

Monthly Update – December 2022

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

An apology for absence has been received from Councillor Langthorne.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15TH NOVEMBER 2022.

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th November 2022.

3. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

6th November to 7th December 2022 –

Crime Type	
Anti-Social Behaviour	2 Reports
Total	2 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	1 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	0 Reports
Criminal Damage	4 Reports
Theft (inc Theft from Shop)	1 Reports
Violence against the person	5 Reports
Other crimes inc Drugs	1 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	0 Reports
Total	12 reports

Information requested by Councillors at the last Council meeting –

Crimes recorded on the UK Crime Statistics site - 12 months to September 2022 (the site operates 2 months behind actual)

In order – number of crimes -

Danes Crest Estate - 49

The Hiltons (including Fernwood) - 41

Winton Road - 18 (unsure what this area covers)

Northallerton Road - 13

Cockpit Hill - 12

Lodge Lane - 9

Orchard Grove - 9

Lead Lane - 8

Corber Hill - 6

The Green - 5

Fullicar Lane - 5

Little Lane - 5

BRA Field - 5

Linen Way - 5

Church View - 4

Banks Road - 3

Vikings Court - 3

The Green - 2

De Gaunt/De Bruce Road - 2

Brompton Lane - 1

Station Road - 1

Cotswold Street - 1

Mill Hill Close - 1

Types of crimes -

Violence and Public Order - 86

ASB - 69

Criminal Damage + Arson - 40

Burglary - 6

Theft - 5

Other – 3

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

- (i) Christmas Tree.

The Christmas tree purchased from Sam Turners was erected on Church Green on the first weekend in December.

- (ii) Additional VAS post.

Having inspected the site with Clerk NY Highways are liaising with Swarco regarding the best place to install the additional post for the VAS sign opposite the Rugby Club.

- (iii) Tree Condition Survey.

A survey of the condition of the trees around the village is currently being carried out by Smeedem Foreman of Knaresborough.

(iv) Survey of Church Boundary Wall.

The survey of the Church boundary wall has recently been received from Civil and Structural Consultants Ltd. The surveys identifies necessary works to the wall in three categories – High, Medium and low.

(v) Flood Alleviation.

The Chairman and Clerk met with Coxons of Exelby on the 18th November who are to draw up a maintenance programme for the beck in order to alleviate future flooding issues. This will include digging out of the overflow channel in respect of which they will remove and take away the surplus soil and restore the surface.

Also advise on the works required to repair the leaky dams and submit details for the digging out of another flood water overflow pond to take a capacity of 200cu m of floodwater.

They have advised that re-profiling of the beck is not a viable proposition when considered against another overflow pond. Costs of re-profiling could be around £3m with little gain.

They have also advised against any de-silting works at the first road bridge as any benefit would be extremely limited and costly.

The digging out of the overflow channel is to take place in the Spring so that the Green recovers which it would not do it done in the winter months.

(v) 20's Plenty Campaign.

A "Photo Shoot" including residents, children and dogs took place on Saturday 10th December around the banner at the Brompton end of the Northallerton Road Cycle Path. A Press Release is being sent to the Darlington & Stockton Times for publication in the 16 December edition.

(iv) Bulb Planting.

The remainder of the bulb planting on Lead Lane etc has been carried out by The Chairman and Vice-Chairman and Councillor Briggshaw. In addition the 1,000 bulbs for Thurston Park have now been planted against residents fences instead of on the green areas.

5. CHAIRMAN'S/VICE-CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS.

To be reported to the meeting.

6. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

(i) Finance Group.

To be reported to meeting – The Finance Group is to meet on the 13th December.

(ii) Middle Bridge.

To be reported to meeting.

(vi) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

Highways & Road Safety (H&RS) Working Group

Zoom Meeting at 7.30pm dated 05 December 2022

Present: Robert Carter (RC), Jason Hazelwood (JH), Emily White (EW).

Apologies: None.

