

<u>Date</u>	<u>Polling District</u>	<u>In Support?</u>	<u>Comments</u>				
10/09/2015	GRK	No	I am writing to say I am very much against Guiseley having a Town Council				
14/09/2015	GRD	No	I understand Leeds City Council General Purposes Committee is meeting next month and I would be grateful if you could put before them the fact that I do not wish to have a Guiseley Town Council imposed on our neighbourhood, principally because it would involve a significant charge added to the council tax. This community is perfectly well served, at no cost, by the Guiseley and Rawdon Forum and by the Aireborough Neighbourhood Development Forum.				
10/09/2015	GRC	No	On attending the Guiseley & Rawdon forum meeting on the 9 Sept the mention of the proposed Guiseley Town Council was again aired. The meeting was informed that a decision was to be made at a meeting of the LCC purposes committee, for or against Guiseley electing a Town Council for Guiseley in October. This decision surprises me after a recent survey concluded quite decisively that the residents of Guiseley did not want a town council. Why a LCC sub committee should decide to make a decision for the residents of Guiseley is unbelievable and is totally undemocratic. The recent survey showed quite convincingly that the guiseley residents were not in favour and the only way to resolve this situation democratically is by holding a referendum if the result of the recent survey is not binding. How can a council sub committee who are not resident and quite frankly having no interest in the internal affairs of guiseley make such an important decision. We have too many tiers of local government in my opinion, the Guiseley Rawdon Forum, which is non political will achieve more for Guiseley than an elected political town council with problems freely discussed without political views and interference. Sir I wish to inform you that I am not in favour of a town council for guiseley and I wish to be recorded as such.				
14/09/2015	GRJ	No	I have several questions relating to the proposed formation of a Guiseley Town Council. At the end of each point which I make, explaining my disquiet, I highlight the specific question to which I request you to ask a member of your staff to respond as a matter of urgency in view of the impending meeting of the councils committee who are empowered to make the decision. I understand that there is a proposal to form a Guiseley Town Council. This had very little publicity and that is unfair to the rate payers. My conversations with neighbours shows very few people are aware of the proposal and disquiet on the subject has been expressed at recent meetings of the Guiseley & Rawdon forums. I further understand that a petition has been lodged which the council will consider. In fact, if I was not one of the few people who attend the guiseley and rawdon forums, I would be added to those who do not even know of the proposal. My questions is: 1. what democratic rights do the population have to be informed of the proposal and how will the guiseley rate payers be informed of it? On 8 Sept I received a questionnaire which indicated that a guiseley town council was in existence. At a meeting of the Guiseley & Rawdon forum on 9 sept it was stated that a council committee is shortly to consider approving the formation of such a council, but the impression given that it already existed is incorrect. My question is:- 2. How can such a document be allowed to be circulated and has this document been financed from public funds? I find many of the questions in the questionnaire to be intrusive and from what I understand town councils have limited powers and certainly they do not extend to the wide range covered by these questions. My question is:- 3. who has the authority to ask these questions and who approved the questions in the leaflet? Reverting to the petition, questions have been asked regarding the numbers of signatories and the eligibility of some who were approached. My request is:- Will you please cause an enquiry to be made into the validity and accuracy of the petition? My final question is:- In view of the limited circulation of the possibility of a town council and the misinformation surrounding that possibility, is it not incumbent on LCC to ensure that all guiseley rate payers have the full facts and the opportunity to express their views? I look forward to your reply.				
09/09/2015	GRJ	No	We would like to register our objection to the above proposed Guiseley Town Council.				
