

BILBROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

As elected representatives serving on Bilbrough Parish Council, parish councillors represent the interests of the local community, contribute to council decision-making, and help improve the quality of life within the parish.

Key Responsibilities

Representing the Community

Parish councillors represent the views and concerns of residents. They act as a link between the community and the council, ensuring that local issues are raised and considered in council discussions.

Attending and Participating in Meetings

Councillors agree to attend parish council meetings, committee meetings, and - where possible - community events. They read agendas and supporting papers in advance and contribute constructively to discussions and decision-making.

Decision Making

Councillors work collectively to make decisions on matters affecting the parish. These decisions may include managing local facilities, allocating funding, and supporting community initiatives.

Planning Consultation

The parish council is a statutory consultee in the planning process. Councillors review planning applications and submit comments or recommendations to the Local Planning Authority, which is responsible for making the final decision. The parish council does not make planning decisions itself.

Stewardship of Public Funds

Councillors help oversee how public money is spent. The Parish Council raises funds through the **annual parish precept**, which forms part of the Council Tax. Each year, the Parish Council must calculate the precept and send the request to North Yorkshire Council. Councillors must ensure that funds are used responsibly and transparently.

Community Leadership

Councillors provide leadership by supporting local projects, working with community groups, and helping to maintain and improve local facilities such as the playing field.

Upholding Standards and Conduct

Councillors must follow the [NYC Code of Conduct](#) and comply with relevant legislation, including the Localism Act 2011. This includes acting with integrity, declaring interests where required, and maintaining high ethical standards.

Summary

The role of parish councillors is to serve the community, participate in council decision-making, manage local resources responsibly, and work collaboratively to enhance the wellbeing of the parish.