Item	Details	Actions
1.	Matters Arising: There were none.	
2.	20s Plenty Campaign: A "Photo Shoot" would take place a 0900 on Sat 10 Dec around the banner to be placed at the Brompton end of the Northallerton Road Cycle Path. A Press Release would then be sent to Janet Gleeson at the D&S for publication in the 15 Dec 22 edition of D&S.	All RC
3.	Brompton Village Sign: This was not a Group responsibility until such time as the position and design of the sign had been agreed by the full Council	
4.	Cockpit Hill Car Park: This could not be progressed until the "Garden Licence" for the sub station had been issued by NPG and a quote received from Snowball's, the contractors, for surfacing	
5.	Cycle Paths: RC & JH attended the meeting of the Pedestrian/Cycleway Joint NTC/BTC Working Group held in the Northallerton Town Hall on Tuesday 15 Nov 22. We are awaiting confirmation as to whether a confidential NYCC Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) Phase 2 could be released to all the members of the group	
6.	Danes Crest Crossing: No further progress can be made until the quote from Snowballs has been received	
7.	Three Horseshoes Visibility Issues: It was agreed that this needed further discussion in view of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planters would need to be big enough so that they could not be manhandled out of the way• If too big would be no different to a car parked in the space• Who would maintaining the plants?• They would look untidy if just placed without levelling the cobbles• The issue of parking behind yellow lines was still to be resolved• Darren Barrott, Road Safety Assistant, Area 6 Boroughbridge Office email dated 29 Nov 22 re yellow lines	
8.	VAS Sign: Awaiting erection of a second pole	
9.	Access to NYCC Highways Portal: Progress had been made but it was slow	RC
10.	AOB: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• White lining at junction of Fullicar Lane and Water End• White lining generally in the village need renewing	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The “heritage” status of cobbles had still yet to be resolved 	
11.	<p>Date of the next meeting:</p> <p>The sub cttee will meet be at 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month. The next meeting would be on 9 Jan 23</p>	All

(vii) Play Equipment/Adult Outdoor Gym Equipment Working Group.

Councillor Hazelwood is in the process of obtaining quotations from three providers of outdoor adult gym equipment..

(viii) Pedestrian/Cycleway Joint NTC/BTC Working Group.

The next meeting of the Joint Working Group is to be held in the New Year.

Brief notes from meeting held on 15th November 2022 –

It was reported that much more work had been carried out by the County Council on cycling routes around Northallerton than had been initially thought.

The Joint Working Group has viewed draft plans for connecting new cycle ways for -

Brompton to Northallerton
 Southeast Northallerton to the town centre
 South Northallerton to the town centre.

The plans are currently confidential however the County Council has been asked if they can be released to members of the Joint Working Group so that they can put their ideas together.

The Group has also decided that it wishes to meet with the Local Transport Officer to go through the plans with her.

It is also intended after that time to hold an event in the Town Hall for public consultation.

There will be a strong case for Government funding as the three Local Councils are on board together with County Councillor Dickinson. The larger the scheme the better is the chance of obtaining Government money.

The Local Transport Plan is currently under review and hopefully will be a positive means of promoting cycling and walking.

There will be a need to develop a Northallerton Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan in order to obtain Central Government funding.

(vi) Meeting with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

Members of the YLCA met with Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner on the Tuesday, 29th November.

Several concerns were raised with regard to the submission of monthly crime statistics to Councils.

Mike Walker, the Assistant Chief Constable pointed out that the reason that only figures were presented with regard to the various crime categories was due to Data Protection interests with the possibility that in rural areas if further details were given then these could identify victims.

Further concerns were expressed that the monthly figures provided to some Councils were two months out of date and a question was also raised as to how Councils could be

expected to help the Police when they did not have any information as to what the crime situation in a local area actually was other than some basic figures, with requests to receive additional information having been declined.

Mike Walker said that he could give no reason as to why the statistics would be out of date as his officers had up-to-date information and therefore the matter needed to be taken up with the local officers.

The Commissioner responded that hopefully if Councils contacted their local Policing team by email or through the website they would be able to talk over such matters, however one person pointed out that when they had requested further information they had been told to accept the figures or the Police would not bother sending them anymore.

The general feeling of the meeting was that it was a complete waste of time asking the Police to expand on crime situations in local areas.

Mike Walker added that he did not have the resources to spend more time providing further details on crime statistics.

He also said that it was not possible to provide information with regard to detection rates, however applications could be made in this respect by way of Freedom of Information requests.

