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REPORT TO:	FULL COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM: 12
DATE OF MEETING:	3 <sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2016	CATEGORY:
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	FRANK McARDLE 01283 595702	DOC:
SUBJECT:	COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW - BARROW UPON TRENT, TWYFORD & STENSON AND STENSON FIELDS: DRAFT PROPOSALS	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ASTON AND STENSON WARDS	TERMS OF REFERENCE:

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## 1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Members note the results of the Terms of Reference consultation.
- 1.2 That Members note that the majority of the responses received were in favour of the proposed alterations to the parish boundaries, as shown on the map at **Appendix 2**.
- 1.3 Members agree to the publication of the results of the Terms of Reference consultation.
- 1.4 That Members note that a further period of consultation on the results of the initial consultation responses will take place.
- 1.5 That a further report will be brought to Council in order that a decision may be made in respect of the final recommendations of this Community Governance Review.

## 2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To report the outcome of the initial Terms of Reference consultation which took place in Barrow upon Trent, Twyford & Stenson and Stenson Fields on the proposal to alter the Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and Stenson Fields Parish Council boundaries (under the provisions of Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007)

## 3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Community Governance Review was instigated following the submission of a valid joint request from Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and Stenson Fields Parish Council, as attached at **Appendix 1**, for a Community Governance Review, primarily requesting that their parish council boundaries be altered.
- 3.2 In effect, Barrow upon Trent Parish Council wishes to divest itself of approximately

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 approximately 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 more than 200 homes currently under construction or with planning permission for development.

3.3 The initial consultation period was held from 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016 to 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Letters detailing the consultation and containing the Terms of Reference document, **Appendix 3**, were issued to all addresses within Barrow upon Trent, Twyford and Stenson and Stenson Fields (a total of 2,267 addresses), together with Ward Members, Derbyshire County Councillors for the area and neighbouring areas, the Member of Parliament, Derbyshire County Council, neighbouring Parish Councils and community representative groups.

3.4 A total of 272 responses were received to the initial consultation, of which one was discounted as received after the consultation end date of 4<sup>th</sup> September 2016. A summary of the remaining 271 responses is shown below. Full details are attached at **Appendix 4**.

Proposal	In favour	Against	Other
That the parish boundaries be altered as requested by Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and Stenson Fields Parish Council.	269	0	2*

\*Two representations were received expressing neither clear support nor opposition to the Proposals.

3.5 Having taken into account all consultation responses made during the first stage of consultation and mindful of the need to ensure that community governance within the area reflects the identities and interests of the community, as well as being effective and convenient, the draft recommendation of officers is: ‘To accept the majority representation from the people of Barrow upon Trent, Twyford & Stenson and Stenson Fields and implement the parish boundary changes jointly requested by Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and Stenson Fields Parish Council.’

3.6 By virtue 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. The decision to do so was made by Council on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2016.

3.7 Whilst the primary motive for this Community Governance Review related to the joint request made by the Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and Stenson Fields Parish Council to alter their parish boundaries, 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.

3.8 As a result, in undertaking a Community Governance Review, Council should also consider issues such 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?

3.9 In accordance with the Terms of Reference agreed by Council on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016, the Draft Proposals, as attached at **Appendix 5**, made by Council will be published on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and a period of further consultation will commence, ending on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017. A copy of the letter to accompany the Draft Proposals is attached at **Appendix 6**.

3.10 In accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the Council is responsible for undertaking any review within its electoral area. In addition to the Terms of Reference and Draft Proposals, all decisions will be made by Full Council prior to any Reorganisation of Community Governance Order being made.

3.11 Local governance arrangements will be determined following consultations. Details of the parties consulted are contained in the initial Terms of Reference document (Appendix 3).

3.12 A timetable detailing the actions required within the permitted twelve month period is contained within the Terms of Reference document (Appendix 3).

3.13 A copy of the Communities and Local Government Guidance on Community Governance Reviews is attached at **Appendix 7**.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

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

4.2 In the event that any final recommendation leads to the re-alignment of parish boundaries, it is likely to result in a precept adjustment to those properties already subject to a Council Tax precept and for those properties currently in the unparished area with no precept, to become subject to a Council Tax precept with effect from April 2017.

#### **5.0 Corporate Implications**

5.1 There are none relating to this report.

#### **6.0 Community Implications**

6.1 The Review and subsequent recommendations will determine the local governance arrangements for Barrow upon Trent, Twyford & Stenson and Stenson Fields.

## **7.0 Background Papers**

7.1 Area map.

7.2 Joint request from Barrow upon Trent Parish Council and Stenson Fields Parish Council.

7.3 Community Governance Review Terms of Reference.

7.4 Summary of responses made by local residents.

7.5 Community Governance Review Draft Proposals.

7.6 Communities and Local Government Guidance on Community Governance Reviews.