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# Rutland County Council

## **Review of the Structure & format of the Parish Council Forum**

## Rutland Parish Forum

- The new format of the Parish Forum was designed to allow individual parish voices to be heard, and as a result strengthen the relationship between RCC and Parish Councils and between Parish Councils themselves. The intention was to also provide parishes an opportunity to input to wider issues.
- It was agreed by the Forum that the operation of these meetings would be reviewed after an initial period, and we subsequently sent out our survey to seek you views/feedback so that we could discuss in this meeting.
- **13 responses**

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**Question 1. Future meetings:** How would you prefer future meetings to be conducted, in person, by zoom or a mixture of the two?

- 6 preferred a mixture of the two with the remainder split 3-4 between in-person/zoom

## Question 2. The role of the Parish Forum:

a. Do you feel that the new format provides for a better relationship between parish councils?

- 10 agreed that the new format provides a better relationship between parish councils, with the remainder neither agreeing or disagreeing!

b. Secondly, do you feel that the new format will provide a better relationship between Parish Councils?

- 8 agreed that the new format will provide a better relationship between parish councils. Of the remainder only one disagreed and the other neither agreed or disagreed.

## — Question 3. Being Heard as a Parish Council – Membership/Forum structure:

**a. Do you think that under the current arrangements for Parish Forums your individual Parish voice is being heard?**

- 9 agreed that their parish voice was being heard, although 2 parishes disagreed, (one strongly) and another did not answer the question.

**b. Secondly, what do you feel could help get your voice heard? For your Parish would you prefer:**

- Mixed feelings, with 6 responses content with current arrangements. Of the remainder 3 favoured a mixture of smaller monthly gatherings with a bi-annual larger gatherings and one favoured just the smaller gatherings - 3 parishes did not respond.

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**Question 4. Agenda content:** Do you agree that the agendas of the Parish Forum reflect the issues that are important to Parish Council's?

- 10 agreed that agendas reflect issues important to Parish councils, only one Parish disagreed with this and the remainder neither agreed or disagreed.

**Question 5. Agenda Contribution:** Do you feel that you are able to ensure that items that are important to your Parish are raised on the agenda for the forum?

- 8 agreed that parishes were able to ensure important issues for their parishes are raised with only one Parish disagreeing, and the remainder neither agreeing or disagreeing.

**Question 6. Agenda setting:** Do you agree with the revised composition of the agenda setting group (RCC members plus 3 elected from parishes)?

- 9 agreed with the revised structure of the agenda setting group, one disagreed and the others neither agreed or disagreed.



# Discussion.....

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## — Agenda setting committee:

When we sent your packs out we asked for nominations from Parishes for representatives to join the agenda setting committee.

I would be grateful if you could let us have them now – please put in the chat box and we will send out an email out requesting your votes so that we can elect the representatives by an on-line ballot.