As regards returning the holding cells back to Northallerton from Harrogate as Northallerton Town Council had recently been informed that taking offenders to be logged in at Harrogate took the time of two Police Officers and this could be anything up to 4 hours away from the town due to queues in the logging in process at peak periods. Mike Walker confirmed that the holding cells had been removed from Northallerton in September 2016 and a lot of mitigation had been put in to see that the duty staff was not depleted and that there were options of taking offenders to holding cells in Darlington and Middlesbrough as decked by the custody staff. He added that there was now a system whereby Officers from Harrogate met those from Northallerton halfway; this was information that had not been provided previously.

The system was also eased as over the past eight years there has been the option for voluntary attendees which operates in Northallerton, Richmond and Stokesley and which has led to fewer people being arrested. In addition the HM Inspectorate had raised no negative issues when it had looked into the custody arrangements.

Concerns were expressed as regards Police attendance at Council meetings which had over the years reduced from an Inspector, to a Police Sergeant, then to a Police Constable, then to a PCSO and currently to Police Volunteers. Mike Walker explained the difficulties of covering 731 Parishes across North Yorkshire and weighing this up against taken Police away from front-line duties.

The possibility of there being more Police visible on the ground was answered by saying that people didn't necessarily see the Police driving about and that Neighbourhood Policing would remain the bedrock of North Yorkshire Police who currently had the highest number of Police Officers that it had ever had.

There had recently been a substantial promotion to increase the numbers in the NY Force with several hundred additional Officers having been recruited in recent months and with the Force having this month added many more new Officers and having of 500 more Officers now than it had ever had previously. It takes three years to train up an Officer before they

could be signed off from their probationary period and they do not patrol until they have reached their 37th week of training.

Issues were raised with regard to the failings in the 101 system and the Commissioner was asked what she intended to do to resolve these problems.

The Commissioner agreed that the response times were nowhere near good enough and it was a matter on which she was completely focused and had added an extra £70,000 for extra call centre personnel and overtime payments.

Mike Walker added that this was his number one priority but that the situation had worsened due to the increased number of 999 calls being received which obviously took a priority over the 101 calls as much more Officer time was being spent dealing with 999 calls which should be done within 10 seconds but currently took 18 seconds to answer and therefore in doing so Officers were not able to answer the 101 calls. The use of different IT was being looked into and how the control room was set up, in addition to looking at different means of contacting the Police by providing a link on the North Yorkshire Police website to report low level local crimes and the possibility of introducing such as web chat and information by social media.

Mike Walker added however that he was sure that most people still wanted to contact the Police by telephone as there was a human voice providing care and compassion. Additional call centre staff were currently undergoing a 12 week training period and the aim was in the future to answer 80% of calls within two minutes as the current situation was unacceptable.

The Commissioner was asked if the North Yorkshire County Council new road safety policy had had a notable effect on the killed and seriously injured statistics and Mike Walker responded that partnership strategies had commenced this year and would extend until 2026, therefore it was too early to gauge what the effect of was, although it was thought that the KSI statistics would be reduced year-on-year.

The question was also asked as to whether North Yorkshire were still in the lowest quarter for KSI rates and the meeting was advised that the mean average for North Yorkshire per 10,000 was 4% whereas North Yorkshire was 5%, although York was lower.

The Commissioner was asked how she would challenge the lack of compliance with road speed limit enforcement and she responded that she did not have the statutory powers to hold others to account other than to work in partnership and that her role was to scrutinise the Chief Constable for delivery of service.

The Commissioner was also asked if she supported 20 mph speed limits outside schools and where should the cut-off points be for those limits. The Commissioner responded that it was not for the Police to set the limits but for North Yorkshire County Council as the Highway Authority.

The question was asked if the KSI rate for North Yorkshire was significantly higher than the North Yorkshire murder rate and it was confirmed that that was so. North Yorkshire averages six homicides a year with the figures of those killed on the roads being higher and will continue to be so as the County has 6,000 miles of highway network with a considerable number of dangerous roads.

As regards the resources put into non-compliance with speed limits by the Police Mike Walker reported that North Yorkshire Police had added an additional road safety officer post and had put £100,000 into this and was also carrying out a literature review of best practice.

As regards a comparison of the KSI rates since January 2022 with the previous year Mike Walker responded that he would seek out this information after the meeting.

