

Budget Consultation 2017/2018



What you said! - Open Ended Comments

Purpose of This Document

- This document includes all responses to open ended questions received through the Budget Consultation 2017/2018.
- The consultation was undertaken between 19th September 2016 and 4th November 2016 as part of the council's budget setting process.
- A separate document has also been produced which shows a summary of the main results.

Council Priorities

If there is a different priority you think the Council should focus on in future years, please tell us.

45 additional comments were made many of which related to issues that would come under the existing priorities or are dealt with as part of day to day service delivery. No common additional priority can be identified from these comments.

	Comments regarding Council Priorities
1)	Enterprising Craven - not sure about implications of building programmes and conflict with creating greener communities and preserving the beautiful local environment we have the provision of homes requires very careful thought and imaginative solutions which promote values of sharing, interdependence rather than based on individualism which can be to the detriment of the environment and against resilient communities .
2)	You can not build 290 homes and promote greener communities
3)	"Green" should have a clearer priority than a brief a mention under "resilient communities."
4)	Get the local plan in place!!!
5)	Off road parking
6)	Reduction of chemical use in environment, e.g. pesticides , weed killer, chlorine, air fresheners, use only natural products they are cheaper.
7)	Focus on sustainable/affordable housing in rural areas.
8)	We are not impressed by the above classification titles e.g. A) Enterprising Craven - We haven't detected much contribution to enterprise from the CDC. Private entrepreneurs are very good B) Resilient Communities - In 40 years they have not detected any CDC contributions to make or keep us resilient but in our village we are very resilient, a quality that was immediately evident when we located here 40 years ago and there are many examples and abundant evidence of how this is supported by villagers initiatives. Some even collect tourists' litters from roads and sweep autumn leaves off highways in default of CDC's services. C) Financial Sustainability - We can't comment on this if you advise further what this term means.
9)	Use brown field not green field which can never be replaced.
10)	Improving the health / fitness of Craven residents
11)	Improving the health of Craven residents
12)	How do you enable the provision of 290 homes across Craven per annum? Isn't this what building companies do and pay CDC for planning services? How do CDC stimulate business growth?
13)	Care for the elderly should be as big a priority as care for the young
14)	Lessening our carbon footprint
15)	All of the above make sense. But a lot of resources rely on volunteers who are dwindling in numbers. A balance is required to maintain services.
16)	Supporting young people and healthy lifestyles
17)	Less focus on new homes in unsustainable areas, particularly flood risk areas!
18)	We particularly support the resilient communities objective, although we also recognise the need for more homes to satisfy the needs of local people. We would like to see the resilient communities

