



Hello,

Since completion of the What Matters To Marsden engagement in 2022 and the Community Action Plan in 2024 there has been lots happening across Marsden.

You can see the results of the What Matters To Marsden engagement through this link: [What matters to Marsden – How good is our place?](#)

You can see what is included in the Marsden Community Action Plan through this link: [What matters to Marsden action plan](#)

The Marsden Blueprint

Together with the community, Kirklees Council has developed & adopted an ambitious blueprint for Marsden's future. This masterplan captures a collective vision for a stronger, more connected and vibrant Marsden, shaped by local voices and designed to guide positive change. You can see the Blueprint report produced on the Council Website through this link: [Marsden Masterplan Report Draft 04 251120.indd](#)

If you would like to watch the Cabinet meeting in which this report was discussed and approved on YouTube through this link (item starting 29 minutes in to the recording): [Kirklees Council Cabinet - 2nd December 2025](#)

As part of this approval, Kirklees Cabinet has approved funding to develop detailed design proposals for Peel Street, Marsden's busy high street and the heart of village life. The work will explore ways to make the street safer, more attractive and easier to enjoy, with ideas such as wider pavements, calmer traffic and better spaces for walking and cycling.

Plans will also look at improving links to St Bartholomew's Church via Market Place and Town Gate, alongside better public space and parking to support local businesses. Opportunities to create more pedestrian-friendly areas on Peel Street, Argyle Street and Derby Terrace will also be explored as part of the design work.

You can read more about the report and the recent Cabinet approval in the Huddersfield Hub through this link: [Marsden Blueprint set to transform the village and sets a benchmark for community consultation - Huddersfield Hub](#)

Public Rights of Way

During the 2022 engagement, lots of people who live in and visit Marsden said that they felt Marsden's natural spaces was one of its best, if not the best, feature of the village, but that many public rights of way in the village are difficult to use due to vegetation or flooding etc. As such, improving and maintaining Marsden's paths and rights of way was included in the action plan.

Using the results of What Matters To Marsden as an evidence base, Kirklees Council have secured UK Shared Prosperity funding from government & West Yorkshire Combined Authority to improve draining and surfacing of the Public Right of Way running up the Wessenden Valley.

As part of the early investigations in to addressing the flooding on this Right of Way, Council officers found that the Victorian drains that run alongside the footpath, designed to allow any surface water or rainfall to flow off and away from the path had become blocked by litter and waste, causing many of the drainage problems seen on this path. Once the resurfacing and drainage works have been completed, residents and visitors to the area are urged to take litter and waste home with them, or at least use the bins provided.

Would you be interested in forming a 'Friends of the Wessenden Valley' community group to take a more active role in looking after this beautiful area? If so please email Luc Bride through luc.bride@kirklees.gov.uk



The Marsden Community Website

What Matters To Marsden highlighted that local people felt like there was always lots of community activity taking place, but it can be hard to keep up to date and find out what's happening.

Local people also felt that we should be doing more as a community to help our local businesses to thrive.

Members of the Marsden Business Forum and the Marsden Community Trust have been working in partnership to try to raise the funding needed to launch a community website that can be used to promote local businesses, community groups and annual village events, providing a one stop shop for everything Marsden. Whilst the motivation for this initiative grew independently of the What Matters To Marsden engagement it addresses an item raised by local people.

Heart Safe Marsden

A new community group has formed in Marsden called the Marsden Defibrillator Association. They aim to make Marsden a 'Heart Safe' community by installing community defibrillators across the village, running a

maintenance fund and education campaign to keep the defibs in use and ensure everyone knows what to do in the event of heart failure.

They have been successful in raising funding through Kirklees Council Civic Crowdfunding Platform Growing Great Places to install 6 new/additional defibs across the village. You can find out more about the campaign and group through their Growing Great Places crowdfunding page: [Marsden Defibrillator Association](#)

You can find out more about the Civic Crowdfunding Platform Growing Great Places through this link: [Growing Great Places - About - Spacehive](#)

Marsden Park Bandstand Improvements

What Matters To Marsden identified that Marsden Park was a much loved local asset, but that residents felt more could be done to support the Friends of Marsden Park to maintain the space.

Kirklees Council have secured UK Shared Prosperity funding from Government & West Yorkshire Combined Authority to support the Friends of Marsden Park to refresh the Bandstand and work is now complete.



Colne Valley Ward Community Partnership Meeting

Running a Community Partnership to connect community activity, share information and provide mutual support was identified in the Marsden Community Action Plan.

The Colne Valley Ward Cllrs have now organised quarterly Colne Valley Ward Community Partnership meetings, with the next taking place on the 24th February from 7pm. If you are a member of a community group or are doing anything for community benefit locally, please feel free to book a ticket to attend through this Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/colne-valley-ward-community-partnership-meeting-tickets-1980475635940?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

If you are working on a project that relates to the What Matters To Marsden engagement or community action plan that you want to let people know about or share an update on, or if you are working on something that will help the community that you want to raise awareness of, please contact luc.bride@kirklees.gov.uk