

# North Yorkshire County Council

## Executive

4 July 2017

### Feedback from the Area Committees

#### 1.0 Purpose of the Report

To bring to the attention of the Executive specific issues considered at the recent meetings of the County Council's:-

- ◆ Craven Area Committee – 31 May 2017
- ◆ County Area Committee for the Harrogate District – 1 June 2017
- ◆ Selby Area Committee – 12 June 2017

#### 2.0 Craven Area Committee – 31 May 2017 (meeting date changed from 8 June 2017 due to the General Election)

##### 2.1 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Area Committee elected County Councillors Richard Welch and Robert Heseltine as its Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, to serve until the first meeting of the Area Committee to be held following the County Council elections in 2021.

##### 2.2 Membership of the Area Committee

The Area Committee recommended that the following seats be created for Co-opted Members on Craven Area Committee for the period ending on the date of the County Council elections in 2021:-

- One representative nominated by Craven District Council
- Four representatives nominated by Parish/Town Councils
- Three representatives nominated by the Voluntary Sector

##### 2.3 Appointments to Outside Bodies

The Area Committee made appointments to 10 outside bodies, nominees to serve until the County Council Election in 2021. These included:

- Craven and Harrogate Districts Citizens Advice Bureau - County Councillor Robert Heseltine;
- Forest of Bowland AONB Joint Advisory Committee – County Councillor Richard Welch;
- Safer Craven Local Delivery Team - County Councillor Andy Solloway;
- Carleton Endowed School Trust (Skipton) - Mrs E K Brown, Mrs M Mason;
- Clarke's Old School Foundation Wigglesworth - Mr P Raper.
- Coulthurst Sandylands Sports Centre Management Committee – County Councillor Andy Solloway

- Langcliffe Educational Foundation – Mrs M Lodge
- Longstaffes Educational Foundation – County Councillor David Ireton
- Sir John Horsfall Exhibition Foundation – County Councillor Philip Barrett
- Sylvester Petyt's Foundation – Roger Ingham

Appointments to four other outside bodies were deferred until queries raised are resolved.

#### 2.4 Service Updates

The Area Committee received updates concerning the following:-

- North Yorkshire Police – Inspector Geoff Crocker provided an update regarding performance within the Craven area covering all categories of activity. Also highlighted: the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2021; staffing; and the Multi Agency Screening Team (MAST).
- North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service – Station Manager Tony Peel advised of Community safety activities undertaken and incidents of note October 2016 to March 2017.
- Stronger Communities – Marie-Ann Jackson (Manager Stronger Communities Programme) and Marion Tweed-Rycroft (Stronger Communities Delivery Manager Craven) provided an overview of the programme, advised of the development of the new investment strategy – Stronger Communities Investment Prospectus, and updated on local projects.
- Highways – covering Consiton Bridge, access to Long Preston Alms-houses, follow-up regarding a petition to reduce the speed limit on Gargrave Road Skipton, and the Kex Gill realignment.

#### 2.5 Craven District Council Off-Street Parking Places Amendment Order

The Area Committee were advised of the proposed amendments to off-street parking restrictions and charges at various locations by Craven District Council. These include: overnight HGV parking at £10 per night - with certain car parks excluded; overnight motorhome parking in designated spaces at two car parks; the amendment of parking charges and the introduction of pay and display machines at Craven Swimming Pool car park; introduction of "Pop and Shop" parking at one location in Skipton and one in Ingleton; and the removal of a portion of land near Skipton Bus Station from the Order, to allow for other potential uses of the land not associated with parking. Feedback from Area Committee Members is summarised below:-

- The exclusion of Greenfoot car park Settle was suggested in respect of overnight HGV parking – it was felt that this was an unsuitable location given the proximity to the Extra Care facility;
- Provision for Motorhomes was welcomed;
- It was suggested that the impetus for the changes is revenue maximisation rather than traffic management;
- The proposals regarding "Pop and Shop" were welcomed;
- A reservation was expressed regarding the proposed levy of £10 per night for HGV vehicles, this was felt to be a considerable burden for local hauliers;
- Concerns were raised regarding the proposal to charge at weekends at Craven Swimming Pool - given the number of runners who park there for nearby park runs.

- The issue of vehicle displacement as a consequence of the changes was also raised.

## 2.7 Public Rights of Way – A New Approach to Categorising the Public Rights of Way Network

The Area Committee considered the draft proposals relating to the categorisation of the Public Rights of Way network, the consultation responses received to the draft proposals, and the suggested response of the Public Rights of Way Service to the consultation. Comments from Area Committee Members were as follows:-

- It was recognised that minimum standards are important.
- The crucial role of volunteers and Parish Councils was acknowledged.
- Given the economic constraints it was accepted that adopting a better means of prioritisation will be key to ensuring the most efficient use of resources;
- It was acknowledged that the community value exercise is likely to impact upon the prioritisation;
- The importance of preserving Public Rights of Way across new developments was highlighted and the challenge of categorisation in certain locations eg along canals and rivers, also safer school routes.
- The benefits of more children walking to school reducing traffic and congestion was also noted.