	Comments regarding Council Priorities
	objective include provision of more natural greenspace for local people, including planting more trees and woods because of the wide range of benefits these have been shown to provide: e.g. helping to improve water quality and alleviate flooding, tackling air pollution, absorbing CO2 from the atmosphere and improving people's health and well-being by encouraging healthy exercise and contact with nature. Creation of new communities through house building is an ideal opportunity to put such green infrastructure in place before the houses are built. We hope that the Council will want to use funds from developers through CIL or Section 106 to provide some funds for creation of green infrastructure.
19)	Although I think these priorities are right I think more emphasis should be put on the resilience of Craven communities through support for community and voluntary initiatives.
20)	Upkeep of pavements especially Autumn and winter
21)	local houses for local people, young people who want to live where there from but are getting squeezed out the market.
22)	Make Craven tidier and cleaner, clean up areas where rubbish collects to stop it attracting other rubbish. Some Council's employ officers (like traffic wardens) who go around issuing fines to those who drop litter. Also increase patrol's to stop people parking where they shouldn't (i.e. stopping on high street to access banks) and others parking on double yellow lines, enforce parking restrictions and clamp down on drivers on mobile phones, you can see plenty using phones on the high street on a daily basis !
23)	Before building more homes in the area, ensure the sustainability of schools, doctors, and road management of the residents who already live here
24)	If we are considering building more properties we need to ensure that the infrastructure and services are there to support these properties.
25)	I think there should be something which encompasses front line mandatory services.
26)	As a Skipton resident I see there are a number of issues preventing business development because there is inadequate parking to attract more visitors to the area. Moreover, the costs for many are prohibitive. There are now some short stay spaces and this is an excellent idea. A park and ride scheme would enable more people to visit the town centre, therefore, increasing spending and raise awareness of what Skipton and the Dales has to offer. Albeit not a deprived area there are many people within our community who have problems with housing/poverty/purpose and there is a significant shortage of adequate housing. CDC should continue to support those people and the budget for housing/Citizens Advice should be increased where possible to enable those vulnerable people to be helped and therefore, make a worthwhile contribution to our community. Community policing has been pared down to a minimum and I would not wish to see this reduced further. Making use of volunteers to maintain our community is a cost cutting option. This could be street cleaning or litter collection, (much needed in Skipton). Local businesses could be encouraged to contribute to the costs for equipment etc. and in return allowed to advertise their community support efforts on local streets etc.
27)	The Council should concentrate its budget on its statutory services first then evaluate its funding of the non-statutory services it chooses to provide. Only those non statutory functions that can be proven to give significant added value and value for money should then get the Council's support but only to the point that it is affordable to do so. Keep it simple and don't try to achieve more than you are realistically capable of. The Council by anyone's view has a Planning Department which is performing poorly by any yardstick you choose to consider. This Department should be overhauled (or combined with another LA's high performing service) and reviewed to ensure that it gives high quality services across the board and makes sure it has staff that are competent and capable along with good management and leadership which it currently doesn't appear to have. The overall reputation of CDC is being severely affected by the poor performance and reputation that this part of the Council has in the minds of residents across the whole of the area.
28)	No
29)	Balancing the budget
30)	Craven should seek to help NYCC reduce the cost of highways by closing green lanes to recreational motor vehicles
31)	Housing, new housing, highways, verge maintenance, immigration, refuse collections, care in the community.
32)	Provision of housing for the elderly allowing them to be in a supportive environment
33)	Not building more houses in areas where there is not a network of public transport or shops
34)	Schools and education. children in some primary school have curriculum delivered entirely by Teaching ASSISTANTS and have very little interaction with a QUALIFIED TEACHER.. Ofsted reports vastly differ to those appraisals given by parents on 'parentview'
35)	Investment in arts and culture. Investment in making communities stronger and more resilient. It would be nice to create a strong identity for small communities and a reason for tourists to visit them. E.g. Skipton is the go to place for arts and culture in the North. Settle is the go to place for heritage etc. etc.
36)	Watch your spending. Why do you need refuse collection (bin men) working every bank holiday and

	Comments regarding Council Priorities
	weekends.....? This is ludicrous as they will be paid double time for something they should be doing during the week. that's a quick win and will save quite a bit of money
37)	Road repairs and public transport
38)	An environmentally friendly Craven, with an area that is an attractive place to work, live and enjoy life.
39)	The villages and smaller towns in Craven. Not everybody lives or works in Skipton and some of us rarely visit Skipton. There is no public transport in the evenings if we did wish to attend events there and parking is ridiculously expensive.
40)	Collaborating with other public sector organisations, working jointly to reduce costs.
41)	Think active communities and improve quality of life/creating greener communities should not be in the same overall objective. For me, greener communities is a very high priority. Active communities are an irrelevance. Focus overall should be on statutory obligations - remove all 'things that are nice', then work out what income is required to provide high quality statutory services and act accordingly.
42)	Skills and opportunities for young people. Access and usage of new technology.
43)	Compliance with legal obligations
44)	improving it's awful planning department Dog wardens
45)	Set a target for the increase in business rates due to new business

Suggestions on Saving Money/Generating Income

If you have any suggestions as to how the Council should save money or generate more income, please tell us. 52 additional comments were made.