The contention was put that when mobile speed cameras were employed these were not seen on the roads targeted by motorcyclists on weekends. In response Mike Walker said that the Force used a great deal of information to support the deployment of speed cameras and confirmed that these were out and about on weekends and did target roads used by motorcyclists, especially those which had a collision history and where the Police were aware of speeding violations from history data and community concerns.

Displacement routes were used to avoid such as roadworks which led to a buildup of traffic and events on specific days, in addition to known antisocial use of roads and publicity, with deployment being planned on a daily basis; however there was a need to adapt to traffic conditions for example the freezing fog that had covered the Selby area on the day of the current meeting.

There are currently 850 live enforcement sites in North Yorkshire and 13 camera vans - being seven large vans, four small and two motorcycles with all deployments being made public.

Specific issues were raised with regard to the Policing of Whitby on weekends when the area was visited by such as hen parties and divorce parties etc and was seen by the local residents to be getting out of control with them believing that there would be no point ringing 101 as by the time they got through the problem would have moved on to another pub and therefore such a non-reporting did not give a true picture of a rise in crime figures.

As regards the number of Traffic Officers in North Yorkshire Mike Walker stated that at any one time there were two Sergeants and six Traffic Police Officers operating and that he was satisfied with the numbers which out of 1,645 police officer totalled 70.

Finally the Commissioner advised that anyone could submit questions to her via her monthly online surgeries or via her update meetings with the Police and that she also included a lot of information on her website.

(vii) NYCC Parish/Town Councils Briefing.

The County Council held a briefing session with representative of Parish and Town Councils on the 27th November.

The session was in effect broken down into three parts -

Community Networks

Double Devolution - the pilot process, and

Proposed Parish Charter consultation

The new Council is to be a business friendly Council with a clear economic strategy to improve opportunities for everyone.

Local service delivery models will be based on local needs with access for everyone and is all about the six Area Committees holding the Executive to account in delivering services at the most local level possible, particularly with regard to street lighting, waste collection, dog fouling, potholes and other similar services.

There will be a main office with Customer Service Reception in each locality which will be the existing District Council offices throughout North Yorkshire.

Three “Let’s Talk” consultations are currently taking place -

Let’s Talk Local

Let’s Talk Devolution

+ Let’s Talk Money.

To date over 5,000 people have taken part in the consultations and further 200 of have attended face-to-face meetings in libraries street markets etc.

The face-to-face events are taking place to raise awareness of the new Council and to provide assurance that there will still be a presence in all local areas.

2,000 residents have signed up for regular news updates.

If you wish to comment on Lets Talk please visit [www.lets talkny.commonplace.is](http://www.lets-talkny.commonplace.is)

Community Networks -

This is about mobilising the power, resources and partner relationships that exist in our communities and agree on the most appropriate solutions.

The community networks will consist of the local Member, local business groups, GP/NHS, Police and will involve the Parish and Town Councils and schools and colleges and will develop local priorities and action plans, for example access to health services and public transport and will apply collective thinking to obtain local solutions.

The community networks will be centred around the principal towns and the surrounding area and will operate independently with their own Chair and agree that on priorities and action plans. They will be able to influence the strategic decision-making that affects their communities and will sit aside outside of the Local Authority, however they will not have delegated budgets.

The Area Committees won’t hold the community networks to account but will empower and support them to deliver their own action plans and provide a forum for local issues to be raised, especially as Local Members and an Assistant Director or above will be part of the network so as to raise issues with other officers in respect of which a County Team of officers has been established for providing specialist advice comprising County and District Council officers.

Double Devolution -

North Yorkshire Council will select six expressions of interest from Town and Parish Councils for managing existing services and assets of the County Council. In this respect there is a need to submit a business case and if agreed such services or assets will be handed over.

In the future there will again be opportunities for the submission of further expressions of interest.

This double devolution must be cost negative to North Yorkshire Council and only the budget will be transferred and nothing else. All proposals must have a positive benefit for the local community and the Council taking over such services or assets must have the legal powers to manage the service. Applications need to be received before the end of March 2023 and decisions will be taken by North Yorkshire Council in Autumn 2023 with a planned implementation date of Spring 2024.

