

WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

NOTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2014 AT ST JOHNS PARISH CENTRE, 2 WINGFIELD RD, TROWBRIDGE, BA14 9EA.

Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

Also Present:

Cllr Dennis Drewett, Ian Gibbons, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jeff Osborn, Cllr Horace Prickett, Paul Taylor, Cllr Simon Richardson (Staverton PC), June Jones (Staverton PC Clerk), Cllr Richard Covington (West Ashton PC), Nicola Duke (West Ashton PC Clerk), Cllr Tim Le Mare (Wes Ashton PC), Cllr Roger Andrews (Trowbridge TC), Bob Brice (Trowbridge TC), Lance Allan (Trowbridge TC Clerk), Kedrick Jackson (Hilperton PC), Vlc Bielecki (Hilperton PC), Marlyn Tims (Hilperton PC Clerk), Cllr Andrew Pearce (Holt PC), Cllr Steve Siddell (Holt PC), Cllr John Ellis (Steeple Ashton PC), Cllr Jan Wicks (Steeple Ashton PC) and John Watling

1 Welcome & Introductions

The Chairman welcomed all present and introduced the Members and supporting officers for the Working Group.

2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Ernie Clark declared a non pecuniary interest as shown on his Register of Interests in relation to property owned in Hilperton. As none of the proposals relating to Hilperton had any direct effect on Cllr Clark or members of his family, he declared he would therefore debate on and vote on any proposal relating to Hilperton parish.

3 Purpose and Procedures of the meeting

The procedure for the meeting was detailed, with it explained the purpose was to hear the proposals from the relevant Town and Parish Councils, and to seek the views of other affected Parishes and take questions including from the Working Group, who would produce a set of recommendations, to be consulted upon, which would be considered by Full Council in 2015.

4 Parish Proposals (10 Minutes each)

4a Hilperton

The proposal from Hilperton Parish Council was presented as detailed in the agenda papers.

4b Trowbridge

The proposals from Trowbridge Town Council were presented as detailed in the agenda papers.

5 Parish Responses (5 Minutes each)

The relevant parties responded to the proposals presented and sought additional clarification.

6 Consultation

Consultation on any recommendation arrived at would be flexible and take the most appropriate form for a particular Town or Parish, including consideration at Area Boards, letter notifications and other measures.

7 Any other business

There was no other business considered.

(Duration of meeting: 1030 - 1200)

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Consideration of Proposals

Area 1 - Shore Place

The Working Group was in agreement with the reasoning of the Town Council for this area.

Recommendation - To support the proposal from Trowbridge Town Council to amend the boundary of Trowbridge to include Area 1.

Area 2 - Lady Down Farm

While the Working Group acknowledged that the sole residential property within the large area could only be accessed through Trowbridge, it was not convinced that governance of the area would be improved or that the proposed new boundary was an improvement over the existing natural boundary.

Recommendation - To retain the current boundary.

Area 3a - Wyke Road

The Working Group accepted the arguments for amending the boundary so that it did not run down the centre of Wyke Road, and met the line of the under construction Hilperton Relief Road.

Recommendation - To support the proposal from Trowbridge Town Council to amend the boundary of Trowbridge to include Area 3a.

Area 3b - Hilperton Gap South

The Working Group considered that even with the construction of the Hilperton Relief Road through the Hilperton Gap, the existing boundary along the back fence line of Trowbridge Town properties formed an appropriate natural boundary, and it was not apparent what governance improvements would be obtained from amending the line as per the proposal.

Recommendation - To retain the current boundary.

Area 3c - Paxcroft Mead South of Hilperton Drive

The Working Group considered the proposal in concert with those from Hilperton Parish Council, and partly accepted Hilperton's submission for Area B that the boundary be north to the brook to form a natural boundary. For the remainder of the properties south of Hilperton Drive, the Working Group considered whether the properties formed one contiguous whole which should be wholly within Hilperton or Trowbridge, or if there were grounds to consider the properties did form part of separate communities. If the properties did form one whole, it was discussed whether the less residential and more distinct properties on the other side of the Leap Gate road formed part of the same community.

Recommendation - For the boundary to run south along Hilperton Drive to the Leap Gate roundabout

Area 4a - Old Farm, Area 4b - West Ashton Road Employment Land, Area 4c - Ashton Park Urban Extension

While Old Farm Estate was currently far removed from the rest of West Ashton Parish and much closer and connect with Trowbridge Town, taking into account the arguments to consider plotted development for the next five years, the surrounding areas of 4b and 4c would be considerably more built up. As a result, Old Farm Estate would not be as isolated from other properties and other

development in what is currently West Ashton Parish as it might currently seem. As such, there was no need to adjust the boundary, and West Ashton would have the opportunity to further expand and develop as a community.

Recommendation - To retain the current boundary.

Area 4d - White Horse Business Park

The Working Group considered that as a result of the recommendation for parts 4a,b and c, Area 4d would not become more closely linked with Trowbridge Town that it was at present, and as such there was no reason it should be altered.

Recommendation - To retain the current boundary