	Suggestions for Saving Money/Generating Income
1)	Supply to the Parish Councils a list of the businesses in the area registered for business rates and require the PC to tell you if it knows of any businesses in the area run from home and not on the list/
2)	The council needs to reduce its external costs. Front line services and staff positions should not be lost
3)	Give the fiasco of the local plan exercise, an evaluation of the competence of the appropriate leadership personnel would be a good idea.
4)	Press for Government grant to local councils to be re-introduced. Raise business rates for large businesses in our area, stating what specifically the increase will go towards in our local area. Could be 'sponsored by - - ' by recipients. (advert for the business)
5)	Do away with questions on age, gender, ethnicity and disability. Charge market traders to leave vehicles on the setts when weather not bad. Collect blue bags/bins at the same time instead of 2 separate vehicles. Install ticket machine at Aireville Park with nominal charge say £1 for first 2 hours
6)	Unskilled tasks like grass cutting, general maintenance of public areas etc. - should be done by 'offenders' as community payback (thus saving council money)
7)	Restrict form filling
8)	Reduce duplication, share IT services, streamline procedures.
9)	Work more efficient and effectively.
10)	Council and its employees should think hard about decisions and study the options and how things will work, if there backup and all considerations have been looked at by people using service, e.g. market stall construction Skipton.
11)	Experience has taught me over 40-50 years that the least effective members of an organisation are typically those who are in overall control and paid extortionate salaries. All effective organisations are maintained in a viable operative state by middle management and the front line staff? Face troops/shop floor workers. Have appropriate cuts being made in top tier staff or cuts to absorbent salaries? We know from the last 40 years' experience that the CDC record in control/use of our taxes has been far from good. Millions of pounds wasted - when highlighted in letters published in the Craven Herald. There never seems to be a satisfactory explanation/response (or any!) except that our representatives who write these letters are reviled by the CDC.
12)	Cut back if possible the use of outside consultation. These are inevitably high charge areas of cost with probably no accountability.
13)	Do not spend years and years on local plan you have no intention of completing. Give the public more credit, I find it insulting the way you treat people. Years of wages, no result, if out of your own pocket would this happen?
14)	Tell all owners of land behind verge to mow the verge. Use many more volunteers like the hub in Grassington and the National Park Information Points. Amalgamation democratic services with Human Resources and Information services into one department.