Parish Charter -

Work is continuing between the County Council, the District Councils, the YLCA and SLCC to establish a Parish Charter.

Currently other established charters such as Northumberland and Bradfords together with the existing NYCC Parish Charter are being looked at by a Working Party in order that a meaningful working document can be utilised for Parish and Town Councils.

Reference was made to the current North Yorkshire County Council Parish Charter which I have never had sight of although I was involved in working on it around 2005 and was not aware that it has ever come to fruition. I assumed that it still laid on the shelf I left it on in early 2009.

The key areas for Town and Parish councils will concern elections, polls and costs, financial matters, consultation and engagement, service delivery such as refuse collection and planning; involving over 700 Parishes across North Yorkshire in moving forward joint liaison arrangements.

It is planned to have a draft Parish Charter ready for consultation with Parishes for this December, with the Councils Executive approving the Charter for consultation in January 2023 providing for a 12 week consultation period and drop-in sessions with local officers. There will also be regular monitoring and review of the Charter.

The meeting then continued to discuss other issues -

Parish Precepts and Council Tax Base.

A spreadsheet is being issued to all Parish Councils to assist them in setting their Precepts with all work this year being carried out by County Hall rather than by the constituent District Councils. In total there are 731 Parish Precepts to set and NYCCi is levelling out it's own tax levels over a two-year period with Council Tax changes being dependent on the location across the County; however in the following year ALL will be the same due to equalisation.

The Precept monies for Parishes in 2023 will be received on the 28th April and the 29th September.

Areas of discretion set by each District Council are different across the county and the North Yorkshire wide approach is therefore necessary with regard to discounts and premiums.

In the future there will be no discount for unoccupied and unfurnished properties or for unoccupied properties undergoing structural repairs. This will raise an extra £2m.

There will be no change to the single person discount as this is Government lead.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme will be the same across the County from 1 April 2023.

Currently there are differences across the County with Craven and Hambleton giving a 90% reduction, Scarborough a 87.5% reduction and the rest being at 100%. The new scheme is seen as an improvement at an additional cost of £2.3m and there will be no change to the pension age scheme.

As regards the overall tax base the additional number of properties from the current year to the next financial year will see an uplift of 3,292 properties with Band D levels changing from £240 to £243.

Council Tax on second homes will be subject to Government legislation as it is planned to commence in April 2024 and again, subject to Government legislation the period of allowance on empty properties will apply only for one year rather than the previous two years from 1st April 2024.

Community Governance Reviews are taking place for Scarborough and Harrogate as there are currently no Town or Parish Councils in those locations and recommendations on this will be considered by the Executive in January.

Questions.

A number of questions were raised in the meeting.

The question was asked as to whether any consideration has been given to changing the Area Committees from being based on Parliamentary Constituencies to being based on the existing District Councils areas as they have been until recently. It was reported that this was a matter County Councillors were looking out at and a decision was expected in the New Year. It was however pointed out that in time links to existing District Councils areas would reduce and that the County Council was currently minded to continue with its Parliamentary Constituency arrangements.

An assurance was given that the Customer Service Receptions would be face-to-face and also appointments could be made to see planning and other officers.

The opening hours of the customer service receptions will be as existing and will not change from day one, having one telephone number with voice recognition to direct enquire as to the particular office in that particular Council area. Officers manning the reception will have lots of information to hand regarding the Councils services.

As regards the transfer of services and assets any staff transferred would involve TUPE with the staff remaining on the same terms and conditions as existing.

Whilst the community networks would not have a default budget there would be some funding for such as room hire and secretarial services etc.

As currently there will be no limits on Precept levels and it will be up to each individual Parish to decide their level of Precept since the Government has never capped the levels at which Towns and Parish Councils can apply.

Unless the individual community networks decide otherwise it will not be for the local County Councillor to Chair the networks with each community network being responsible for electing its Chair.

The purpose of the Parish Charter is to set out how the new Council will work with Parishes and set parameters, levels of service and mechanisms for keeping matters under review

An attendee expressed the view that the 2,524 responses to the Lets Talk campaign was extremely small as that represented 0.4% of the 618,000 inhabitants of North Yorkshire. In response it was said that Lets Talk questions had been road-tested with staff from all District Councils and some members of the public.

