

CLlr Felicity Cunliffe-Lister Parish Report Littlethorpe : September 24

Highways

I have discussed Pottery Lane with Area 6 and advised that the PC is not satisfied with the standard of the road surface.

I have been to meet Area 6 recently to raise with them general levels of concern about response rates and I am assured that there is a new system in place that will monitor issues more closely to help reduce delays. I have suggested that I convene a meeting for all PC Clerks in the ward to attend/zoom and ask Area 6 to join to address common issues, and explain policy and budget limits. I will send a poll to Clerks to establish the best day/time for this (during a week in October).

Annual Canvas

This is currently taking place. It is a statutory requirement of NYC, in order to keep the electoral role up to date. Residents are urged to reply electronically if possible, in order to reduce administration costs.

Community Partnership (Ripon)

The inaugural meeting of the Uredale Community Partnership was held on 25th July at 9.30am in Ripon Town Hall. It brought together public, private, community and voluntary sectors, the overall objective being to influence the decisions and service delivery of the council and other bodies. As this is a pilot we have a free hand to design how we work together, but the first step is to identify local issues and priorities. Representatives from Masham Community Office and Kirkby Malzeard, a Clerk representing several other parishes and a rural mental health charity attended. I am on the Steering Committee so will continue to report back on progress.

Connectivity

Now that the Phase 4 NYNet works have completed, we are now in the Gigabit phase of delivery. I am continuing to chase Robert Ling for an update with a view to holding another public meeting once there is clarity on which premises qualify. He has confirmed that the contractors, Quickline, have been appointed. I have asked him to update me on the contract once he has this to hand.

Council Meeting & Executive Decisions

A boundary review for County Councillors is due to be reviewed by the Boundary Commission. This is required where there is electoral imbalance. It is proposed that the number of Councillors should drop from 90 to 89 to fall into line with the national average. I have concerns that rural wards, with low populations but very

large geographical areas, do not get any bigger as they already have a disproportionate number of Parish Councils compared with town wards. I understand that a presentation has been made to the Parishes recently to explain the procedure.

As a cost cutting measure, financial support for Home to School transport has been withdrawn for all schools other than the school closest to home. There are a number of exceptions to this, such for low income families where support will continue. This has created difficulties for many families locally.

Destination Management Plan

I await the draft and will report on this when it has reached me, this has been delayed again and is not due for sign off until the summer. There is currently a temporary website in place for the region which will not be replaced until early '25, I have raised a question with the Executive as to the timeline for progress and had assurances that it is on track.

Locality Budget

I have been approached by several organisations for financial support, but there is still some funding available. I have set out below the guidelines for how this can be awarded in case there are any Littlethorpe organisations that would like to apply.

Planning

I am not aware of any current planning issues

Funding

The July issue of the Rural Funding Digest has been issued and I thought this link might be helpful for anyone looking for funding : [Rural Funding Digest - July 2024 - Rural Services Network \(rsnonline.org.uk\)](#)

Let's Talk Food

The results of one of the Let's Talk surveys – Let's Talk Food – and full report are now available here : <http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/letstalkny>.

Let's Talk Rubbish

Residents are being asked to share their views about rubbish and recycling as part of a major new public engagement campaign aimed at reducing waste and protecting the environment in North Yorkshire. Responses to the Let's Talk Rubbish survey will help North Yorkshire Council to understand residents' behaviours and shape future improvements to its collection service.

Across the county, about 310,000 tonnes of household waste is collected each year from more than 300,000 properties. About 45 per cent of this is reused, recycled, or composted.

The formation of North Yorkshire Council brought together seven different ways of collecting household waste and recycling, which was the role of the district and borough councils. By looking at the existing service, the council is striving to be more efficient and cost-effective by encouraging residents to reduce household waste and increase recycling, as well as ensuring everyone receives the same, regardless of where they live.

Through Let's Talk Rubbish, the council is consulting on the proposal to provide households with two wheelie bins for recycling – one for glass, cans and plastic, and one for paper and card, with alternate fortnightly collections.

A key aim is to reduce contamination and collect better quality material at the kerbside, which is improved when residents are able to separate recyclable material. When paper or card is mixed with plastic or glass, or exposed to the elements, it can become wet and lower the resale value. However, by keeping these items separate, it means they are worth more to recycling manufacturers.

Two wheelie bins would also provide residents with maximum capacity to recycle as much material as they can, as well as reduce any material being scattered on the street from either the wind or wildlife on collection day. The collection of non-recyclable rubbish will remain the same as it is now, and residents can also opt-in for garden waste collections. As with current collections, alternative methods would also still be used for properties where storage or access is limited.

To take part in the survey, visit www.northyorks.gov.uk/LetsTalk

Feedback can also be provided in the following ways:

Pick up a paper copy of the survey from a local library or main local office and return it in the envelope provided.