	Suggestions for Saving Money/Generating Income
15)	1. Stop providing huge grants for cycle club races e.g. in Settle in 2016 2. Significantly reduce senior management costs - why is more spent on Paul Shevlin + co than on street cleansing? 3. Either a) charge developers a lot more for advice or b) Don't waste any staff resources on talking to developers prior to/during applications.
16)	Selling compost made from recycled garden waste (brown bins)
17)	I do not recall seeing public toilets at the bus station anymore. This was a disastrous project (as was the design and build of the bus station and car park/taxi rank). It is a waste of space on the bus side - no buses! and more parking space is now needed and the roads re-routed for safety. - Question validity of Art in religion exhibition!!!
18)	Make sure you keep on top of NYCC and use no outside consultants. The staff should be able to work things out, poor do if they can't. Be open at all times, secrecy does belong in local councils. Maybe the residents should have a say on local election for all this. Settle TIC was run by volunteers but the Council took over the running. Could revert to status quo.
19)	Senior Management of all departments to consider pay and bonus reductions. This could be a positive thing in how people regard the Council.
20)	Improve website so that less time is spend on contacting council staff for information.
21)	Sort of the market in Skipton High Street. Visiting other artisan markets where visitors travel to get goods other than one provided by large stores. Jerry Croft access to the main car park is an accident waiting to happen. It is a real deterrent to visitors.
22)	Look at lowering all salaries. Less surveys that are ignored.
23)	It is reasonable for council tax to rise in line with inflation and it has been frozen for several years now. Any initiatives to increase income through higher charges and council tax should make allowance for those on low incomes
24)	Turn the lights off at belle vue at night and weekends will save electricity bills! I live in the mills facing the building and constantly see the lights on and windows left open!! Encourage tourists to area, encourage investment in more good hotel options (rendezvous is poor). Encourage a few good names to high st (could do with and M&s) bringing more visitors into town. I actually think the council does a brilliant job here!
25)	Woodland Trust has produced an important report on management of greenspace by local authorities, entitled Trees or Turf http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/publications/search/?query=trees+or+turf The report shows clearly that by converting selected areas of intensively managed greenspace to woodland, councils can obtain the wide range of social and environmental benefits which woodland provides as well as delivering some significant savings in management costs. We would urge the Council to study the implications of this report and to carry out an audit of greenspace which you manage to see if there are any less well used areas which could produce savings by being converted to woodland.
26)	Please see comments sent in under a separate email.
27)	organisation of a flagship destination event to get more people in to Skipton/craven more innovating ideas less paper, a lot of applications for the council are still paper based with often a weak online application which puts people off using.
28)	Shared services with adjacent councils. In Beamsley/Nesfield/Langbar it is nonsensical that both Harrogate and Craven run refuse collections along the same roads (as the DC boundary runs through the area).
29)	Start taking proceedings or enforce actions on those who do not comply i.e. don't pay their council tax chase up people or go to court to collect monies owed rather than leave the problem to get bigger. Everybody is having to tighten their belts and some see paying the council as the last thing on their list, if it is shown that the council will take action then more people will pay their bills
30)	Because Craven is such a small authority I think the residents would be better served if Craven were combined with another authority such as Harrogate.
31)	I have detailed some suggestions in the first part of this online form.
32)	every household regardless of being in work or not should pay their fair share of council tax!
33)	You charge for garden waste collection on the basis that some households don't produce garden waste. However, some households also produce more household waste than others but we all pay the same in our council tax. My green bin could easily go 4 weeks before requiring emptying and the blue could go for 8 weeks or more. It is unfair to make this distinction for garden waste alone, either drop the charge, or reduce collections for other bins, and make similar charges to households which require more frequent collections.
34)	Improve efficiency and effectiveness of ALL services to get greater value for money all round.
35)	Decrease number of, and salaries of remaining, senior management team.
36)	Some sort of lottery? Corporate sponsorship by local businesses?
37)	Craven should go back to building houses for affordable rent
38)	run services more efficiently. do we really need lots of councillors

Suggestions for Saving Money/Generating Income	
39)	sell all art works owned by the council demand punitive fines on anyone damaging council property or facilities
40)	Do you send all post by second class post? Do you send letters by post that could be hand delivered if they are close to the source of the post? Can the council make more use of email and websites to communicate locally?
41)	Charge parking on Christmas markets! Install turnstiles in public toilets. 20p a pee. Parking meters on Newmarket street and surrounding. Increase fees at crem and craven swimming pool.
42)	Spend less on District Councillor expenses!
43)	Why does the garden waste not get recycled now, mine is collected in the general waste truck.
44)	why do you need refuse collection (bin men) working every bank holiday and weekends.....? this is ludicrous as they will be paid double time for something they should be doing during the week.
45)	Privatise services for more efficiency Reduce pension benefits for CDC staff to compare with private sector CDC staff to work more efficiently as private companies example and reduce e staff levels
46)	In my opinion efficiencies with administration can always be made, as with the provision of contracts for office supplies etc.
47)	We live in a countryside area and are sure that the street lights are on all night. In rural areas, where people may not expect street lights (and to appreciate the 'dark skies'), could the lights be on a timer so that they are switched off from say midnight to 5am?
48)	Invest in promoting tourism in Craven to generate rural income. Develop indoor and outdoor activities across the Craven area for visiting young people and families, e.g. climbing, abseiling, caving, swimming, water sports, bush craft, rural crafts. Stop squandering money on developing Skipton Town Hall as an arts centre for the minority. Many people do not live in Skipton and are unable to get to these events, even if they wish to. Focus instead on funding services in smaller towns such as Settle, Ingleton, Crosshills, Grassington, Benthams. Skipton already has the Auction Mart as a centre for the arts. Why not develop this into a showcase for the area? The Craven Museum could be given a new home too to enable them to update and attract visitors, perhaps a Beamish-style centre of Dales life with interactive displays and hands-on activities. Stop spending huge amounts on one-off cycle races which benefit only a few but disrupt life for many.
49)	Think jobs through where possible, rather than being seen as a one-off. These are examples we have witnessed in our village over the last month: A bench has been sited on the car park, under some trees. We understand this will have to be moved as anyone sitting on it would be covered in bird-mess. So, the job has to be done twice. I saw a man measuring a bridleway. He said that he was a contractor for NYCC and the bridleway is being resurfaced. Surely there are measurements held from last time this job was done. Sometimes, buying better quality products, such as signs, road-surfacing materials, is better economically than doing a job cheaply. A section of road round a grid near our house has been re-done 3 times in as many years.
50)	Are there more services which can be shared with neighbouring areas e.g. North Yorkshire/ Bradford / Lancashire. Craven using any spare capacity to take on services to raise income or vice versa. Council contact would seem to be one which could be shared. Making the most of revenue raising opportunities e.g. quality events which people will pay to attend. Again work with neighbours to build on economic impacts - complimentary events leading to longer stays, more money into the local economy.
51)	Far more fines for dog fouling And fine dog owners for dogs not being under control Permit parking for residents of certain streets Raise council tax (especially for higher bands if possible) Charge more from empty homes and second homes Sell any artwork or antiques which aren't on display Vote for a party that will reverse the austerity madness
52)	I think that services which benefit a limited segment of the community should be transferred to the relevant Parish/Town Council. The cost should then be included in the precept of that council.