10/09/2015	GRK	No	at the guiseley forum meeting 9sept. the question of a local council came up .At a previous meeting this subject was overwhelmingly voted against. As a resident of this parish and a pensioner .I am quite happy with present arrangements and do not want an additional layer of councillors. and an increase in my rates. When you debate this subject I trust you will bear in mind any additional expense to the pensioners of this parish				
18/09/2015	GRK	No	Would you please note that I am against the formation of a Guiseley Town Council. A petition to be brought before the General Purposes Committee of Leeds City Council in October is not enough - all addresses in Guiseley should be consulted with a paper postal communication asking for their views				

18/09/2015	GRC	No	We are writing to object strongly to the idea of a Town Council for Guiseley. We have perfectly adequate local forum which meets on a regular basis and open to everyone. Also we have the Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum, which is extremely well run by volunteers. Why add another layer of governance which will add cost to our annual council tax bill? There was a chance some while ago for residents to air their views and of those who responded it was clear that a town council was not wanted. If this proposal is to be put properly and in an unbiased way to all residents of Guiseley, we need everyone to receive full information of what the implications will be, rather than a questionnaire issued by one political party which implied that a town council was already approved. This was sent out in a plain brown envelope with no name or address. Please add our name to those expressing deep concern at this underhand way of gaining support and register our vote against the proposal. (guiseley residents for the last 47 years)				
18/09/2015	GRC	No	I was disturbed to receive through the post a long questionnaire which asks residents to feed their views "into the plans for a future Town Council". As far as we're aware no decision has yet been taken about the setting up of such a body. Many of the questions were concerned with matters over which a Town Council would have no powers i.e. quality of teaching in our schools - amount of social housing etc. We already have the Guiseley & Rawdon Forum where concerns can be expressed re planning, traffic issues, bus services, policing matters etc and these concerns are noted by our local councillors and efficiently followed up. In addition we have the Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum which looks particularly at planning issues. It was set up to help with the formulation of a Neighbourhood Plan. They are particularly concerned with the preservation of green space in the town and the surrounding district. With two bodies already concerned with topics which affect life in Guiseley. I think it would be a great pity if a further group came into being which would duplicate almost all of what they do and would also add to the Community Charge bill for each household.				
20/09/2015	GRK	No	We would like to register our opposition to the proposal to set up a town council for Guiseley. Our reasons for objecting are listed below. This is an unnecessary additional layer of local government. It would not have any powers over the main issues and concerns of local residents such as housing, roads, schools etc. All the functions of a town council are already covered by the Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum and the Guiseley and Rawdon Forum. These two organisations are voluntary, non-political and free. There is a cost involved with the proposal in that an additional precept will be added to council tax bills which we assume would be similar to the one in Otley. We believe this is currently £63 for band D. The plan has not been well publicised and currently is only supported by a small minority of residents. We do not believe that the wishes of 10% of the population should be imposed on the other 90% most of whom will be unaware of the proposal. It makes no sense for Guiseley to be singled out for a town council whilst the rest of Aireborough continues as before. Our local councillors and the two forums mentioned above already do a very good job on behalf of all local residents.				
20/09/2015	GRC	No	I am not in favour of a town council for Guiseley. It will have very limited powers and would represent an additional layer of bureaucracy which has to be paid for, Geoff North (88 Silverdale Avenue Guiseley)				
20/09/2015	GRC	No	If it is not too late, I think that another layer of local government is unnecessary and it would also add to the council tax for local residents. I do not believe that a town council would be able to change the policies of the City Council. Anyway we have a very useful Neighbour Forum to voice our concerns. Geoffrey North				
28/09/2015	GRJ	No	I seem to recall opposing this proposition some while ago? My own experience with elected representatives under existing structures have proved satisfactory. I am far from convinced of the benefits of this additional tier. It is more likely to lead to conflict and possible delays in decision making processes. This will result in even more frustration & complacency in the democratic process. It follows that I am totally against the setting up of a town council for Guiseley.				
28/09/2015	GRJ	No	I have considered the arguments for & against this proposition. I have always found that the representation of my interests has been adequately dealt with via existing elected representatives. I see the possible addition of a town council as an unnecessary step. In my view, this may likely lead to complications on party political lines. I am opposed to the formation of a town council for Guiseley.				
27/09/2015		Yes for a Review	We are residents of Guiseley and have recently become aware of the petition to the General Purposes Committee of Leeds City Council. We can see there are arguments for and against a Town Council for Guiseley. We also guess that there are many residents of Guiseley who have not become aware as yet of the petition. We therefore consider that a Governance Review would be a way to proceed before a decision is taken.				
26/09/2015	GRC	No	I strongly disagree with the formation of a Town Council for Guiseley. We already have two local groups who are looking after our needs very well, the Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum and the Guiseley and Rawdon Forum. Please take my views into account when this comes up for consideration.				

26/09/2015	GRD	No	I do not want a town council as it would cost every resident extra on their council tax and we already have the Guiseley and Rawdon Forum which listens to people's ideas and worries and generally manages to get action taken. I feel sure it is just as effective as a town council would be and it does not cost us anything.				