An attendee also said that the Lets Talk initiative was not talk at all but was merely a survey.

Customer service receptions will take payments for Council Tax etc exactly as they do now, however these will be card payments and not cash.

With regard to reducing the carbon footprint it was pointed out that residents on the periphery of York have to travel a considerable distance to Malton for such as civic amenity sites and with the Council wishing to become carbon negative in 10 years this was a matter that the County Council was looking at, especially to manage travel overall including by agricultural vehicles.

The issue was raised as to whether the County Council could endeavour to employ local contractors to reduce travel; however the Authority needed to have regard to complicated procurement rules which sometimes prevented services from being provided locally, however this could be a matter that could be devolved to Parish Councils in due course.

Satellite Customer Service Receptions will be looked at after April 2023, however this will not be face-to-face with all staff.

Drop-in sessions are to be held in North Yorkshire in the New Year in order to get further feedback.

(viii) Hambleton and Richmondshire Rural Transport and Access Partnership Meeting 5th December 2022.

Very little of the meeting had relevance to this area, with the majority of the time being spent on yet another repeat of the York and North Yorkshire Devolution presentation.

Other main considerations involved rural bus services, including the Little White Bus operating around the Dales areas and issues with no public transport provision having been provided to the new medical centre at Catterick.

As regards the £500,000 of Section 106 monies for bus services for the North Northallerton Development, as raised at the previous meeting by the Deputy Mayor of Northallerton Town Council, the only comment made on the matter under Matters Arising was that Council Councillor Dickinson had been sent all the information. The Clerk has asked Councillor Dickinson what progress she is making in this regard but to date has not received a reply.

Subject to the Devolution process being agreed following the current public consultation which ends on the 16th December if the new Mayoral system is supported by the public and is proceeded with this will lead to the transfer of funding powers and decision making from Whitehall to Local Government and will there be a substantial amount of transport capital funding between November 2023 and March 2025.

The Devolution process will allow spending plans to take place over longer terms than the current three year and five year plans and furthermore the £540 million delegated to the Mayor can also be used to borrow against to further increase funding.

The Mayor will be responsible for the Strategic Transport Plan and will be the direct contact for conversations with the Government and the Department of Transport.

Both Team Valley and West Yorkshire have obtained substantial monies for transport especially in long-term settlements and are much more strongly connected directly with both National Highways and Network Rail. North Yorkshire will be the first non-city area to get a Mayoral deal unless of course it doesn't go through.

Dualling of the A64 is the key scheme for the future and, with regard to buses, there will be access to franchising powers, support for smart ticketing and further devolution following national bus strategy reform.

However the new Governance system around the Mayor needs to be in place in order to obtain longer term funding which will predominantly be capital spending.

If the Mayoral system goes through it will be much easier to develop transport changes in York than in the rural areas with the challenge being how to deliver sustainable transport across North Yorkshire, particularly in rural areas and the need to adopt such as car sharing to and from places of employment which will reduce journeys by 50% .

However sustainable public transport needs to also serve the needs of residents and their communities and to increase the well-being of the people across the region. Consequently there will be a need to obtain external Government money for transport as a Mayoral Council, with the remainder Councils who do not have Devolution having to lobby for the remainder.

It is acknowledged that it is much easier to develop changes in transport systems, for example those in towards net zero issues, in such as the City of York than in the rural areas. The real challenge being how to deliver sustainable public transport across North Yorkshire particularly in rural areas.

There has been concern that in York any changes to public transport will be easier to implement than in rural locations; however representatives of York Council have expressed concerns that more monies would be spent in rural North Yorkshire than in York and Harrogate.

It was confirmed that monies would be spent across the County are not ring-fenced for one particular location.

If there are investable priorities then the money from Central Government will follow and therefore it is essential to have local engagement.

Concerns were expressed that as North Yorkshire is three times the size of York and has only two elected members under Devolution, as does the City of York, then York could get a larger share of whatever is available. In response it was pointed out that the two County Council elected representatives for both North Yorkshire and the City of York had been intentionally chosen so that one did not have three Councillors and the other only two as that would be very difficult to implement when considering various schemes etc.

Of course if the current consultation comes back with a negative majority view this will put pressure on the politicians as to whether proceed, added to which is the fact that there are elections for the City of York in May 2023.