If you have any other comments on the Council's budget, please tell us.

35 comments were received.

	Other Comments
1)	As a resident of Glusburn I sometimes wonder just what I get for my council tax as the roads are almost impossible. So all I get is out of light and my dust bin emptied. When will you look at my council tax and reduce it as I do not feel I get value for money.
2)	I think CDC provides better value for money than NYCC and Parish Councils. I think the split causes wastage.
3)	The council needs to remember that there is a Craven outside of Skipton. It appears rural services and support are always the first to go. Any increases in the area should be equally spent. i.e. Bentham's share should be spent in Bentham and not Skipton, poor example.
4)	The only way to maintain services by CDC is to raise council tax, to avoid disastrous consequences for the most vulnerable.
5)	ensure everyone pays their council tax bill
6)	Not enough social workers for children and elderly, need help with alteration to the local environment for handicapped like pavement edges sloping to the ground (road/street) would also be easier for frames.
7)	<p>Question 4 - Council Tax increase As pensioners we rely heavily on interest from savings to maintain our standard of life. Our savings interest is annually being reduced. So we cannot afford to pay for the previous Council Tax increases much less can we hope to pay for further increases. Question 5 - Statutory services spend Really we need to know more detail about the following, as pensioners we can't afford modern facilities such as Internet Housing and Homelessness - be more selective re individual cases. Do not finance anyone who has actively contributed to homelessness Planning and building control - Reduce cost to zero. Planning is now redundant because local decisions/recommendations are overruled by National Government - 100% of this expense can be saved. Abolish the Planning Dept. Any essential service can be provided by Parish Councils. Question 6 - Discretionary services spend Amenity Areas - from what I see in Embsay and Eastby, grass is cut where this is virtually no grass to cut, leaves are not always collected but blown from "here to there" without any benefit. This expense can surely be cut by at least 80%. And why does it take 2 men to cut or blow? Arts Development - This should be self-financing. For years we pensioners haven't been able to afford such luxuries. So 80 - 100% saving should be possible Craven Museum & Gallery, Skipton TIC and Town Hall - Do not discontinue because this would also be expensive Question 7 - Discretionary services fees and charges Car Parking - These have been uncompetitive in Craven for years. Other local authority's charges have been much less, no doubt because they have better financial control. Bereavement Services - the removal of Christian areas from the crematorium was an abominable outrage. The Christian foundation of Britain is of priority importance. Question 8 - priority areas for reducing spend We need to know more detail. But probably this is the area where savings should be High Priority. Human resources - This expenditure can be wholly avoided. Up to the 1950s managers were required to maximise production whilst maintaining product quality, personnel safety production costs, personnel relations and training subordinates. In the 1960s encouraged by Government Training Boards, functions like training, safety and human relations were gradually taken over by separate specialist departments headed by expensive managers/directors in grossly inflated personnel and development empires. As predicted by many, this tended to be counterproductive: with safety no longer integral to front line staff thinking, incidents maximised. Similarly, product quality becomes secondary to production output and staff morale declined. By the 1980s H.R. staff were struggling to promote front line staff to regard safety, training and personnel relations to be more integral to their control function, apparently unaware that their own H.R. influence had contributed to this problem in the first place. These detriments become the company's incentives for increasing the influence of H.R. departments still further enabling the growth of personnel development into a massive national organisation that eventually achieved professional status with Royal Charter on the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development. Perhaps the most pernicious effect was the rapid growth of systematic quality schemes, Investors in People which while based on sound logic were often badly administered, again detracting from effective management and spawned the often scored "tick box" technique. The work of executive managers, especially, becomes more bureaucratic, leaving less time for essentially central executive responsibilities. Today we are continually being told that British Industry and commerce have a very low level of productivity - lower than our European competitors. The growth and influence of HR specialists are partly responsible for this. Information services - more detail is needed to reply to this question Legal services - more detail needed, but the well known extortionate assets associated with legal services suggests that opportunities for savings are probably huge. Comments on Question 9 - garden waste Garden materials are NOT WASTE. They are far too valuable as feed for compost to give them away. Why did the CDC save the small cost of acknowledging my letter when I wrote on this subject? Why have I a brown bin I didn't ask for and have no use for? Comments on Question 11 - use of volunteers It is morally wrong to expect the public to do work for nothing, just because the people, we are paid handsome salaries/wages, are too</p>

