

*Working with
the Community*



Northallerton Town Council

Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027 (Version 4, March 2023)

The Town Council formally adopted its first Strategic Plan in November 2021. It is a statement of the Town Council's vision for Northallerton, outlining the Council's objectives for the period 2022 to 2027. It sets out what the Council wants to achieve, either directly or by working with key stakeholders including North Yorkshire Council, Northallerton Business Investment District (BID) and, importantly, the local community. The principal aim of this Plan is to provide residents, businesses and users of the town with a clear understanding of what the Council aims to achieve and how it will be delivered.

On 1st April 2023, the county, district and borough councils were replaced by a new single authority, North Yorkshire Council, which has responsibility for administering the whole of the county of North Yorkshire. The Town Council has positively engaged in the reorganisation process to ensure that the local needs of Northallerton continue to be addressed for the benefit of whole community. It is crucial that the Town Council and North Yorkshire Council work closely on key issues, such as:

- Traffic and parking
- Planning, including Local Plan implementation
- Walking and cycling
- Green corridors
- High Street vitality

This document represents Version 4 of the Strategic Plan and will be reviewed on a regular basis – it is a ‘living’ document.

Achievements during 2022/23

During the last year further improvements to the governance and operation of the Town Council have progressed, focussed on implementing a structure and engagement strategy to ensure delivery of the Council's objectives.

The following outlines just some of the achievements over the last year:

- Successful delivery of long-awaited public toilets in the town centre.
- Further enhancements to Applegarth Play Park.
- Continued engagement with a range of stakeholders and community groups, to successfully deliver well attended community events, including Bonfire Night, Christmas Sunday and Remembrance Sunday.
- Successfully obtained funding to provide allotments at Bankhead Park along with a further facility at the Sports Village – resulting in 12 additional plots available for Northallerton residents.
- Increased marketing and use of the Town Hall facilities for the benefit of the local community.
- Working closely with other groups to further develop the Community Garden initiative and other green spaces throughout the town.

The Themes

The Strategic Plan comprises three main themes, as follows:

- Community Facilities
- Engagement and Events
- Environment and Open Spaces

Although there is no stand-alone environmental, sustainability or climate change theme, environmental considerations feature throughout the following plans, for example in relation to allotment provision, cycling and walking and enhancement of green spaces.

Key:

NTC	Northallerton Town Council
BID	Business Investment District
Town Team	Individuals representing NTC, NYC and BID
NYC	North Yorkshire Council

Community Facilities

Action	Vision	Delivery	Responsibility	Progress
Increase in Allotment Provision	Northallerton meets the National Allotment Society standard of 20 allotments per 1,000 households (approximately 100 plots).	Undertake an assessment of potential demand and supply, and identify and deliver new areas for allotments using guidance from the National Allotment Society.	NTC, NYC, Allotment groups	• Demand and supply assessment completed. • Ongoing dialogue with the National Allotment Society. • Funding obtained to implement new allotments at Bankhead. • 18 new plots provided at the Sports Village. • New allotment management structure being progressed.
Improve Public Toilet Provision	Northallerton has good quality, accessible public toilets at appropriate locations in the town centre.	Working with other stakeholders, to deliver new public toilets in the town.	NTC, BID, other stakeholders	• Funding obtained for new public toilets in the Town Hall. • Planning consent granted. • Construction commenced with anticipated completion in Spring 2023.
Enhance Play Parks throughout the Town	Play parks in Northallerton are of a high quality, are well-used and well-maintained.	Develop a phased implementation plan for enhancements to all parks, along with ongoing maintenance.	NTC	• Significant improvements to the Applegarth play park. • Installation of CCTV. • Equipment upgrades in Bullamoor and Bankhead
Increase Community	Northallerton has a well-equipped and well-maintained Town Hall which	Develop a 5-year project plan for the refurbishment of the Town	NTC	• Basement actively used by Northallerton Boxing Club.

Action	Vision	Delivery	Responsibility	Progress
Access to the Town Hall	is available and accessible to the whole community and is familiar to all residents.	Hall and identify opportunities to increase the use of the facilities. Expand marketing activity to raise the profile of the Town Hall its facilities.		- Increased use of the Town Hall facilities, through improved marketing. - Funding being sought for essential infrastructure improvements.
Lobby for Delivery of Community Facilities in North Northallerton Development Area	New developments provide a high standard of community infrastructure for residents of the town.	Engage with other stakeholders to ensure the early delivery of community infrastructure in the North Northallerton Development Area, as identified through the planning process. To include the proposed Sports Village and allotments.	NTC, BTC, NYC	18 new allotment plots provided at the Sports Village. - On-going discussions regarding improved pedestrian and cycle infrastructure.
Creation of a permanent Heritage Hub in Northallerton	Northallerton has a permanent public heritage location.	Work with other stakeholders to build on the success of the (currently time-limited) Heritage Hub and create a permanent heritage resource/attraction in Northallerton.	NTC, NYC, other stakeholders	Ongoing discussions with key stakeholders in the town.