There was broad support for the proposals, as it was felt they represent the only realistic way forward.

## 3.1 **County Area Committee for the Harrogate District – 1 June 2017**

### 3.1 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Area Committee elected County Councillors Mike Chambers MBE and Stanley Lumley as its Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, to serve until the first meeting of the Area Committee to be held following the County Council elections in 2021.

### 3.2 Membership of the Area Committee

The Area Committee recommended that the following seats be created for Co-opted Members on the County Area Committee for the Harrogate District for the period ending on the date of the County Council elections in 2021:-

- One representative nominated by Community First Yorkshire
- One representative nominated by Harrogate District Chamber of Commerce

A representative of Harrogate and Ripon Centres for Voluntary Service attended the meeting and advised that she was willing to continue to represent the local voluntary and community sector on the Area Committee, as she had done for many years previously. Under a separate item of business, the Area Committee had noted that, following a competitive process, an organisation known as “Community First Yorkshire” was providing practical and strategic support to voluntary and community organisations and volunteering for three years from 1 April 2017. Based on a majority vote, the Area Committee took the view that it should keep to its previous decision to have only one representative from the community and voluntary sector on the Area Committee and that that representative should be from Community First Yorkshire because that was the principal organisation which was now providing such services on behalf of the County Council. However, Members paid tribute to the experience and dedication of Harrogate and Ripon Centres for Voluntary Service and its representative.

### 3.3 Appointments to Outside Bodies

The Area Committee has made appointments to 13 outside bodies including: County Councillor Cliff Trotter to both the Craven and Harrogate Districts Citizens Advice Bureau and the Harrogate District Community Safety Local Delivery Team; County Councillor Zoe Metcalfe to both the Knaresborough Community Centre Committee and the Renaissance Knaresborough Management Committee; and County Councillor Nicola Wilson to the Knaresborough Links Youth Club Committee.

### 3.4 Public Rights of Way – A New Approach to Categorising the Public Rights of Way Network

The Area Committee has considered the draft proposals relating to the categorisation of the Public Rights of Way network, the consultation responses received to the draft proposals, and the suggested response of the Public Rights of Way Service to the consultation. Comments from Area Committee Members were as follows:-

- Members recognise the need for prioritisation;
- The enhanced engagement with the broader user community is welcomed;
- The value of volunteers is recognised;
- Probation Service clientele should be used to repair styles and gates etc, and to cut overgrown grass, on public rights of way;
- It is important that the Service has funds to provide way markers and signposts;
- The aim to achieve swifter enforcement is welcomed. Parish Councils should be asked to help by informing the Service of any difficulties on public rights of way.

### 3.5 Service Updates

The Area Committee received updates concerning the following:-

- Stronger Communities – The work undertaken, and the new programme to be rolled out in 2017/18, in the Harrogate district area.
- North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service – Community safety activities and other work undertaken by the Service for 2016/17.
- North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership's work and support provided by the Harrogate District Community Safety Local Delivery Team.
- North Yorkshire Police performance within the Harrogate district area.

With regard to Community Safety, the Area Committee requested a report back on the outcome of the forthcoming review of the Harrogate Community Safety Hub where Police Officers/Staff and Borough Council staff are co-located to work alongside each other to achieve an integrated service. Harrogate Borough Council had hosted the Hub since 2016 and the Area Committee was advised that the feeling was that the Hub has been successful.

### 3.6 Public Questions or Statements – Harrogate Relief Road

A representative of Bilton Conservation Group and a Harrogate Borough Councillor each addressed the Area Committee's meeting to make statements regarding Harrogate Relief Road. In response, the Area Highways Manager and County

Councillor Don Mackenzie (Executive Member) advised that the current work was to review the need for a relief road and the alignment of the current adopted route for an outer northern relief road of Harrogate and Knaresborough. They reiterated that no decisions on the need for, or route for, a relief road had yet been taken. They also reiterated that the County Council was looking at the relief road options to provide traffic relief and not to enable development in the Green Belt. They also corrected incorrect information included in the statements.

#### 4.0 **Selby Area Committee – 12 June 2017**

##### 4.1 Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Committee elected County Councillors Richard Musgrave and Karl Arthur as its Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively, to serve until the first meeting of the Area Committee following the Annual Meeting of the County Council scheduled for May 2018.