26/09/2015	GRC	No	As a resident of Guiseley I wish it to be known that I consider a town council for Guiseley to be an unnecessary level of bureaucracy and cost to the local population. The real issues that matter, i.e housing, road planning and maintenance would continue to be governed by Leeds City Council. Under these circumstances either a full governance review, informing all residents of all the implications of such a decision should be undertaken, or in preference the whole scheme should be abandoned before further costs to the taxpayer are incurred.				
30/09/2015	GRJ	Yes for a Review	I wish to register my opinion that a full Governance Review should be made before a decision is taken on the above				
30/09/2015		No	We wish to place on record our view that we believe it is not necessary for Guiseley to go to the expense of having its own Town Council. We believe that the existing forums and community based volunteer work is currently sufficient to answer any local problems which may arise.				
01/10/2015	GRJ	No	As residents in Guiseley for 45 years we see no need or purpose in a town council for Guiseley. This would be just another layer of bureaucracy, and achieve little more than we can do already. We have the Guiseley and Rawdon Forum, and also the Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum, set up under the Localism Act. We would have to pay an extra precept for unhelpful and unwanted professional help. Please reconsider this unwelcome suggestion.				
01/10/2015	GRK	No	We are writing to express our opinion regarding the above and the reasons why we are not in favour of a Town Council for Guiseley. Additional costs (precept) not justified as we do not require a Town Clerk. A Town Clerk does not have the power to make decisions over housing development or traffic congestion of which we do not want further housing and congestion is already a big problem. We already have contacts and a voice for our area which is open to all and is non political and is FREE. We also have Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum which is also FREE and run by volunteers. To enable decisions to be made on this matter all residents should firstly be informed by letter (every household) that a precept would be required and detailing the powers of a Town Council. Public Meetings should also be provided to enable the residents to find out more. We are not in favour of a Town Council for Guiseley and recommend a full government review should be made first before a decision is made. We have very little confidence in knowing that decisions are being made without consultation of ALL the residents of Guiseley but a few and must strongly stress that meetings behind closed doors are NOT and never will be acceptable.				
01/10/2015	GRJ	No	I have lived at my current address, in Guiseley, since 1991. I am aware of the current moves towards a Town Council for Guiseley by some people in the area and I understand a petition is shortly to be brought before the General Purposes Committee of Leeds City Council advocating this new Town Council. I would like it known to the Committee that I am totally against such a new Town Council. I believe any such council is unnecessary because we currently have more than enough representation and discussion forums to serve Guiseley. We certainly do not want any additional local government cost. Also, from what I can gather, it seems that any new Town Council would not have the power to solve any of the problems currently facing this area. I believe it to be a waste of everyone's time. I would strongly request the Committee to reject the idea and not proceed, in any way, with such a new council.				
29/09/2015	GRC	No	We wish to express our objection of the formation of a Guiseley Town Council for reasons on the attached sheet (fact sheet from Michael Dawson). We should be obliged if you would express the points made therein to the General Purposes Committee at or before their meeting on the 19 October				
22/09/2015	GRJ	No	I am a ratepayer in Guiseley and have been since 1970. In the years since then there have been many significant changes throughout Aireborough, with the active involvement of councillors and with very little doctrinaire posturing on their part. In my experience the council's officers work well with our local councillors and it is a successfully responsive arrangement. I see no need for an additional town council for Guiseley. In my view the proposal for an additional consultative body would lead to extra costs and most likely would delay the resolution of local issues. Would it not be more effective to make extra funds available to the councillors, should they need them? I see no need for a town council for Guiseley.				

21/09/2015	GRD	No	Regarding Guiseley having a town council I do not believe that we have need for another layer of bureancracy. We have local councillors who should know what Guiseley residents concerns are. The main problem in Guiseley is over development over sheltered facilities, too much traffic and parking problems. West Villa Road, Kelcliffe estate and all roads in the area to the east of Oxford Junior School are all ready blocked with cars for the school and station. Even before the new building has started and more children (in cars) arrive. A town council would have no powers over the main problems Guiseley faces, as I told them in the survey which they sent to us to fill in. So no we do not need a town council.				