Any new process when up and running will need to avoid the risk of not delivering on the promises and will need to deliver what has been said will be delivered.

Local Transport Plans will be developed ready for the Mayor coming into office for both North Yorkshire and York and in respect of which there will be a need for a further round of consultation.

Concerns were expressed about commercial services and knock-on services when the Governments Covid support comes to an end next March.

There are also concerns that the County Councils website for bus services currently shows old timetables with different bus service information being provided from different sources; in fact a local Member had recently had to provide a bus driver with a timetable as he was missing out stops on part of the route. There were also instances where insufficient notice been given to the public when timetable changes were made.

A NYCC officer present undertook to look into the reasons for this.

A meeting has been held between Hambleton Community Action and County Councillor Keane Duncan, the Portfolio holder for Transport, to consider “quick wins” that could improve bus services without costs and feedback is currently awaited.

The partnership has asked for volunteers to review planning consents that have been granted for large new housing estates to ascertain what conditions have been placed therein with regard to bus services and as Northallerton Town Council had done other Parishes with new large housing developments should be doing the same.

7. PLANNING MATTERS – To consider the applications for planning permission received since the last Council meeting.

(i) Applications

22/02724/FUL - Retrospective application for the provision of roof mounted solar panels, the temporary cladding to the facade and the proposed replacement rendering to the frontage of the dwelling - 1 Cockpit Hil

(ii) Decisions.

None received since last meeting.

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

Funeral Services Ltd (Burial fee)	150.00
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Payments –

P Atkin (Salary)	384.24
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P Atkin (Expenses)	****
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HMRC (PAYE)	96.00
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Mrs C Huang (8 hours sweeping)	80.00
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NYCC (Annual website management fee)	460.00
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Hillside Tree Surgeons (Various hedge cutting + works at the beck)	940.00
NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges -)	24.91*
Paid out of meeting –	
Brompton Churches Group – (Warm Spaces Group)	150.00

Bank Balances

Not yet received for this month

RECOMMENDED - That the accounts listed above be approved for payment.

10. ANNUAL PRECEPT – TO AGREE THE LEVEL OF THE COUNCILS PRECEPT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/24.

Recommendation of the Finance Group to be reported.

11. HIGHWAY MATTERS - Including Notification of Road Closures + North Yorkshire Branch of 20's Plenty.

20's Plenty.

The North Yorkshire Branch of 20's Plenty meeting was held on Thursday 24th November.

The number of Parishes (123) now involved with the campaign seems to have reached an optimum and other Councils where members have asked for the 20's Plenty issue to be placed on the agenda have met with a lack of interest; examples being Humanby and Whitby.

The County Councils Portfolio holder for Transport Keane Duncan is currently ascertaining what the actual public response for 20's Plenty across the County is and responses to his Twitter account have been positive, indicating a 90% positive response.

Councillors Briginshaw and Carter have responded to the link provided by Keane Duncan and it would help if other Councillors could do likewise.

The Branch would like its Regional Chair Rod King to speak to County Councillors on the technical aspects as a qualified highway engineer.

Ian Conlan our Branch organiser spoke on Radio York with regard to 20's Plenty on Tuesday, however much of his interview air time became involved with the Unitary Councils "Let's Talk" campaign in his capacity as a Mayor, nevertheless he was prominent in pursuing the issue that Councils must deliver what their communities want.

For the first time ever in North Yorkshire communities from all different parts have come together with the same aim - something that the County Council has never been used to before.

In addition, there is currently a different political balance to what it there has traditionally been; however this does not affect the small elite group of Members who form the Executive in dictating to the others.

Unfortunately the County Councils Executive has the power to refuse any motions for matters to be discussed and therefore can block discussion of 20's Plenty by full Council.

Although the Conservative group only received 40% of the vote in the May elections it holds 55% of the seats including all of the Executive seats; the political composition being 47 Conservatives and 43 opposition Councillors, although there is currently a vacancy awaiting the holding of a by-election in the New Year in respect of a Conservative seat whose Councillor died very recently.

A recent motion promoted by the Opposition groups about climate change was defeated in full Council as all Conservatives made a block vote against it. This raises the question as to how 40+ people can have exactly the same opinion on the matter.

