

## **Wiltshire Council**

### **Electoral Review Committee**

**9 January 2024**

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#### **Parish Name Change Review**

##### **Purpose**

1. To consider proposals to change the name of the parish of Luckington.

##### **Background**

2. Changing the name of a parish or parish council can be done through a Community Governance Review process in accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
3. However, such a change may also be progressed under s.75 of the Local Government Act 1972.
4. As the latter would be a simpler process in terms of structure, consultation and decision, the Committee at its meeting on 21 September 2021 resolved that where a request was received solely regarding a parish name change, the s.75 process would be followed.
5. This report relates to requests from the parish of Luckington, which is located west of Malmesbury, within the Electoral Division of Sherston.
6. S.75 allows the Council to change the name of a parish at the request of a parish council (or parish meeting if there is no council). This means that the Council may only approve or not approve that suggested name, and cannot substitute some other proposal. For instance, should a new suggestion arise as a result of a survey, unless the parish council had indicated formal consent for that alternative proposal.

##### **Main Considerations**

7. Luckington Parish Council requested that the name of the parish be changed to Luckington and Alderton. It already informally refers to itself as Luckington and Alderton Parish Council, and had thought this to be the formal name of the parish. The reason for the request was:

*To more accurately reflect the communities served by the Parish Council, which has historically represented the two neighbouring villages*

8. In order to change the name of a parish, a decision would be required by Full Council, who would then notify the Secretary of State, Director General of the Ordnance Survey, and the Registrar General, along with a parish name change order.
9. There are no specific consultation requirements where a change of parish name is being considered under s.75, only proscribed notifications after the event as detailed above.
10. However, an online survey had been set up to seek any local views, with a request this be circulated in the community by the parish council. The council's webpage on reviews was updated to include the name change survey on 14 December 2023.

11. At the time of publication, no responses had been received to the survey. This will be updated further at the meeting on 9 January 2024.
12. It should be noted that the Committee has recommended, and Council approved, name changes in the past where no additional public responses were received beyond the request of the parish council, where the request was considered to be reasonable.

### **Safeguarding Implications**

13. There are no safeguarding implications.

### **Public Health Implications**

14. There are no public health implications.

### **Procurement Implications**

15. There are no procurement implications.

### **Risk Assessment**

16. There are no risk issues arising from this report.

### **Equalities Implications**

17. There are no equalities implications.

### **Environmental and Climate Change Implications**

18. There are no environmental implications.

### **Workforce Implications**

19. There are no workforce implications.

### **Financial Implications**

20. There are no financial implications.

### **Legal Implications**

21. This report is consistent with the requirements of s.75 of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **Options**

22. The Committee may recommend that Full Council approve the proposed name changes for the parishes as listed, decline to make any recommendation to Full Council at this time, or seek consent of the parish council to recommend an alternative name to Full Council if appropriate.

### **Proposal**

23. To consider whether to recommend Full Council approve the following name changes:
- 1) The Parish of Luckington be changed to the Parish of Luckington and Alderton.

### **Perry Holmes - Director, Legal and Governance**

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**Appendices**

None

**Background Papers**

None