##### 4.2 Membership of the Area Committee

The Committee agreed that the following seats be created for Co-opted Members on Selby Area Committee, initially for one year in view of the proposed review of Area Committees, until the meeting following the Annual Meeting of the County Council scheduled for May 2018, subject to each Co-opted Member continuing to be eligible to represent their nominating body:

- Four elected Members nominated by Selby District Council.
- Two Parish Council representatives representing the north and south of the District, with any related ballots organised by Legal and Democratic Services.
- One representative nominated by the Voluntary Sector.

##### 4.3 Appointments to Outside Bodies

The Committee appointed to the following Outside Bodies as detailed:-

National Coal Mining Museum for England Liaison Committee - County Councillor Mel Hobson

Safer Selby Local Delivery Team - County Councillor Stephanie Duckett

Selby District Association for Voluntary Services - County Councillor Karl Arthur

Edward Atkinson Charity (Camblesforth) - County Councillor Mike Jordan

Mary Waud Foundation (Cliffe School Charity) - County Councillor Mike Jordan

Oglethorpe and Dawson Educational Foundation - Mrs J Marshall, County Councillor Don Mackay - further nomination to be submitted to a subsequent meeting

St John's Catholic School for the Deaf, Boston Spa - County Councillor Mel Hobson

Wistow Church of England School Charity - County Councillor Andrew Lee

Cridling Stubbs Educational Charity - County Councillor John McCartney

#### 4.4 Public Question

Rita Stephenson again attended the meeting to reiterate her concerns in respect of the bus services for Fairburn and Byram. It was agreed that the bus operator's owner be contacted with a view to the meeting, as arranged through the Area Committee at its meeting on 13 March 2017, taking place as soon as possible.

#### 4.5 Service Updates

The Area Committee received updates concerning the following:-

- North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service - Community Safety Update

Group Manager David Dryburgh updated the Committee and the following issues were discussed:-

- A focus on water safety for 2017/18
- The use of temporary sprinklers to protect the most vulnerable
- Use of the TRV
- Recruitment and retention of firefighters

- Stronger Communities Progress Report

Tom Jenkinson (Stronger Communities Delivery Manager Selby) and Marie-Ann Jackson (Manager Stronger Communities Programme) updated the Committee and the following issues were discussed:-

- An overview of the Programme for new members
- Development of the new investment strategy – Stronger Communities Investment Prospectus
- An update on local projects

#### 4.7 Public Rights of Way – A New Approach to Categorising the Public Rights of Way Network

The Area Committee considered the draft proposals relating to the categorisation of the Public Rights of Way network, the consultation responses received to the draft proposals, and the suggested response of the Public Rights of Way Service to the consultation. Ian Fielding, Assistant Director, Transport, Waste and Countryside Services, provided details of the review, and the following issues were discussed:-

- Responsibility for maintaining rights of way in different circumstances
- Developing an approach to the care and maintenance of public rights of way through Parish Councils and the Stronger Communities programme
- Timescales for the re-instatement of rights of way affected by ploughing and cropping

#### 4.8 Highways Update

The Area Highways Manager, Nigel Smith, updated members on the highways programme taking place in the District and the following issues were discussed:-

- The overlap of repairs to the Selby By-Pass and repairs to Cawood Bridge and the co-ordinated effort being undertaken to minimise disruption
- Traffic movement around Sherburn Industrial Estate
- Issues at Wistow Moor and Brayton Crossroads
- Loose chippings following surface dressing works

#### 4.9 Work Programme

Members discussed the work programme for the new Area Committee and the following issues were highlighted:-

- The proposed refresh for Area Committees and possible additional Executive powers
- The need to focus on major strategic issues in the Selby District through the approach adopted by the previous Area Committee.

### **5.0 Recommendations**

5.1 That the report be noted.

5.2 That the following recommendations from Area Committees concerning their memberships be referred to full County Council 19 July 2017:-

- (a) That the following seats be created for Co-opted Members on the County Area Committee for the Harrogate District for the period ending on the date of the County Council elections in 2021:-
- One representative nominated by Community First Yorkshire
  - One representative nominated by Harrogate District Chamber of Commerce
- (b) That the following seats be created for Co-opted Members on the Craven Area Committee for the period ending on the date of the County Council elections in 2021:-
- One representative nominated by Craven District Council
  - Four representatives nominated by Parish/Town Councils
  - Three representatives nominated by the Voluntary Sector
- (c) That the following seats be created for Co-opted Members on Selby Area Committee, initially for one year in view of the proposed review of Area Committees, until the meeting following the Annual Meeting of the County Council scheduled for May 2018:-
- Four elected Members nominated by Selby District Council.
  - Two Parish Council representatives representing the north and south of the District
  - One Voluntary Sector representative
- (d) The recommendations from Hambleton, Richmondshire, Ryedale and the Yorkshire Coast and Moors County Area Committees will be made direct to County Council 19 July 2017.

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**Background Documents:** the published agendas for each of the meetings identified in the headings in this report