Contact North Yorkshire Council by calling 0300 131 2 131 - when prompted say 'Let's Talk'.

Email LetsTalk@northyorks.gov.uk.

The survey closes on 16th September 2024.

North Yorkshire Council Locality Budgets scheme 2024/25

1. Each Councillor can recommend the allocation of funding to support specific projects or activities that directly promote the social, economic or environmental wellbeing of the communities within their Division. Projects and activities must be lawful and not undermine the Council's or a partner's priorities or service delivery.
2. Councillors are encouraged to consider how their recommendations can best be used to lever in additional funding, volunteers and community engagement - multiplying the overall impact.
3. Funding will not be awarded for 100% of the cost of a project or activity undertaken or managed by an external organisation. Councillors are required to round down to the nearest £10.
4. Projects and activities can include services provided by North Yorkshire Council provided that these are additional to normal service levels and do not create an ongoing expenditure commitment for the Council. Councillors must discuss and agree these with the relevant service manager before submitting a recommendation form.
5. Funding cannot be awarded in respect of:
 - projects or activities that will only benefit an individual or an individual family or a private business;
 - political parties or trade unions or employers' associations or groups affiliated with any of these;
 - lobbying or lobbying organisations;
 - projects or activities that seek to promote a faith or belief as their main purpose;
 - projects or activities that are contrary to the Council's equality, diversity and inclusion policy; or
 - organisations which actively or vocally oppose fundamental British values.
6. Each Councillor has a budget allocation of £10,000 per financial year. Budget allocations cannot be moved between financial years. The minimum funding which can be recommended for a project or activity is £300 and the maximum is £5,000. Two or more Councillors can recommend funding for a single project or activity, but the maximum total funding from the overall Locality Budget scheme for any project or activity in a financial year is £5,000.

7. Recommendations must be made by Councillors using the Flexi-Grant online form.
8. Councillors must declare on the recommendation form all relevant pecuniary and personal interests including membership or other connections with the organisations that will benefit from or manage the funding.
9. If the Monitoring Officer has concerns about any recommendation, this will be raised with the relevant Councillor.
10. All recommendations will be considered by the Executive Member for Corporate Services (or in their temporary absence, the Leader), who will make a decision taking into account the information received and the recommendation of the relevant Councillor.
11. If the Executive Member for Corporate Services has made a recommendation or has a relevant pecuniary or personal interest in a recommendation, they will not make a decision, but will refer the matter for determination by the Leader.
12. The Locality Budgets business support officer will notify the Councillor of the decision taken by the Executive Member.
13. Information about the scheme and all awards will be published on the Council's website. Documents associated with the scheme (eg recommendations and monitoring forms) are not exempt from disclosure under FOI legislation.
14. All recommendations made by a Councillor and all decisions by the Executive Member will be made in accordance with the principles of decision making set out in the Council's Constitution.
15. Councillors can make recommendations from Monday 13 May 2024. No recommendations from Councillors will be accepted after midnight Friday 31 January 2025. No recommendations or decisions will be made if any part of the relevant Division is covered by a pre-election period linked to elections or by-elections to the Council, parish or town council or parliament (ie the period between the day the notice of election is published and the final election results; normally six weeks).

16. Funding will not be awarded for projects or activities that have already been completed or for expenditure that has already been incurred.
17. If funding is awarded for a project or activity to be undertaken or managed by an external organisation, the funding must be managed by a parish council or a voluntary or community organisation. The Council will only offer a grant to the external organisation if it has an organisational bank account and agrees to:
 - provide the Council with a statement of how the funding has been spent and how it has benefited the local community;
 - allow the Council reasonable access to all records relating to the funding for at least four years after the funding has been awarded;
 - meet all relevant legislative requirements;
 - spend the funding within 12 months of it having been awarded;
 - repay to the Council all unspent funding within 13 months of it being awarded; and
 - acknowledge receipt of a grant from the Council in all publicity relating to the project or activity and in their annual accounts and report.
18. If an external organisation does not accept the offer of a grant within three calendar months of the offer being made, the offer will lapse and cannot be renewed without a new recommendation being made by a Councillor.
19. All projects and activities awarded funding will be sent a monitoring form which must be completed and returned with appropriate supporting evidence (eg copies of quotes and receipts for expenditure, photographs and project reports) to the Locality Budgets business support officer at County Hall within twelve months of the funding being awarded. A copy of completed monitoring forms will be provided to the relevant Councillor by the Locality Budgets business support officer.
20. If a satisfactorily completed monitoring form and appropriate supporting evidence are not submitted within 12 months of the funding being issued, a request will be made for all the funding to be repaid within one month.
21. Organisations that have not returned satisfactorily completed monitoring forms and appropriate supporting evidence will not be eligible for future funding.

22. All concerns will be dealt with in accordance with standard Council procedures relating to suspected fraud or financial irregularity.

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