24/09/2015		No	Dear Sir, First and foremost I have to tell you that my wife and I are 100% against the formation of a Guiseley Town Council, a toothless lair of bureaucracy that we the rate payer are going to have to foot the bill for. As pensioners another increase in a council tax precept is not welcome. I understand around 1000 people have to show an interest in the idea of a Town Council, are the thoughts of the other 10000 or so residents not to be considered ?. The fact that a "CHOSEN" few can bulldoze this proposal through is completely undemocratic. All residents should be fully aware of the actions of a small group of people trying to push this proposal through and given the chance to vote yes or no to the formation of a Town Council. I believe a full governance review should be taken by Leeds City Council if only to prove that democracy exists before going any further with this idea of a Town Council that is driven by a group of people who have no interest in the thoughts of the majority of the residents.				
05/10/2015	GRD	No	I have recently been made aware of a petition to form a Town Council for Guiseley. I am writing to let you know that I am strongly opposed to another layer of bureaucracy interposed between the people of Guiseley and the Leeds City Council. We already have useful fora locally for public discussion and to express our concerns to the council and I cannot see the need for yet another organisation with the associated costs in resources and time.				
02/10/2015	GRC	No	We understand that some people are suggesting that there should be a town council for Guiseley. We wish you to know that we are opposed to such a proposal. We believe that it would simply be a talk shop with few if any powers. We would object to paying any additional tax for the setting up and support of such a body. By the way we had difficulty in discovering your postal address from the Leeds City Council website. So will email this letter as well as posting it to ensure that you receive it.				
03/10/2015	GRD	No	I do not support the proposition to introduce a Town Council for Guiseley. I believe the extra layer of government will simply cost money, and not produce any worthwhile results for the community.				
04/10/2015		No	I am NOT in favour of a town council for Guiseley.				
04/10/2015		No	Following a circular placed in our letterbox, we understand that proposals are being processed to put into place a Town Council for Guiseley. Now that Leeds is in charge of important and lesser decision affecting Guiseley, what would the benefits be from having an extra council? Should we assume that we will be expected to pay a handful of individuals to do these new Council Duties? This added to the Leeds Council Taxes? Would we see a reduction in Leeds Council Taxes? What would the duties of an extra council be? Has there been a circular referring to this plan for all to be advised? We have not received any at this address, nor have the neighbours we spoke to. It is perfectly clear that far more information is needed. All people living in this area are obviously directly concerned by such a decision. So, we would say no to the extra Guiseley Council, unless al is clearly explained and to the benefit of all living in the area. On a lighter note, if you were to offer something similar to the old Aireborough Urban district council of 1937 (alas abolished in 1974) which gave all the area great service, satisfaction and independence then the answer would definitely be YES. Guiseley being too small on its own would find, I am sure, some other small neighbouring townships to join in.				
04/10/2015	GRD	No	I wish to register my opposition to the appointment of a Town Council for Guiseley				
05/10/2015	GRJ	No	This issue was raised some months ago and I was made aware of it from a flyer through my front door. At the time I wrote to Susanna Benton expressing my opposition on the grounds that the initiative was undemocratic. Although the initiative had scraped the 10% required to prompt further action by Leeds City Council, the instigators were not known and I suspected that the whole idea was driven more by personal ambition than community governance. My position has not changed. We do not need a further expensive layer of bureaucracy in Guiseley. I do not wish to pay for this service. The communications about the initiative are abysmal and I still have no idea who is proposing it or why. There is no information on the Leeds City Council website and I am only aware, once again, because of local people putting flyers through my door.If we end up with a town council this will be a complete failure of democratic process. We will have slipped into creating another body for which there is no desire, no funding and no purpose. I ask you to make my opinions known to the appropriate person and put this matter finally to rest.				

05/10/2015	GRJ	No	I write to give feedback in respect of the above matter. 1) NO TO GUISELEY TOWN COUNCIL - we already have too many layers of Local Council, we do not need more. 2) NO TO GUISELEY TOWN COUNCIL - No to wasting more money on a Governance Review by a wasteful Leeds CC. Please add the above to the consultation process.				
05/10/2015		No	I write on the subject of a suggestion of a town council for Guiseley. As a resident and ratepayer of some thirty years, I want it known that I do not want that move to happen, and look to you to use whatever power you have to prevent it. If I can be of any help, please say.				