	Other Comments
	incompetent to operate a financially viable service. How can the CDC have such "brass necks" Comment on Question 12 - transferring services Yes - only if the charities elected are viable and make an offer/initiative, most enthusiastically, BUT are the CDC management capable of doing this competently, so setting contracts to ensure that private practice provides real savings whilst maintaining, or even improving quality and reducing cost of service? There is a wealth of evidence since the 1950s that this is generally possible, thus avoiding the tendering for public services providers to regard the public as a permanent bottomless source of unlimited money. Why do public employers and employees never seem to realise that they minimally expect to be able and allowed to spend to the levels defined by rising financial inflation, when we who pay their salaries and wages steadily become poorer at the same rate? Question 14 comments 1) Why have some councillors and council staff received steadily increasing salaries and expenses, during Mr Gordon Browns recession when tax payers have been forced to bail out banks and political organisations? When e.g. (name redacted for data protection) complained justifiably in letters to the press, the CDC has not heeded . We public rely on the Craven Ratepayers Action Group group to fight out battle for us but all CRAG earns is contempt from the CDC. 2) Why is council tax not increased significantly on houses own by people as 2nd holiday residences (e.g. standard tax rate x20) ? House shortage is one of the greatest material problems and a solution must be found. 3) We are far from sure that council financial support for cycle events is money well spent. Financial report about benefit seem to be equivocal at best and there is over whelming evidence that these events can be disastrous for some private businesses and residents and some people have even been forced to walk long distances home from work because of road closures and dislocated businesses.
8)	Make people accountable to achieve targets therefore saving monies.
9)	You could cut the amount you spend of our money by 10% without any problem. Make all services that are discretionary pay, make a profit.
10)	1. It would be useful if Craven DC could benchmark costs against other authorities (or an average) - are Craven DC more/less efficient than other authorities.
11)	Although there is a need to save money it is important that CDC continues to support events that bring more visitors to the area such as cycling events, sheep day, puppet festival, waterways festival. Promotion and providing facilities to encourage people of all ages to be more active will bring many benefits and should be a priority.
12)	Coaches parking in Skipton - this is now getting out of control with coaches driving in and out most days, dropping passengers off near the toilets and not always enough space for all of the coaches. Has the cost/benefit of encouraging coaches visiting for short periods being assessed as part of our economic development? Can we charge coaches more on Saturdays to reduce the numbers and congestion for residents? Or charge more for short 'passing through' visits and reduce risk of a pedestrian being killed
13)	Simple arithmetic, according to your figures show that it costs much more to provide services, i.e., support/back office functions £112.86 than the statutory and discretionary services actually cost, which looks even incredible when some discretionary services seem to make money. Statutory services total cost per annum - £61.88 Discretionary services total cost per annum - £22.00 Total = £83.88 Discretionary services ?? income - £39.55 Total cost of both services - £44.33 How come it costs £112.86 to deliver a total cost of £44.33 for the services provided? I accept that this is not as simple as the figures attempt to indicate.
14)	Council every 4/5 years, not council members. Democracy needs to be seen to work for all the electorate.
15)	Maintain and/or increase spending on voluntary agencies such as Citizens Advice Bureau.
16)	Any amount of money spent on cleaning up the ginnels around Skipton would be appreciated. 1 man with a trolley is very mean. The Bus Station is a disgrace most day's and the garden outside the pound store. The post office exterior is disgusting, pigeon droppings and rubbish where people stand to cross the road, fag ends everywhere. Go and have a look!!
17)	None - fairly satisfied
18)	I volunteer as an advisor for Citizens Advice and this has given me an insight into the problems encountered by many of the residents of Craven. The CA service is efficient due to its extensive use of volunteers and is effective in the strategic aim of building resilient communities by assisting residents to deal with their problems, particularly managing debt and benefit claims. This is delivered by training and supporting members of the community to act as volunteer advisors. The current CDC grant is essential to enable this service to continue.
19)	I think they currently do brilliantly with the budget received
20)	See separate email
21)	Review current fees and charges - many are very out of date and minimal compared to other neighbouring LA's.
22)	I fear, if not handled correctly that too many cuts will be made and have the worst effects on those in our community who are most in need. Basic grassroots services should be maintained, these are not a luxury, they are essential to ensure all in this community feel proud of our towns and villages and feel part of that

