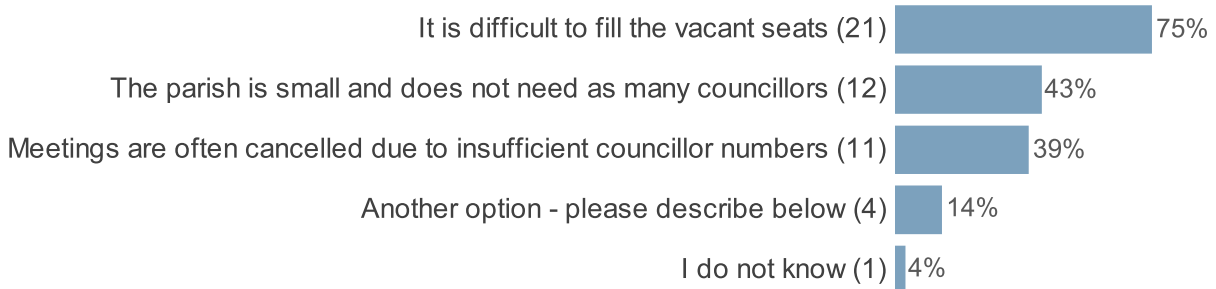
Which of the following would be your preferred option?



The Parish Council meetings are really boring. I have considered joining but there is little democracy and the general public views seem to rarely be of interest to the Parish Councillors.

12

If relevant, what are your reasons for supporting a reduction in the number of councillors?



[REDACTED]

Parish Councillors seem to rely upon their own opinions. I feel they do not consult the villagers. I understand they work hard but it is within a very narrow remit and are rarely democratic. I have attended some meetings but frankly am disappointed despite admiring and liking the actual Parish Councillors who do seem dedicated to the village, just not the opinions of villagers. This does happen in villages and the experienced PCs become 'gatekeepers' although they do not recognise this and continue to work in their own way. They do not even meet in the Village Hall or local Club. We should all try to support local voluntary run venues. I wonder if the Parish Council is really necessary? What would happen if we did not have a Parish Council? Although Escrick needs volunteers and people contributing to democratic social capital. Perhaps we need some good Community Development from the NYCC?

I'm Chairman of Escrick Parish Council. At the last election we only had 5 people stand to be Councillors which meant we lost our General Powers of Competence, meaning we have had limited powers of expenditure. We have tried many things to improve the Councillor numbers since the last election, we are up to 8 Councillors after one person joined last month, but after the 2027 election we want to be in a position where we can spend significant money on problem areas that were identified in surveys carried out for our NDP process, plus resident requests received since. Areas like illuminating the north bound bus shelter, difficult and expensive due to the power supply being the other side of the A19 & with tree coverage a solar powered light would not work. The location is actually in Deighton PC area. Hence the only power of expenditure we can use is S137 which is limited to £8480.40 pa at the moment - based on the current rate of £11.10 per number of electors, which stands at 764.

I am aware that Escrick Parish Council is struggling to secure volunteers and by reducing the councillors from 11 to 9 will help with all aspects of running the pc and meeting expenditure limitations.

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

The parish council needs more support / training. They're pretty out of touch with the village, and don't represent the villagers' concerns beyond their own narrow interests. Hence the low number of people locally who don't want to get involved. And, more widely, Escrick parish is becoming a dormitory village, where people aspire to live because of schools catchment - villagers who really haven't time for village life and village affairs.

The PC members and clerk do a splendid job but the appointment and retention of new members has been a problem for some years.

The revised quorum of 3 councillors is insufficient to make valid decisions. It would be controlled by too small a minority. The Parish Council need to make their work and councillors more attractive for people to contribute to and join. It needs a real mix of people and ages and interests to make fair and valid decisions for the majority and to be truly inclusive.

There is little 'community' to govern. Communication about village issues is through the Parish Magazine. Any group activity is accessed by 'joining' an organisation. There is no 'centre' to the village other than the church, accessed by crossing the dangerous A19. There is not even a Post Office as a hub. I have considered becoming a parish councillor but wonder what puts other people off.

Community engagement is getting more and more difficult to obtain in many areas of the community. If reducing the number of councillors enables the Parish Council to be quorate and make the necessary decisions easier, than that is obvious answer. In the future, maybe merging with another parish (e.g. Deighton (YCC) or Stillingfleet) would be an even better solution.

No thanks

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

A smaller number of councillors at a meeting are more effective in decision making. Escrick is tiny and the budget is around £20 000p/a. I have wanted to be of service as a councillor but work away from the parish for months at a time. I have been a councillor of a town with nearly M1 inhabitants and there were only nine councillors. Must be very frustrating for the existing parish council to try conduct business with no quorum. I advocate seven (7) councillors.

The Parish Council has no longer got General Power of Competence and has a limited number of powers to make financial decisions due to not having the required number of councillors at the last election. The criteria being that at the precise moment that the council resolves that it meets the criteria, the number of councillors elected at the last ordinary election, or at a subsequent by-election, must equal or exceed two thirds of its total number of councillors. As only 5 councillors were elected at the last election they no longer meet the criteria. New councillors have been co-opted since but this have never exceeded 8 at any one time. At most meetings apologies are received from at least 1-2 councillors at present due to work commitments.

I would like to be clear that I admire all the Parish Councillors and indeed all who get involved in community organisations. This is a very hard and sometimes unrewarding way to spend time. However, they do not seem to welcome the views of the community. No one is going to come forward to be a Parish Councillor until the process of encouraging and welcoming new people. It takes a lot of time and hard work to encourage people. It is easier to just make decisions, however the best way to lead to better democracy and decision making is by involvement. I think parishes like Escrick should consider what would happen if there was no parish council? Would it save the precept? If new councillors cannot be found it proves that democracy isn't working and we really need to question whether reducing the number to make it quorate would make things better or just easier? How about a youth council? I am sorry about my views which sound very negative because I really believe that participation in the governing of the Parish is vital to our wellbeing.

It seems that attendance of the current councillors needs to be addressed first. If there are seven councillors in position and not even four can turn up to meetings then that seems a problem. I think reducing the number to nine and allowing three to be the required number for a meeting may allow key decisions to be passed without due consideration from the whole parish council

Escrick parish council currently very effective and communicates on matters of interest to the village very well Problem with numbers is not new and for a number of years despite the councils efforts people are reluctant to get involved. This could be due to age profile of residents

The letter we received was unclear as to what was proposed. Also, we were unable to find the survey online.

In the past there used to be sufficient Parish Councillors; indeed I can even recall an election having to take place, so the issues around recruitment potentially seem to relate to [REDACTED] Having a quorum of just three councillors feels very low and undemocratic.

No. I am supporting the reduction of seats.

This is not about limiting involvement or concentrating power into a smaller group, it is about having the flexibility to not chase up people to be at meetings or we will have to cancel them & to be able to spend the money we have accrued for the good of the community on key issues that they have identified /complained about by residents.

The parish council should be encouraged to support local issues and not have their decisions considered to be academic by higher government.

Our Parish Council is excellent and works really hard. Neither of us are in a position to stand for election, but we recognise the ongoing difficulties of finding people willing to take on the these duties. This is a relatively small parish and the business of Parish Council work should not be hampered by continuing problems of seeking new individuals for election.

I would repeat the above response - I am aware that Escrick Parish Council is struggling to secure volunteers and by reducing the councillors from 11 to 9 will help with all aspects of running the pc and meeting expenditure limitations.