
REPORT TO:	FULL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM: 16
DATE OF MEETING:	7th APRIL 2016	CATEGORY:
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	FRANK McARDLE 01283 595702	DOC:
SUBJECT:	COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ASTON AND STENSON WARDS	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Members consider the requests made by Stenson Fields Parish Council and Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and determine whether or not the Council should undertake a Community Governance Review in respect of the unparished area of Twyford and Stenson, the parished area of Stenson Fields and the parished area of Barrow upon Trent.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To appraise Members of the current situation with regard to this area of the District.
- 2.2 To advise Members of the legal process whereby the Council can review and make changes to local governance arrangements within the whole or part of its District.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and Stenson Fields Parish Council have made a joint request to change their parish council boundaries (see Appendix 1).
- 3.2 In effect, Barrow upon Trent Parish Council wishes to divest itself of approx. 153.5 acres of land in the north-west area, as marked in yellow on the map at Appendix 2, in favour of Stenson Fields Parish Council. Stenson Fields Parish Council has indicated its willingness to incorporate this land into its area.
- 3.3 In addition, Stenson Fields Parish Council has stated its wish to incorporate approx. 197.1 acres of land in the south-west area, as marked in green on the map at Appendix 2, that currently sits in the unparished area of Twyford and Stenson. Members should be aware of housing developments in this area – approximately 300 homes have recently been constructed and occupied, with another 200+ homes currently under construction or with planning permission for development.
- 3.4 The options available to the Council are:
- To take no further action at this time.

- To formally resolve to undertake a Community Governance Review, including consulting with residents and holding public meetings as deemed necessary as part of the process.

3.5 By virtue of section 82 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Council has the power to undertake a Community Governance Review within its electoral area whenever it considers appropriate to do so.

3.6 Government guidance recommends that Reviews are undertaken if there have been changes in population in certain areas, aimed at considering the impact this has had on community cohesion, the size, population and boundaries of the area and what arrangements have been, or could be, made for the purposes of community representation or community engagement. A Community Governance Review would consider such issues as:

- Whether an unparished area should be constituted as a parish and have a parish council (or other body) created;
- What the name and style of any newly constituted parish should be?
- Whether the number of parish councillors on an existing parish council should be changed?
- Whether a parish council boundary should be altered to better reflect the local community?
- Whether or not, as a result of the Review, the area of any other existing neighbouring parish should be retained, merged, altered or abolished?
- Whether a parish council should be warded or whether existing parish wards should be altered to reflect changes in the local community?
- Whether the name of a parish council should be changed?
- Whether existing parish councils should be grouped?

3.6 If Members decide to undertake the Review, all recommendations, including the issue of the Terms of Reference, will be made by Full Council prior to any Reorganisation of Community Governance Order being made.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report, but the consultation process will incur the Council in administrative and postage costs.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 There are none relating to this report.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 Area of requested land transfer

Currently, the Barrow upon Trent parish area comprises 1,858.2 acres, which would reduce to 1,704.7 acres if the requested area of 153.5 acres, marked in yellow on the map, was transferred to the Stenson Fields parish, a reduction of 8.3% land area.

The unparished area of Twyford and Stenson currently encompasses 1,662.5 acres, which would reduce to 1,465.4 acres if the requested area of 197.1 acres, marked in green on the map, was transferred to the Stenson Fields parish, a reduction of 11.9% land area.

Stenson Fields parish currently covers 168.1 acres and would, if the area of requested transfer proceeded, rise by 350.6 acres to 518.7 acres, a land area gain of 308.6%

Population

When considering any electoral arrangements arising as a result of a Community Governance Review, the Council is obliged to consider any change in the number or distribution of electors which is likely to occur within five years of any Review.

Currently, the number of dwellings and population for each of the three areas is as detailed below:

Area	Dwellings @ 2016	Population @ 2016
Barrow upon Trent	245	567
Twyford and Stenson	372	969
Stenson Fields	1,584	4,162

If the area transfers proceeded in accordance with the request, the projections through to 2021 would be as detailed below:

Area	Dwellings @ 2021	Estimated population @ 2021
Barrow upon Trent	249	576
Twyford and Stenson	373	972
Stenson Fields	2,157	5,652

Alternatively, assuming there was no change in the current areas, the projections through to 2021 would be as follows:

Area	Dwellings @ 2021	Estimated population @ 2021
Barrow upon Trent	374	864
Twyford and Stenson	696	1,811
Stenson Fields	1,709	4,487

In relation to Barrow upon Trent and Twyford and Stenson, a small 'windfall' allowance has been included for the five year projected period based on completions back to 2006.

With regard to the projected figures for Stenson Fields, whilst permission has been granted for development beyond the figures quoted, it should be noted that most of Wragley Way will be built out beyond 2021.

- 6.2 The Review and subsequent recommendations will determine the local governance arrangements for the areas concerned.

7.0 Background Papers

- 7.1 Appendix 1: Joint Barrow upon Trent / Stenson Fields Parish Councils request.
 Appendix 2: Area Map
 Appendix 3: Communities and Local Government / Local Government Boundary Commission for England Guidance on Community Governance Reviews.