	Other Comments
	community, whether they are rich or poor. We are on a slippery road if we don't continue to care and support those who need our advice services and community help.
23)	Leadership of the Council needs improving as does service management to ensure the best possible quality of service is given to residents by staff providing them on the "front line".
24)	Stop spending/wasting so much money on meetings and away days etc. Focus on providing cost effective services by getting on with the relative jobs - and reward the front line staff who deliver the Council's services in these challenging times.
25)	It is very sad the central grant is being cut in the way it is. Such a small amount of money overall but a potential big impact.
26)	We have a fragmented council everyone blames someone else. They expect everyone to be volunteers this is not possible. Money is always an issue and Skipton squander money on visitors not Skiptonians. Skipton is not just the high street.
27)	Well done for putting this out there. Do people good to see what you're against.
28)	Invest as much as possible in community groups and arts and culture!!!
29)	Why do you need refuse collection (bin men) working every bank holiday and weekends.....? This is ludicrous as they will be paid double time for something they should be doing during the week.
30)	Staffing efficiencies in CDC are the answer to cuts not services which need to be maintained
31)	There was a story in the news recently about a Gargrave resident being taken to court over a sign that he had painted. From what I read, this could have been dealt with a lot quicker and cheaper by not involving the court system and therefore saving on time and money, also harming the image of the Council.
32)	It is upsetting for those of us who do not live in Skipton to see our smaller towns' services dwindle in order to promote this one town. This is grossly unfair!
33)	Working with NYCC together, could work on some projects, to share resources such as IT, phones, manpower etc. If any council tax money goes to the courts service, reduce the amount of meal expenses paid to jurors. This is being raised from personal experience & seeing the money wasted.
34)	I feel for you guys - this govt is killing local authorities But please crack down on dog fouling and awful dog owners - a real blight on Skipton
35)	I am pleased to see this use of online technology to support the budget consultation and hope that it results in a much broader range of responses than in prior years.