

Hi Both,

I would like to get this on the agenda for the next full Council meeting. Having spoken to Sam about his meeting with Greg White I think this is the way forward. Could you let me know your thoughts please?

As you will be aware digital connectivity is poor in some areas of Filey, particularly on the seafront, affecting both business and personal usage.

North Yorkshire County Council has implemented a County Digital Strategy that has already started to be implemented in rural areas and on the coast, with Whitby getting free Wi-Fi in the Town Centre, and Scarborough seafront benefiting from the introduction of free public access Wi-Fi. Although Filey was mentioned by Cllr. Don Mackenzie in the publicity, this has yet to materialise. See the link.

<https://www.thisisthecoast.co.uk/news/local-news/public-wi-fi-for-scarborough-filey-and-whitby/>

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/info/north-yorkshire-digital-strategy>

Digital Strategy: Its vision - "To become a smart County that uses technology in our operations and service delivery to improve the outcomes and the lives of the people we serve"

According to the strategy success will look like: Working and living in a smart county where connectivity is the norm through a combination of public sector points of access and public services Wi-Fi. Citizens and businesses will have access to high speed, broadband across the county, supported by a strong culture of digital skills.

After Cllr. Cross's conversation with the Executive member for stronger communities, digital connectivity and climate change, Cllr Greg White, it has become apparent that Filey is not on their radar and, in order to move things forward, Filey will have to put in a request for some of the next tranche of money for connectivity in the County. We need more than free Wi-Fi in town so I therefore propose that,

"The Clerk write to Cllr. Greg White asking that Filey be put forward for the next funding that becomes available to increase digital infrastructure and access in Filey, which will support the town's businesses, residents and tourists who struggle to maintain connectivity to a level expected in a "digital age," which is to the detriment of businesses, education, personal use and access to tourist information for visitors."

Also there is a lot of information on the Community Counselling website page regarding their funding and sources. I would still like us to investigate how we, as a Council, can support this initiative as it is a vital service and we need it in Filey.

Regards,
Marilyn