Engagement and Events

Action	Vision	Delivery	Responsibility	Progress
Improve Communications	Northallerton Town Council communicates regularly and openly with residents, community groups, businesses and stakeholders using social and traditional media. The Council is seen as public facing and helpful.	Continue to identify ways to fully engage with the local community and businesses, and to better understand residents' concerns and aspirations using social and traditional media, the website and improved face-to-face contact. Use of surveys to inform Council priorities and decision-making.	NTC	• Significant increase in social media communications. • Regular meetings with a range of community groups and initiatives. • Increased liaison with officers at the new unitary authority. • Resident surveys undertaken in relation to toilet provision and community events.
Active Member of the Town Team	A vibrant High Street which is attractive to both residents and visitors.	Working with other members of the Town Team to identify and deliver initiatives to increase footfall, dwell time and spend in the town centre. Initial objectives to deliver improved public toilets, measures to attract coach visitors, more and better events and improved pedestrian and cycle linkages across the Town.	NTC, Town Team	• New public toilets delivered in Spring 2023. • Pedestrian and Cycle Working Group set up, involving all three local Parish Councils. • Continued to work closely with the Town Team to deliver a range of events.

Action	Vision	Delivery	Responsibility	Progress
Increase Involvement in Forward Planning	Northallerton Town Council is actively involved in all land use considerations, including key planning applications and Development Plans, and is seen as a valued contributor to planning decisions.	Work closely and pro-actively with key stakeholders in the town in relation to planning and land use matters. Maximise the opportunities to ensure new developments offer real infrastructure benefits for the town, in particular to encourage walking and cycling. Develop a Neighbourhood Priorities Statement to maximise the likelihood of the Council's priorities being progressed.	NTC	• Monthly review undertaken of all planning applications – formal comments submitted as required. • Initial engagement in relation to the evolving new Local Transport Plan.
Offer an Improved Events Experience	Engaging with the local community, Northallerton Town Council puts on well-run, popular events, and makes continual improvements.	Ongoing enhancements to the Christmas lights. Focussed and improved Northallerton Bonfire and Christmas events; consider additional event(s) in spring/summer including the possibility of staging events on the Town Square and at Treadmills.	NTC, Town Team, Community Groups	• Worked with a community group to deliver a successful Christmas event. • Delivered a well-attended Bonfire night. • Worked with the Town Team to develop an Events Programme for the coming year.

Action	Vision	Delivery	Responsibility	Progress
Support a Vibrant Market	A vibrant market which is attractive to both residents and visitors.	Work with other bodies to ensure the town's market remains vibrant and attractive to residents and visitors. Consider measures to ensure its continued success and opportunities to enhance the offer.	NTC, NYC, Market Traders	• Ongoing discussions with various bodies, to better understand the most appropriate way forward.

Environment and Open Spaces

Action	Vision	Delivery	Responsibility	Progress
Develop Green Corridors	Attractive, safe and segregated corridors for residents and visitors to the town.	Engage with other stakeholders to identify and deliver green corridors through the town – including Willowbeck, Springwell Lane and the Winton Road area.	NTC, NYC, Community Groups	• Worked with others to deliver further improvements to the Willowbeck corridor. • Funding obtained to enhance green corridors in the town. • Ongoing discussions to consider future enhancements to the Springwell Lane route.
Improve Pedestrian and Cycle Facilities	A network of safe and dedicated pedestrian and cycle routes for those wishing to access the town centre.	Lobby for new and enhanced pedestrian/cycle routes throughout the town. Continue to support the 20's Plenty campaign.	NTC, NYC, adjacent Parish Councils	• Working Group set up, including the three local Parish Councils. • Constructive meeting held with the relevant officer at NYC. • Consideration being given to organising a community consultation event.
Enhance Green Spaces and the Environment	There are enhanced green spaces throughout the town, including Applegarth, Bankhead and Bullamoor Parks, with more trees, flowers and benches.	Identifying opportunities to provide new or enhanced green spaces in the town – including Council-owned parks and gateways to the High Street – with the participation of local community groups in design and planting.	NTC, Community Groups	• Ongoing environmental improvements to the town's parks. • Work commenced to improve the green space around the library. • Continued initiatives to increase and improve the High Street environmental experience.

New Public Park on the former College Playing Field	Northallerton has a new public park that is fully accessible to all residents of the town.	Working with others to ensure that the existing playing field remains as an open space and becomes a community asset for the town.	NTC, Community Groups	• The playing fields have been formally registered as an Asset of Community Value.
Develop Community Gardens	There are a series of community gardens across the Town, engaging and working with the youth of the town and the wider community in growing fruit and vegetables.	Continue to work with others to identify and develop community gardens throughout the town.	NTC, One Northallerton One Planet, Youth Space	• Applegarth community garden successfully working. • Cherry Croft community garden being developed, adjacent to the cemetery. • Discussions ongoing to identify further opportunities, across the town.
Town Council Sustainability Initiative	The Town Council's own processes and practices are aligned to protect and improve our environment.	Continually identify and develop the Council's own internal practices to ensure they have a positive effect on the environment.	NTC	• Use of peat free compost. • Converted to rechargeable horticultural equipment. • Used perennial planting where possible.



Northallerton Town Council

Town Hall Buildings

High Street

Northallerton

North Yorkshire

DL7 8QR