Remarkably NY Highways are still using Glyphosate, which is harmful to the environment, for weed killing,

There is a need to bring Conservative Councillors on board with regard to 20's Plenty and to work with those at the top as some are passionately against the campaign.

Successive Government surveys indicate that the campaign has both the support of the people and of communities.

Keane Duncan has been forwarded a copy of the Scottish Borders report and will be including it in his review. In the Scottish Borders 90 villages and towns were covered as a trial and subsequent accident statistics show a very significant drop with a 50% reduction in serious injuries and no deaths which backs up the Calderdale area which has seen 30 to 40% reduction of casualties.

There is a need to keep pressure on so that 20 mph speed limit will cover large areas rather than the present NYCC process of concentrating on small areas including outside of schools, especially as the fragmented approach costs far more added to which is the County Councils current policy of including physical traffic calming measures. At present the County Council seems to be quite happy to just add individual 20 zones.

An example of the County Councils thinking was the recent visit by the highways officers to Bellerby which has been at the forefront in pressing for a 20 mph speed limit. The mind-set of the officers was that rather than reduce the speed limit it would wish to take out a length of stonewalling on the boundary of the property belonging to very elderly residents in order that that would improve visibility and there was an unwillingness to discuss 20mph.

In addition the village of Bellerby does not appear on the County Councils radar as there have been no fatal accidents or serious injuries That doesn't for example include record of a car that recently ran off the road in the village and somersaulted three times from which the driver walked away uninjured and consequently does not appear on any accident records.

Oxfordshire County Council is taking the approach and if a community requests a 20 mph speed limit then it will get one and the need for Parishes to submit data before this would be considered has been abolished. Indeed across the County the investigation of data by NY County Council officers is extremely expensive and time-consuming.

Requests from Parish and Town Councils for a 20 mph speed limit need the support of their County Councillor. County Councillor Stephen Watson has apologised for missing the November deadline of the Area Committee for the comprehensive survey report from Brompton Town Council to be placed on the North Yorkshire County Council Richmond Area.

It was considered that Parishes need an easy format to complete to forward to NY Highways so that they can progress the issue.

If all Parishes submit a request to North Yorkshire County Council for 20mph speed limits this would tie up officer time for months and would be a considerable cost to the County Council. If North Yorkshire County Council followed the Oxfordshire approach of “ if you want 20mph then you can have it” then this would be a very minimal cost and could be quickly introduced.

For North Yorkshire it would be virtually impossible to shift to all the request the data and lock them therefore it is cheaper to implement right across the county and surely okay far cheaper cost than the current system of implementing existing 20 zones.

The 20's Plenty campaign isn't working in a vacuum as it is working alongside encouraging bus use and climate change etc.

The Opposition County Councillor present at the Branch meeting last night commented that the YorBus initiative introduced by the County Council has been a disaster due to the high cost per passenger journey.

A major issue to do with the bus services in the County has been the withdrawal by Arriva of bus services from Selby to Doncaster leaving many people unable to get to work.

A reminder was made at the meeting that green advisory 20 signs are not permissible.

Finally, as regards the banners that are to be put up at the entrances to Brompton village the Branch asked that when erected could photographs be forwarded so that these can be cascaded to the Parishes who want to do likewise.

12. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA.

Bulb planting has taken place – see under Matters Arising above.

13. CORRESPONDENCE – Other than referred to elsewhere on the agenda.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Including (i) Date of Next Meeting of the Council – Tuesday 17th January 2023.

PLEASE NOTE THAT AT THE CONCLUSION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE COUNCIL WILL THEN SIT AS BROMPTON BURIAL BOARD TO CONSIDER MATTERS (IF ANY) RELATING TO THE CEMETERY – ALL COUNCILLORS BY VIRTUE OF THEIR OFFICE BEING MEMBERS OF THE BURIAL BOARD

15. BURIAL MATTERS – **Including to approve the Burial Fees for 2023.**

A notice has been placed at Cemetery informing that any Christmas wreaths remaining on graves after 19th February will be removed and disposed of.

A grave in Plot H that had sunk substantially during recent wet weather has now been topped up and the fallen headstone just inside the Cemetery gate has been re-erected.