05/10/2015	GRJ	No	I write to add my comments in respect of the above proposal. I DO NOT AGREE that Guiseley needs a Town Council for the following reasons. 1. there are other local groups who can represent residents in the area (e.g. Guiseley & Rawdon Forum and the Aireboroguh Forum). 2. areas of real concern for many residents are housing developments and traffic congestion. As I understand a Town Council would not have power to make decisions, only to put forward the views of residents I feel that a Town Council would not add to the process. 3. our council tax is already high, the financial cost of a town council would only add to the financial impact on household budgets. Please add the above to the feedback received as part of the consultation process.				
05/10/2015	GRC	No	i am informed that there is a proposal to create a Town Council for Guiseley and I would wish to express my opposition to such a proposal. I do so on the following grounds: that the powers that would be delegated to it would make it hardly worthwhile. That the precept that would be imposed is not acceptable especially in the current climate. that this council would be another layer of bureaucracy and is totally unnecessary. Please would you ensure that my comments are brought to the attention of the committee which is considering this proposal.				
05/10/2015	GRJ	No	I am NOT in favour of the proposal for a town council in Guiseley				
05/10/2015		No	I am writing, as a Guiseley resident, to oppose this proposal which I believe will lead to an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy				
07/10/2015	GRD	No	I have received notification to make me aware of the question of a town council for Guiseley. I believe that I have already expressed my concerns over this matter. Not everyone in Guiseley is aware of the petition to form a Town Council, or that a consultation took place between 24.10 and 28.11.2014. Therefore, a decision will be made on only the views of a small proportion of the electorate of Guiseley. This is not a truly democratic process. Nor has everyone been made aware that the formation of a Town Council will involve an addition to Council Tax. If everyone has to pay this charge then they should be consulted and asked if they agree to it. A town council does not have the power to make decisions over housing or traffic congestion, it is only consulted. Guiseley already is represented by Forums, instrumental in obtaining car parking on Netherfield Road, cross on Otley Road and proposals to build on green belt land. All this work is carried out free, done by volunteers and is non political. The formation of a town council is not required to complete these tasks as they are already being done, for free. I am opposed to a town council being set up, as groups doing the work are already in place doing what is required, for free. Not only this but the proposed boundaries for the town council takes in parts of Menston & Hawksworth. These have nothing to do with Guiseley, and Menston even has a BD postcode, not even part of Leeds anyway.				
05/10/2015	GRJ	No	I am very much against a town council for guiseley. It would seem to have few powers would be unnecessary. There would be considerable extra cost to maintain premises and wages for staff, which would no doubt increase year on year and what exactly would they do? We have managed so far. We have Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum and Guiseley and Rawdon Forum. We need to be keeping costs down not increasing them unnecessarily.				
05/10/2015	GRJ	No	I am very much against a town council for guiseley. It would seem to have few powers would be unnecessary. There would be considerable extra cost to maintain premises and wages for staff, which would no doubt increase year on year and what exactly would they do? We have managed so far. We have Aireborough Neighbourhood Forum and Guiseley and Rawdon Forum. We need to be keeping costs down not increasing them unnecessarily.				
28/09/2015	GRK	No	I understand that a petition for a Town Council for Guiseley is to be brought before the General Purposes Committee of Leeds City Council in October. I feel that because there was little publicity about the short consultation period in November 2014 concerning this petition, any decision made by the council based entirely on it would be undemocratic. I would therefore ask that the council defer any final decision on this matter before all the eligible residents of Guiseley are given full details of the work that a Town Council is able to do, and also of the additional precept this would mean to their council tax. Following this, a local referendum should be held to give every resident a say in this important decision.				
28/09/2015	GRK	No	I would like to add my support to Mr Denbeigh's Letter.				

04/10/2015	GRC	No	We are writing about the possibility of the formation of a town council for Guiseley and I am writing to tell you that my wife, Agnes Booth, and I are not in favour of this proposal which we think is unnecessary. It seems to me that as we are adequately respresented with the existitng local government gbodies and that a further layer of representation would be a unneccessary expense which would give value for money to the residents. We would ask you please to give full thought to these views in your deliberations.				
02/10/2015	GRC	No	I understand that the institution of a Town Council is to be considered by Leeds City Council shortly. Please note and record my strongest objection to this proposal. I consider that this would result in a further layer of bureaucracy without power to materially affect Guiseley citizen's needs and rights. Additionally, it will incur extra costs for Guiseley Community charge payers, without producing any advantage in their overall governance. A formal acknowledgement of my protest is requested. Thank you				
Not dated	GRK	No	I am saying No! to a Town Council for Guiseley				